

Meeting:	Performance and Finance Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Date:	29 October 2008
Subject:	Place survey challenge panel – final report
Responsible Officer:	Ed Hammond, Strategy and Improvement
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Paul Osborn
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	<i>Place survey challenge panel – final report</i>

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the findings and recommendations of the challenge panel, commissioned by Overview and Scrutiny at the request of Performance and Finance, into the preparation of questions for the Place Survey.

Recommendations:

That the findings and recommendations be noted.

Reason: (For recommendation)

Ordinarily, recommendations are submitted to Cabinet for formal approval. In this instance, the officer took steps to implement the recommendations immediately, and as such Cabinet approval is not necessary. Consequently, the report is being provided to members for information only.

Section 2 – Report

Background

The Place Survey is a government mandated questionnaire, sent to a certain number of households in a given area, asking questions about the community and about the service provided to residents by the various partners operating in the area.

In Harrow, it replaces the MORI Quality of Life survey.

The question-setting process for the Place Survey has been complex. Although many questions are required to be the same from authority to authority, there is some discretion in certain areas, and it is the responsibility of councils to make decisions as to which questions they would like to ask.

Officers requested member input into these discretionary settings.

Current situation

The report attached was submitted to officers after the challenge panel, and the recommendations were used to formulate the final draft of the Place Survey, which was sent to residents at the end of September.

The report is consequently being submitted to members for information.

Why a change is needed

Not applicable.

Main options

The Sub-Committee are asked to note the report, as the recommendations have already been implemented by the service involved.

Other options considered

None

Implications of the Recommendation

Considerations

Resources, costs and risks - none

Staffing/workforce - none

Equalities impact - none

Legal comments - none

Community safety - none

Financial Implications

None

Performance Issues

The results of the Survey will impact upon the organisational and area assessments under CAA, and relates directly the delivery (and setting) of the council's corporate priorities in the future.

Risk Management Implications

None

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: ...Sheela Thakrar.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 15 October 2008		
Name: Stephen Dorrian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 15 October 2008		

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Ed Hammond, Strategy and Improvement, 020 8420 9205

Background Papers: attached

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	YES
2.	Corporate Priorities	YES