

Best Value Performance Plan 2007
Performance Select Committee, item 8

Committee:	PERFORMANCE SELECT COMMITTEE	Agenda Item
Date:	12 JUNE 2007	8
Title:	BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2007	
Author:	Alaine Clarke, Head of Partnerships and Performance and Paula Evans, Performance Improvement Officer	Item for decision

Summary

Uttlesford District Council must publish a Best Value Performance Plan by 30th June 2007, a draft copy of which is attached (see Appendix One). The Plan consists of a number of narrative pages along with performance data for all Best Value Performance Indicators and Local Performance Indicators for 2006/07 as per Government requirements.

Recommendations

That the Performance Select Committee approve the content of the Best Value Performance Plan including all outturn and target data and supporting narrative prior to its publication.

Background Papers

- ODPM Local Government Act 1999: Part 1 Best Value and Performance Improvement
- ODPM Circular 03/2003: Guidance on Best Value Performance Plans, March 2003
- ODPM Circular 02/2004: Guidance on Best Value Performance Plans, Addendum to ODPM Circular 03/2003, March 2004
- ODPM Circular 05/2006: Guidance on Best Value Performance Plans, Addendum to ODPM Circular 02/2004, April 2006
- Delivering Efficiency in Local Services – Further Guidance for Local Authorities

Impact

Communication/Consultation	Copies of the BVPP will be produced in printed and electronic versions. Copies will be available in a range of locations around the district including reception points, libraries and on the Council website
Community Safety	There are no explicit community safety implications
Equalities	The BVPP can be made available in Braille, larger print or translated on request
Finance	The BVPP is made available at low cost
Human Rights	There are no explicit human rights implications
Legal implications	The BVPP is produced according to statutory guidance
Sustainability	Distribution of printed versions of the BVPP will be kept to an absolute minimum

Situation

1. Uttlesford District Council must publish a Best Value Performance Plan by 30th June 2007, a draft copy of which is attached.
2. Calculation and data checks have been completed by the Performance Improvement Team on both Best Value and Local Performance Indicators. A further sample of these will be audited by internal audit prior to the document's publication.
3. The content of the BVPP will be subject to an external audit by the Audit Commission.

Legislative Background

4. The Local Government Act 1999 sets out a requirement for best value authorities to produce a BVPP each year. Further guidance in the form of Circular 03/2003 set down detailed requirements relating to the information to be included in each plan, as well as the timing of the publication.
5. In March 2004 the ODPM published an addendum (02/2004) to Circular 03/2003 that set out the future focus of BVPPs in the light of the development of the improvement agenda. A further addendum to 02/2004 was published in April 2006 re-confirming the required content of performance plans according to CPA categorisation.

Production and Circulation

7. The BVPP must be published by 30th June each year. In order to meet this

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deadline, it will be necessary for the Performance Select Committee to authorise the text, subject to minor amendment and inclusion of any remaining outturn data and targets.

- 8. It is proposed to produce a minimum number of printed copies of the BVPP. As is usual practice, printed copies will be made available in Council receptions and libraries. The Plan will also be available to download from the Council's website.

Performance Data

- 9. The remaining gaps in performance data contained within the BVPP will be updated nearer publication date as the data becomes available.

10. The BVPP contains details on:

110 statutory Best Value performance indicators, of which at present:

- 53% are on or above target
- 10% are up to 5% off target
- 29% are 5% or more off target
- 5% are awaiting confirmed outturn data

37 local performance indicators, of which at present:

- 51% are on or above target
- 14% are up to 5% off target
- 35% are 5% or more off target

- 11. The BVPP also gives details of the challenging targets that have been set for the next three years reflecting the need to move performance towards the top quartile for district councils, balanced against local circumstances where necessary.

Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
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<p>Best Value Performance Plan is non-compliant</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Legislative guidance is followed closely to ensure audit compliance. The Performance Improvement Team will complete data checks to ensure BVPIs are calculated correctly. In addition, Internal Audit will carry out checks on a sample of BVPIs that have been identified as 'higher risk'. These checks will be carried out before a final Audit Commission examination.</p>
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