

## CPA – EDUCATION COMPONENT

Report By: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

### Wards Affected

Countywide

### Purpose

1. To consider the rating of the Education Service contained within the Corporate Performance Assessment of the Herefordshire Council.

### Financial Implications

2. None.

### Report

3. The Corporate Performance Assessment of Herefordshire Council, as updated to take account of statistical information collected annually, was reported in December, 2003. The Assessment included a rating for the Education Component which showed a movement from the previous year from 4 stars (Excellent) to 3 stars (Good).
4. The detailed analysis attached at Appendix 1 indicates that the difference in ranking between the two years is explained by changes in what has been included in the scoring. The biggest influences are the inclusion of Lifelong Learning for the first time, following representations made by urban LEAs, and changes in the SEN factors. There were also other areas in which Herefordshire's performance was affected by changes of more than 0.4. The key changes are as follows, with a score of 1 being the best rating and 4 being the lowest rating.

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

5. **Current performance** has dropped from 2.0 to 2.42. That worsening has come about because support for schools in ICT has been introduced, which scored 3 in 2003.

### SEN

6. **Current performance** has dropped from 1.5 to 3.0 owing to removal of % of *pupils in mainstream schools*, on which Herefordshire scored 1 in 2002, and the addition of statements completed within 18 weeks, which scored a 4 in 2003.

### SOCIAL INCLUSION

7. **Indications of Improvement** – Herefordshire shows a much improved score in this area, due to significant improvements in attendance rates at both primary and secondary.

8. **Capacity to Sustain Improvement** – the improvement shown in this area is due to addition of the percentage of schools graded G or V for climate – which scores 1.

#### **LIFE LONG LEARNING**

9. **Current performance** – this is an addition to the assessment and scores a relatively low 3.5, following the Ofsted inspection of the service in 2003.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The Herefordshire Education component would have retained its “Excellent” rating if the previous year’s exercise had simply been repeated, with updated figures.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee are asked to note the report.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix I Corporate Performance Assessment – Comparative Scores 2002 & 2003.