

Report to: **Audit Committee**

Date: **13<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

Report of: **Principal Corporate Development Officer**

Subject: **Best Value Performance Plan Summary document**

Ward: **All**

## **1.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To update Members on the publication of the Best Value Performance Plan Summary document for 2008

## **2.0 Consultation**

The performance information in the summary document has been taken from the Annual Direction of Travel Self Assessment and the headline information from the high-level actions and targets within the Corporate Plan, which has been updated with information received from Management Team and Corporate Support Team

## **3.0 Background**

- 3.1 In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, the Council has a duty to prepare and publish a summary of the Council's performance.
- 3.2 The content, format and communication method of the BVPP summary is not prescribed within the legislation, it is left up to each individual Authority to determine.
- 3.3 It should be noted that the requirement to publish an annual Best value Performance Plan in June every year, has, however, been removed from April 2008, in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. From April 2008, it is therefore left up to each Authority to determine how it will publish and make available its performance information. It is important that we communicate to staff, Members, key stakeholders and residents how the Council has performed over the last year; therefore this issue will be considered in the coming months and brought to Council for determination.

## **4.0 Best Value Performance Summary document**

- 4.1 As it is considered best practise, and to make efficiency savings, last year, it was decided to incorporate the Best Value Performance information with the Council Tax leaflet, which is distributed to each household in March. In this way, all residents are informed of the financial data around their new Council Tax bill, as well as the headline performance data, showing the main objectives of the Council and what has been delivered during the last year. Additional copies were also printed to be placed on reception areas and included where appropriate

as a corporate document, for example for use in Senior level recruitment exercises.

- 4.2 For this year, the same practise has been used, although the format of the leaflet is slightly different in that it is presented in booklet form. A copy of this years' final document is attached for Members' information

## **5. Implications**

### **5.1 Financial Implications**

The summary document was financed through existing budgets. The overall cost of producing this document has significantly reduced over the last 2 years

### **5.2 Legal Implications**

The summary document is published in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999

### **5.3 Policy Implications**

Performance is a key component of the Audit Commission's CPA framework

### **5.4 Risk Implications**

A risk assessment has been carried out.

## **6. Communications**

Highlight messages about the current performance are being developed for communication to all staff. Directors are continuing to discuss performance in their own Directorates and management teams.

## **7. Corporate Implications**

### **7.1 Corporate Plan and Priorities**

The BVPP summary document complements the Corporate Plan, as it summarises performance against the Best Value Performance Indicators, as well as the actions and targets set against the 9 Corporate Objectives.

### **7.2 Service Plans**

Performance will be taken into account in reviewing future service plans.

### **7.3 Performance Management and Scrutiny**

### **7.4 Sustainability**

There are no sustainability implications.

#### **7.5 Expenditure related to 'well-being' powers**

There are no direct well being implications.

#### **7.6 Human Resource Implications**

There are no HR implications.

#### **7.7 Information Technology**

There are no I.T. implications.

#### **7.8 Equality and Diversity**

There are no direct Equality and Diversity implications.

#### **7.9 Crime and Disorder**

There are no direct crime and disorder implications.

#### **7.10 Human Rights**

There are no human rights implications.

#### **7.11 Social Inclusion**

There are no direct social inclusion implications.

#### **7.12 Procurement**

There are no specific procurement issues.

### **8. Recommendations**

Members are recommended to:

- 8.1 Note the production of this year's Best Value Performance Plan Summary document

#### **Background Papers**

Best Value Performance Plan 2007

Direction of Travel statement November 2007

Corporate Plan 2007/10