

CORPORATE PLAN 2004/2007 (INCLUDING BEST VALUE INDICATOR REPORTING FOR 2003/04)

PROGRAMME AREA RESPONSIBILITY: CORPORATE STRATEGY AND FINANCE

CABINET

17TH JUNE, 2004

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To approve the Corporate Plan 2004/07, incorporating Best Value Performance Indicators, and recommend it to Council for approval on 30th July, 2004.

Key Decision

This is not a Key Decision

Recommendation

THAT the Corporate Plan 2004/07, incorporating the Best Value Performance Indicators, be approved for publication and recommended to Council for approval, subject to any detailed textual amendments that may be required.

Reasons

The Corporate Plan Best Value Performance Plan forms part of the Council's Policy Framework under the Constitution and its formal approval is a decision to be made by the full Council.

Considerations

1. Under the Local Government Act 1999, the Council is required to produce and publish an annual Best Value Performance Plan, which is subject to audit by the Council's external auditors.
2. Following a review of Best Value Performance Plans by the ODPM last year, the Government has streamlined the requirements significantly for authorities categorised as Good or Excellent within the CPA framework. No longer does the Council have to publish information already in the public domain. Also, in line with the Council's wish to integrate planning and performance management, this gives the Council the ability to combine an updated Corporate Plan for 2004/07 with its report on performance indicators for 2003/04 and targets for future years. The performance information for 2003/04 and targets for the next three years are therefore now attached as an annex to the Corporate Plan at Appendix 1.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from Steve Martin, Corporate Policy and Research Manager on (01432) 261877 or Kevin Lloyd, Policy Assistant on (01432) 383401

3. The Council is required to publish performance information for 2003/04 and targets for the next three years against national Best Value Performance Indicators by 30th June. As the next full Council meeting does not take place until 30th July 2004, Cabinet is asked to approve the reported performance information for publication, subject to formal approval by full Council.
4. Cabinet should be aware that there are still missing pieces of performance information from the attached Plan which should be available prior to the meeting on 17th June.
5. In line with the Council's improvement and corporate agenda a thorough review of the corporate planning process and performance reporting of best value indicators will take place in the autumn.

Alternative Options

It is open to the Council to continue to publish the Corporate Plan and Best Value Performance Indicators and information separately. However, this would not be in line with the Council's wish to follow best practice by integrating its planning and performance management.

Risk Management

Failure to publish the Best Value Performance Plan will result in qualification by the Audit Commission

Consultees

None required to be undertaken

Background Papers

None identified