

COMMITTEE:	CABINET
DATE:	5 JUNE 2002
SUBJECT:	BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN
REPORT OF:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Wards:	All
Purpose:	To Inform Cabinet of The Best Value Performance Plan
Contact:	Nick Ritson, Strategic Development Officer, Telephone 01323 415418 or internally on extension 5418.
Recommendations:	That Cabinet endorse the targets and actions included within the Best Value Performance Plan to meet the Council's agreed objectives.

1.0	<u>Background</u>
1.1	The Best Value Performance Plan is the principal means of reporting on the Council's progress in delivering Best Value - the statutory duty for a local authority to deliver continuous improvement.
1.2	The publication date and the contents of the Best Value Performance Plan are prescribed by statute.

1.3	<p>At full Council 24 April 2002 the Cabinet’s recommendation that Council</p> <p>“Agree that the Best Value Performance Plan for 2002/03 be first submitted to the Cabinet on 29 May 2002 and give delegated authority to the Chief Executive, following consultation with Group Leaders, to agree the Plan's final text.” was endorsed.</p>
2.0	<p><u>The Best Value Performance Plan</u></p>
2.1	<p>This is the third year the Council has produced a BVPP. This year there are a number of changes to the requirements of the BVPP as a consequence of the White Paper and more specifically the Statutory Instrument No. 2902/305 – The Local Government (Best Value) Performance Plans and Reviews Amendment and Specified Dates Order 2002. The significant amendments are:</p> <p>§ A removal of the requirement to distribute a summary of the BVPP to every householder by 31 March 2002 (this is replaced by the requirement to include integrated performance information in the Council Tax Leaflet and the proposed “report card” arriving out of Comprehensive Performance Assessment) ;</p> <p>§ A change in publication date from March 31 to June 30;</p> <p>§ A requirement to publish actual performance as opposed to estimates;and</p> <p>§ A recognition that although the BVPP is a public document the principal audience is members, staff, central government, auditors and stakeholders.</p>

2.2	<p>The information required in the BVPP is:</p> <p>§ A summary of the authority's objectives;</p> <p>§ A summary of current performance;</p> <p>§ A comparison with performance in previous years;</p> <p>§ Details of the authority's Best Value Review Programme;</p> <p>§ A summary of proposals to achieve standards and targets;</p> <p>§ A summary of action plans following reviews; and</p> <p>§ Responses to audit and inspection.</p>
2.3	<p>The requirement to publish actual performance indicator outputs in the BVPP has moved the deadline for compiling this information to audit standard forward by two months. Officers have made every effort to provide this information by the printer's deadline, a few indicators and targets will not be able to be reported to Cabinet. These are principally indicators that require information from the Housing Stock Conditions Survey currently being finalised.</p>
2.4	<p>The Full BVPP is around 100 sides of A4. For initial circulation the Best Value Performance Indicator outputs for 2001-2 and the targets set for 2002-3 are attached to this report. The full draft plan will be completed and circulated to Cabinet Members and the Leader and Deputy of the Opposition prior to the Cabinet meeting.</p>

3.0	<p><u>Consultations</u></p> <p>The Best Value Performance Plan is circulated comprehensively to stakeholders as well as being available at public buildings. Comments received in response to the BVPP are fed into the service planning process and/or best value reviews to ensure that they receive due consideration when targets are set and agreed.</p>
4.0	<p><u>Implications</u></p> <p>The Best Value Performance Plan summarises actions to address the agreed corporate objectives</p>
5.0	<p><u>Summary</u></p>
5.1	<p>The BVPP is the principal means of communicating the Council's progress in delivering continuous improvement in terms of economy efficiency and effectiveness.</p>
5.2	<p>The content and publication date of the BVPP is prescribed by statute.</p>
5.3	<p>Council on 24 April delegated authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with group leaders to agree the final text of the BVPP.</p>
5.4	<p>Cabinet is asked to note and endorse the contents of the draft BVPP.</p>
<p>Nick Ritson</p> <p>Strategic Development Officer</p>	

Background Papers:

The Background Papers used in compiling this report were as follows:

The Draft BVPP 2002-3

DETR Circular 10/99

SI No. 1999/3251

SI No. 2002/305

To inspect or obtain copies of background papers please refer to the contact officer listed above.

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