
Best Value Performance Plan

Report by the Head of Policy

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to arrangements for the publication of the Council's Best Value Performance Plan for 2003/04.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Best Value Performance Plan is designed to be a mechanism for reporting improvements across the Council's service and a management aid, which includes a range of specified information that is intended to form a basis on which the Council's performance can be assessed.
- 2.2 In 2002 the requirements for producing the statutory Performance Plans were amended: specifically, the date of publication was put back from 31st March to 30th June. The purpose of the change was to ensure that more comprehensive and accurate information could be included in the Plan, particularly financial data, which could not be produced by a 31st March publication date.
- 2.3 More recently (March 2004), additional guidance has been issued which links the requirement to publish data to the Council's categorisation under the Comprehensive Performance Assessment. For future years the guidance also provides additional flexibility in the timing and preparation of the Plan – within the overall deadline of publication by the end of June each year. In future it may be possible to combine the Plan with the Council's Corporate Plan, avoiding the necessity to prepare, maintain and publish two separate Plans.
- 2.4 The Best Value Performance Plan forms part of the Council's policy framework and as such would normally be submitted to the Council for approval. However, to ensure that it is as comprehensive and robust as possible and in view of the scheduling of meetings, it is not possible to submit the Plan for approval by the Council prior to the publication deadline of 30th June. In these circumstances it is proposed that a draft Plan be submitted to both the Overview & Scrutiny Panels and the Cabinet at their June meetings and subsequently published by the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Leader of the Council. At that time a copy of the Plan will be circulated to all Members of the Council.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is

RECOMMENDED

that the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to approve for publication the Best Value Performance Plan for 2003/04.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

ODPM Circulars

Contact Officer: Ian Leatherbarrow, head of Policy
 01480 388005