

Committee: PERFORMANCE SELECT COMMITTEE

Date: 29th April 2008

Title: **ESTIMATED PERFORMANCE DATA
2007/08 AND TARGET SETTING**

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Item for
decision

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Summary

1. This report presents a summary of estimated performance data for all Best Value and Local Performance Indicators collected by the Council for the year 2007/08. It also includes proposed targets for the next three years: 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11 for all National, Corporate and Service Indicators. Please note that targets for 2008/09 Corporate Indicators have already been agreed by both the relevant Policy Committee and Performance Select Committee.
2. The estimated performance data includes the anticipated quartile positioning of the Best Value Performance Indicators against all other District Councils based on data published by the Audit Commission for 2006/07. It also identifies the Direction of Travel for each indicator. Although this data is a year old, it is the most recent audited data from the Audit Commission.
3. For all indicators where the estimated end of year performance is below the 2007/08 target, explanatory notes have been collected from relevant officers and included in the Comments column of the spreadsheet.
4. In addition, where future targets are not reflecting a year on year improvement nor aiming to achieve top quartile by 2010/11, explanations as to why are contained in the Comments section of the report.
5. It may prove difficult to set targets for some of the National Indicators (where they are not related to any old Best Value Performance Indicators) until baseline data has been collected this year. In addition, it should be noted that there are still a number of grey areas relating to whether or not the Council will be required to collect certain indicators as information from Central Government is still very unclear. These indicators (National) are

therefore subject to constant review.

6. Full details of the data collected for each indicator are detailed in the accompanying spreadsheets.
7. Outturn data will be collected during May and a full comparison made against annual targets and quartile data. The outturn report will be presented to PSC in June.
8. Once agreed by Members all future targets will be loaded onto Covalent.

Recommendations

9. That Members review the estimated performance for 2007/08.
10. That Members agree the targets for 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11.

11. Background Papers

- Audit Commission - Best Value Performance Indicators Guidance 2007/08
- Uttlesford District Council - Best Value Performance Plan 2007/08
- Performance Improvement Team internal files 2006, 2007 and 2008
- National Indicators for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships: Handbook of Definitions

12. Impact

Communication/Consultation	Communication on performance is carried out via Utterings, Uttlesford Life, Members' Bulletin and specific service briefings.
Community Safety	None beyond service improvement on the Community Safety performance indicators.
Equalities	None beyond service improvement on the equality and diversity performance indicators.
Finance	Performance Improvement Plans cover any additional funding associated with recovery of performance.

Human Rights	None.
Legal Implications	The Audit Commission's focus on data quality will require consideration and quality assurance controls.
Sustainability	No direct impact resulting from report findings.

Situation

13. The Council collects a number of indicators to monitor performance and these form part of the performance management framework. They include:
- Best Value Performance Indicators specified by the Government (up until 31st March 2008)
 - Local Performance Indicators determined by the Council (up until 31st March 2008)
 - National Indicators specified by the Government (with effect from 1st April 2008)
 - Corporate and Service Indicators - to reflect actions in both the Corporate and Divisional Plans (with effect from 1st April 2008)
14. The Council is required to collect, set targets for improvement and compare performance against other councils.
15. These sets of indicators are subject to annual audit by the External Auditor (Audit Commission) and the Council is expected to have in place systems to monitor performance on an ongoing basis. Covalent is our performance management system and officers are responsible for loading data directly onto the system.




Estimated End of Year Performance Data

Analysis

16. The estimated end of year performance spreadsheet details the data that has been collected and analysed for 78 Best Value Performance Indicators and 34 Local Performance Indicators.




16.1 BVPI's – General Analysis

Status (based on 77 indicators*)




Estimated Performance against Annual Target		
	5% or more off target	34% (26)
	Up to 5% off target	2.5% (2)
	On or above target	63.5% (49)

* 1 indicator (BV16b) is a comparison statistic so no targets are required

Direction of Travel (based on 77 indicators – see * above)




Estimated Performance Against Annual Data 2006/07		
	Improved	44% (34)
	Not Changed	17% (13)
	Worsened	39% (30)

Quartile position (quartile data available for 61 indicators)



Performance against 2006/07 quartiles (based on last audited data)			
		2006/07 actual data	2007/08 estimated data
	Top Quartile	34% (21)	29% (18)
	Neither	43% (26)	46% (28)
	Bottom Quartile	23% (14)	25% (15)

16.2 LPI's – General Analysis

Status (based on 34 indicators)

Estimated Performance against Annual Target		
	5% or more off target	29% (10)
	Up to 5% off target	24% (8)
	On or above target	47% (16)

Direction of Travel (based on 34 indicators)

Comparison of Estimated Performance 2007/08 Against 2006/07		
	Improved	29% (10)
	Not Changed	9% (3)

	Worsened	62% (21)
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Performance Indicator Target Setting

17. Last year (2007) the Performance Improvement Team, through meetings with Collection Officers, Heads of Division and SMB, conducted a review of the Local Performance Indicators and subsequently came up with a list of Corporate and Service Indicators to be collected and monitored with effect from 1 April 2008. These indicators are in addition to any new National Indicators which UDC are required to collect. A table detailing the split in numbers for each category of indicators and the frequencies of reporting is shown below:

Indicators split by type and frequency of reporting				
	National Indicator (NI)	Corporate Indicator (C)	Service Indicator (S)	Totals
Monthly (M)	4	0	0	4
Quarterly (Q)	1	16	24	41
Biannual	1	1	0	2
Annual (A)	17	9	8	34
Biennial	20	0	0	20
TBA	0	1	0	1
Totals:	43	27	32	102

18. At Council on 11 December 2007 Members resolved that the responsible committees be requested to determine the measurement and targets of the Corporate Indicators, for approval by the Performance Select Committee. This process was subsequently carried out and agreement

of the associated targets for these indicators was reached at Performance Select Committee on 5 February 2008.

19. Further meetings have since been held with relevant Heads of Division and Collection Officers to set realistic targets for the next three years (2008 -2011) for both Service and National Indicators. The attached spreadsheet details the resultant targets that have been proposed.
20. Collection Officers were asked to bear in mind the following factors when proposing targets:
 - Targets should demonstrate a year-on-year improvement
 - Targets should demonstrate an improvement on the estimated performance for the current year
 - Targets should aim to achieve top quartile
21. A number of Best Value and Local Performance Indicators have been retained as either Corporate or Service Indicators. In these instances the existing targets (set last year) have been reviewed and in some cases have been realistically revised. Where this has occurred, an explanation of the reason for this has been included in the Notes column of the spreadsheet.
22. Members are asked to consider the potential impact that the current financial situation of the Council may have on current and future performance (lack of financial and officer resources etc.). This factor has been borne in mind when setting targets this year.