

Committee: PERFORMANCE SELECT COMMITTEE

Agenda Item

Date: 9 March 2006

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Title: Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07
Timetable

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Item for
information

Summary

1. This report sets out guidance on best value performance plans and the proposed timetable for Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07.

Recommendations

2. Members review and note the proposed timetable for Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) 2006/07.

Background Papers

3. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author.

ODPM Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI) guidance 2005/06 document
Uttlesford District Council BVPP 2005/06

Performance Management internal files 2005/06

Local Government Act 1999, Part I

Statutory Instrument no 2002/305

Further guidance issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) as circular 03/2003 and its addendum 02/2004.

Impact

4.

Communication/Consultation	Communication on performance is carried out via the Uttlesford District Council website, Utterings, Uttlesford Life, Members' Bulletin and specific service briefings. Physical copies of the BVPP will be made available for the general public at Council Offices and public libraries.
Community Safety	None beyond service improvement on the Community Safety performance indicators.
Equalities	None beyond service delivery associated with performance indicators.
Finance	Performance Improvement Plans cover any additional funding associated with recovery of performance.
Human Rights	None.

Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07 Timetable

Legal implications	Compliance with statutory requirements set out in Part I of the Local Government Act 1999 is reviewed.
Ward-specific impacts	All.
Workforce/Workplace	None.

Situation

5. Authorities are required to have their BVPIs audited by the Audit Commission and published annually for the general public. Additionally, authorities must report their progress against BVPIs and targets in their BVPP as per Statutory Instrument 2002/305 and related further guidance.
6. ODPM requirements for authorities with CPA scores of fair, weak and poor are set out in the Table A below:

Table A: BVPP requirements for fair, weak and poor CPA scored authorities

- a) A brief summary of the authority's strategic objectives and priorities for improvement. This should reflect its corporate/business planning processes and community strategy
- b) Arrangements for addressing the authority's improvement priorities, particularly the opportunities and weaknesses identified in CPA (or self-assessment where a CPA has not reported), and the outcomes that are expected to be achieved as a result.
- c) Details of performance:
 - Outturn performance over the past year on all BVPIs
 - Targets for the current year and subsequent two years for all BVPIs
- d) A brief statement on contracts. The authority should state and certify that all individual contracts awarded during the past year which involve a transfer of staff comply, where applicable, with the requirements in the Code of Practice on Workforce Matters in Local Authority Service Contracts

7. The ODPM states that the timescale for preparation of performance plans should fit with business planning arrangements, with authorities able to prepare and publish performance plans at any time up to the end of June. However, given that one requirement is to provide outturn BVPI data, this only allows for a short time frame between the availability of outturn data, the scheduling of decision making processes, and a June 30 publication deadline. BVPI data may be annexed to, or incorporated into plans by the end of June.
8. The fast-track decision making timetable is set out in Table B below.

Table B: Outline Decision Making Timetable for BVPP

Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07 Timetable

Executive Management Team	April
Performance Select Committee	19 April
Council	16 May

9. Table C summarises the required information to be included in the BVPP, together with the derivation of this information. Given the focus on performance and the measurement of improvement, the information will be predominantly presented in table format in common with previous BVPPs.

Table C: Material to be incorporated into BVPP		
Requirement	Derivation	Source Material
Summary of the authority's strategic objectives and priorities for improvement	➔	Corporate Plan Community Strategy
Improvement priorities and expected outcomes	➔	Corporate Plan Improvement Actions CPA Improvement Plan
Outturn BVPI data for 2005/06	➔	Outturn BVPI data
Targets for the current year and subsequent two years for all BVPIs	➔	Targets
Brief statement on contracts	➔	Brief statement

Risk Analysis

10. The following has been assessed as the potential risks associated with this issue.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
BVPP does not meet the statutory requirements	Low	High	The BVPP is rigorously checked to ensure data integrity and compliance with statutory requirements