

Report to: **Audit Committee**
Date: **13th December 2007**
Report of: **Principal Corporate Development Officer**
Subject: **Auditors report on the Best Value Performance Plan**
Ward: **All**

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present the Audit Commission's report on the Council's 2007 Best Value Performance Plan.

2.0 Consultation

This report has been presented to Management Team for information.

3.0 Background

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, the Council has a duty to prepare and publish an annual best value performance plan. The content, timing and scope of the Plan is prescribed within a guidance document from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, although the requirements are reduced for Authorities, such as ourselves, who are classed as "excellent".

As an excellent Authority, we are required to include:

- a) Details of performance, both outturn and targets for the subsequent 2 years
- b) A brief statement on any contracts awarded during the year of the plan which involved a staff transfer

This year's Best Value Performance Plan therefore contained both the statutory performance information from the last year (2006/2007), along with the targets for the next 2 years, and a statement in relation to contracts.

4.0 Auditors Report on the Best Value Performance Plan

- 4.1 We have now received the Audit Commission's report on this year's Best Value Performance Plan, this is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. The report concludes that our Best Value Performance Plan for 2007 complies in all respects with the relevant legislation and statutory guidance.

5.0 Implications

5.1 Financial Implications

This report has no financial implications

5.2 Legal Implications

This report has no direct legal implications

5.3 Policy Implications

This report has no direct policy implications

5.4 Risk Implications

A risk assessment has been carried out.

5.5 Communications

This report has no direct communications implications

5.6 Corporate Implications

5.7 Corporate Plan and Priorities

This report confirms that the Best Value Performance Plan for 2007 complies with the statutory obligations in relation to content and publication.

5.8 Sustainability

There are no sustainability implications.

5.9 Expenditure related to 'well-being' powers

There are no direct well being implications.

6.0 Human Resource Implications

There are no HR implications.

6.1 Information Technology

There are no I.T. implications.

6.2 Equality and Diversity

There are no direct Equality and Diversity implications.

6.3 Crime and Disorder

There are no direct crime and disorder implications.

6.4 Human Rights

There are no human rights implications.

6.5 Social Inclusion

There are no direct social inclusion implications.

7.0 Procurement

There are no specific procurement issues.

8.0 Conclusion

- 8.1** This report confirms that this years' Best Value Performance Plan complies with the relevant legislation and statutory guidance in relation to its content and publication, and is presented to Audit Committee for information.

Background Papers

Corporate and Best Value Performance Plan 2007

Auditor's report on the Best value Performance Plan December 2007

ODPM Circular 03/2003 – Guidance on Best Value Performance Plans