

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	19 June 2008
Subject:	Best Value Performance Plan 2008/09
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	Deputy Chief Executive and Corporate Director, Strategy & Business Support, Jill Rothwell
Portfolio Holder:	Performance, Communication and Corporate Services: Councillor Paul Osborn
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendix 1 – draft Best Value Performance Plan

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report submits the draft Best Value Performance Plan for approval prior to publication.

Recommendations:

Cabinet is requested to approve the Best Value Performance Plan and recommend its adoption by the full Council.

Reason: (For recommendation)

To ensure that a compliant Plan is published by the statutory date.

Section 2 – Report

Introduction

Publication of a Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) has been a requirement on all relevant authorities since the Local Government Act 1999 came into force in 2000.

This duty is to be abolished by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. However, in March 2008, the Department for Communities and Local Government announced that commencement of the Act had been adjusted so that authorities were required to publish a final BVPP by 30 June 2008.

Required content has, however, been reduced to simply the outturn performance data against Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) and a standard “statement on contracts”. There is no requirement for forward targets against BVPIs, which ceased to have statutory force at 31 March 2008. Appendix 1 contains a draft accordingly.

Options considered

There is no option other than to publish a BVPP as required. Method of publication has been left entirely to authorities’ discretion. On this occasion, use of the web alone has been indicated as acceptable and is therefore proposed.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications from the report’s recommendation.

Performance Issues

This report deals with historic data against BVPIs, as required to be published. It has no effect on future performance against these or other indicators.

Risk Management Implications

The BVPP does not have a separate risk register, nor does it feature in the Directorate Risk Register. Key risks are:

1. The Plan is not published by the statutory deadline. Members are receiving a draft with this report, so the level of this risk is minimal.
2. The Plan contains inaccurate data. As part of the external auditors' annual review of data quality they may choose to examine some of the indicators contained in the BVPP. If significant errors are found, an adverse report may be issued with consequences for the council's reputation and Use of Resources judgement. Since such an occurrence in 2002, processes have been in place to ensure data quality.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: ...Sheela Thakrar.....



on behalf of the
Chief Financial Officer

Date: .. 9 June 2008

Name: ...Helen White



on behalf of the
Monitoring Officer

Date: ... 21 May 2008

Section 4 – Performance Officer Clearance

Name: ...Tom Whiting



Divisional Director
(Strategy and
Improvement)

Date: ... 6 June 2008.....

Section 5 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Martin Randall, Senior Performance Officer, 020 8424 1815

Background Papers: Returns to BVPIs.