

COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (CPA) –SELF ASSESSMENT REPORT

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks Members' approval to the Council's revised Self Assessment, which subject to Members' comments, will now be submitted to the Audit Commission as part of the CPA inspection process.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council has to prepare and submit a Self Assessment report to the Audit Commission by 9th January 2004. An initial draft was prepared and following consideration through the Overview and Scrutiny process, was approved by Full Council on 30th October 2003 (min 489/2003).
- 2.2 That draft formed the basis for the Peer Challenge process, which was carried out by the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) between 17-19th November 2003. In the light of the comments received through the Peer Challenge process and contained in the Peer Challenge Report, the Self-Assessment document has now been amended to reflect and respond to the comments made on the Authority. A copy of the revised documentation will be sent to Members under separate cover.

3 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 In addition to taking on board and responding to the comments arising from the Peer Challenge report, the Self Assessment now before Members additionally comprises:
- (i) A brief Joint introduction from the Leader and Chief Executive
 - (ii) the three diagnostic assessments on balancing housing markets, decent homes and public space (4 sides of A4 on each)
 - (iii) a summarised initial improvement plan outlining the Council's proposed actions over the next three years (high level improvement plan on 1 side of A4).
- 3.2 Subject to Members' consideration and comment on the revised documentation, these papers, along with the Peer Challenge report, will now be despatched to the Audit Commission. All this documentation will be important in the CPA Inspection of the Council in February (23-27th February). To refresh Members as to what elements will be considered as part of the CPA Inspection process, Annex 1 is

reproduced from the earlier reports to Overview and Scrutiny and the full Council.

4 RISK IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Risk

- 4.1 It is clearly important for the Council to achieve as good as assessment as is possible, and use the process in such a way that it has the maximum positive impact in terms of securing improvement across the Authority.

Operational Risk

- 4.2 The process should identify any areas of particular operational risk. Whatever the categorisation placed upon the Authority, the CPA through the improvement process will impact upon the overall operation of the Council.

Regulatory Risk

- 4.3 A poor or weak score from the Self Assessment is likely to increase the potential for involvement in the operations of the Authority from external agencies such as the Audit Commission, the Improvement and Development Agency and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM).

Financial Risk

- 4.4 A poor or weak score from the Self Assessment may increase the resource demands on the Authority in terms of securing the improvement and development of the Council.

Reputational Risk

- 4.5 A poor or weak score has the potential to damage the overall reputation of the Authority.

People Risk

- 4.6 A poor or weak score has the potential to negatively impact upon the moral of both members and staff and make recruitment of both member and officer level increasingly difficult.

5 RECOMMENDATION

5.1 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES**,

That, subject to further consideration and comment, to approve the revised Self Assessment and other documentation be approved for submission to the Audit Commission.

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

Background Papers

None

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