

Agenda Item 13

Executive Board

6 June 2007

BVPI quartiles and action plans



BVPIs – comparison of performance, monthly monitoring and action plans

Summary

This report compares the Council's performance on national Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) for 2006/07 with the national average figures for district councils in 2005/06, considers the BVPIs to be monitored every month by the Executive Board during 2007/08 and provides action plans for the proposed monthly monitored BVPIs for the consideration of members.

Recommendation

That the Executive Board:

- **Notes the comparison of the Council's performance on BVPIs for 2006/07 with the national average figures for district councils in 2005/06 in Appendix A.**
- **Approves the proposed list of BVPIs to be monitored every month by the Executive Board during 2007/08 in Appendix B and the Action Plans for the proposed monthly monitored BVPIs in Appendix C.**

a) Reasons for Recommendation

To make members aware of how our performance compares with that of other district councils and to allow members to select the BVPIs to be monitored on a monthly basis this year and approve the action plans for those BVPIs. This information will play an important part in the proposed process for developing a vision for the newly elected Council.

b) Alternative Options

None.

c) Risk Considerations

The Council has a statutory duty to secure continuous improvement and, if it did not measure, monitor and compare its performance against the national BVPIs, it would be failing to fulfil that duty.

d) Policy and Budgetary Considerations

Positive Impact Overall

Meeting a Legal duty.

Faster and/or better targeted EDDC services, how, when and where customers want them.

e) Date for Review of Decision

It is proposed that the Executive Board selects a list of BVPIs to monitor every month during 2007/08 which will be reviewed in a year's time.

Main Body of the Report

The Council has a statutory duty to report its performance against national Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) every year for the period 1 April to 31 March. The results for 2006/07 have to be published by 30 June.

The performance figures for the Council for 2006/07 which are currently available have been compared or benchmarked against the national averages and top and bottom quartiles which identify the best performing 25% and worst performing 25% of the 238 district councils in England in 2005/06. These are set out in Appendix A under the following categories:

- Top quartile – BVPIs where the Council is amongst the best performing 25% of districts.
- Above average – BVPIs where the Council is above the average performance of districts but not amongst the best performing 25% of districts.
- Below average – BVPIs where the Council is below the average performance of districts but not amongst the worst performing 25% of districts.
- Bottom quartile – BVPIs where the Council is amongst the worst performing 25% of districts.

All of the BVPIs are monitored by the Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis. From amongst these the Executive Board has for several years selected some 20-30 BVPIs to monitor on a monthly basis. Traditionally the BVPIs selected for monthly monitoring are those of strategic importance or ones for which our performance is amongst the worst performing 25% of district councils.

For 2007/08 it is proposed that the Executive Board monitors those BVPIs which are of corporate significance or where the Council performed amongst the worst performing 25% of district councils and below the average performance of district councils. It is expected that these will feature in the new Corporate Strategy so it is considered appropriate for the Executive Board to monitor them each month. Members are invited to consider the BVPIs proposed for monthly monitoring in Appendix B and approve the BVPIs to be monitored monthly during 2007/08.

Action Plans have been prepared by Heads of Service for the BVPIs that it is proposed to monitor monthly and these are set out in Appendix C. Members are invited to consider these and suggest any amendments.

Heads of Service have also prepared Action Plans for BVPIs that are amongst the best performing 25% of district councils and above the average performance of district councils which set out how that level of performance will be maintained during 2007/08.

The Housing and Social Inclusion Service is preparing for an Audit Commission Housing Inspection later this year and is reviewing performance measures and targets against the inspection's Key Lines of Enquiry and customer expectations. A process of benchmarking performance is also underway which will inform the production of BVPI Action Plans. Therefore, at this stage, no Housing BVPIs are being proposed for monthly monitoring and no Action Plans for Housing BVPIs have been prepared.

An audit of Housing BVPIs has been completed and a series of recommendations made to improve the accuracy of performance reporting. Improved performance data and management of performance are recommendations flowing from the self assessment exercise for the inspection, and the Housing Review Board is monitoring performance on key areas of our housing management services. Proposals for the Housing BVPIs to be monitored monthly by the Executive Board and Action Plans for those BVPIs will be presented to the Executive Board for consideration in the autumn.

At a meeting on 13 June, the Scrutiny Committee is due to consider the performance figures for all of the BVPIs and Local PIs for 2006/07. The committee will not only compare the performance for last year against the national average figures in Appendix A but also compare it with the targets set a year ago and performance in 2005/06. Members of the committee

may then consider whether, at a future meeting, they wish to review in detail the performance of any PIs.

Legal Implications

No observations.

Financial Implications

No direct financial implications.

Consultation on Reports to the Executive

Heads of Service and officers responsible for reporting BVPIs have contributed to the appendices to this report.

Background Papers

- Appendices A, B and C which follow this report.

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Executive Board
6 June 2007