

COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AND BEST VALUE

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report seeks Members' endorsement to the establishment of a Sub-Committee under the auspices of this Committee on a "task and finish" basis to oversee and contribute to the work now required in respect of an Access to Services Best Value Assessment and the Direction of Travel Assessment.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council has been notified that it will be subject to an Access to Services Best Value Assessment culminating in an inspection of the Authority between 29th November and 5th December by two Inspectors from the Audit Commission. The Assessment will be based on new methodology produced by the Audit Commission.
- 2.2 This District will be the first to pilot this new methodology, thus there is the opportunity for learning on both sides as the assessment takes place.
- 2.3 The Direction of Travel Assessment will take place on 19th December. That will also take the form of an Inspection by our Relationship Manager, Ian Davidson, plus Jon Barber, who was the Lead Inspector for our Environment Best Value Services Review earlier this year. The Direction of Travel Inspection will be particularly critical in terms of influencing whether this Council decides to apply for reassessment under the new District Council CPA Guidelines in 2007.

3 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

Content

- 3.1 Although details around both inspections are still emerging, it is clear that both will require written self-assessments, evidence collection, and interviews with appropriate Members, managers, staff and partners.
- 3.2 The Leader will be involved in the inspection process, as will the Deputy Leader in his capacity as Chairman of the Review Committee. It is also clear that Chairmen of the main Policy Committees are also expected to participate in the Inspection process, either in one to one interviews or group discussion.

- 3.3 It is therefore suggested that at this stage it would be appropriate to establish a Sub Committee, comprising the Leader, Deputy Leader and the Chairmen of the main Policy Committees – Community, Environmental Services, Planning Policy and Transportation and Heritage, Leisure and Tourism, plus the Leader of the Opposition, to oversee the main written submissions into both Assessments, to input into both Inspections as required on behalf of the Council, and to review the draft reports once received.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES** to establish a Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Sub-Committee, under the auspices of this Committee to oversee and input into both the Access to Services and Direction of Travel Assessments.

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

Background Papers:-

None

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