

Report of	Meeting	Date
Head of Corporate and Policy Services (Introduced by the Executive Member for Customers, Policy and Performance)	Annual Council	16/05/06

PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT 2006/07 – OUR ANNUAL BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- The purpose of the report is to request that the Council approve the Performance Agreement 2006/07 (our annual Best Value Performance Plan).

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- The Performance Agreement 2006/07 reports progress against all the corporate priorities of 2005/06, and sets out our intentions regarding the corporate priorities this year.

RISK ISSUES

- The issue raised and recommendations made in this report involve risk considerations in the following categories:

Strategy	✓	Information	✓
Reputation	✓	Regulatory/Legal	✓
Financial		Operational	
People		Other	

- The Performance Agreement 2006/07 articulates our achievements against the Corporate Plan 2003/04-05/06 and focuses on the key projects we are aiming to deliver in 2006/07 to achieve our Corporate Strategy targets. It is a clear statement of our priorities and we will be judged by how we perform against these. Any failure could damage our reputation amongst the community, our partners and our peers.
- The agreement provides details of the performance information we will collect and monitor to ensure that we deliver quality outcomes. It is important that we use this information to manage our performance.
- Within the Local Government Act 1999, there is a requirement on Councils to publish an annual Best Value Performance Plan. The Performance Agreement is our BVPP for 2006/07.

BACKGROUND

- The Local Government Act 1999, as amended, required Councils, as part of the Best Value regime, to publish an annual BVPP by 30 June each year. This requirement has



been satisfied each year to date, and the Council has been given an unqualified opinion by District Audit in each instance.

8. This year, a brief summary of performance was issued, with Council Tax bills, which related activities and performance to the Council's expenditure.
9. Following publication of the Council's Corporate Strategy 2006/07 – 2008/09, the format of the BVPP has been reviewed. The Plan will now be known as the Performance Agreement and will set out a clear statement of our priorities for the coming year in pursuit of Community and Corporate Strategy priority outcomes. In particular, it focuses on key projects that will be delivered in 2006/07.

PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT 2006/07

10. This year's plan takes account of comments made by District Audit following their audit of our Best Value work last year. Similarly, it has been prepared in line with their compliance checklist for 2006/07.
11. The Performance Agreement comprises 4 main elements:
 - A review of our Corporate Plan 2003/04 – 2005/06, which set out our aspirations and plans for that 3-year period
 - Our Corporate Strategy 2006/07 – 2008/09, which sets out our aspirations and plans for the next 3-year period
 - Information on the Council's performance during 2005/06
 - Our aspirations for 2006/07
12. There are quite a few gaps in the performance information, which is currently being collated. The figures available so far have been included, and those remaining will be included in the document prior to publication on 30 June 2006. Similarly, as the Council has not yet closed its accounts, it has not been possible to calculate the financial BVPIs. The Director of Finance is currently working on estimated figures and these will be included in the document prior to 30 June 2006.

COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

13. Human Resources supports the principles of this report through the Human Resources Strategy to ensure that we have the right people, in the right place at the right time to deliver our corporate priorities. Human Resources will assist all Units in the delivery of their individual business plans as well as supporting the corporate objectives.

COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

14. The financial impact of delivering the targets and actions in the Performance Agreement has been considered during the 2006/07 budget setting process. Therefore, the costs of delivering the agreement are covered within the current budget process.

RECOMMENDATION

15. That the Council approves the Performance Agreement 2006/07 as our annual BVPP.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

16. The BVPP is a statutory document, to comply with the Local Government Act 1999.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

17. None.

TIM RIGNALL
HEAD OF CORPORATE AND POLICY SERVICES

Background Papers			
Document	Date	File	Place of Inspection
Draft Performance Agreement	25/04/06	V:\Corporate and Policy Services	Corporate and Policy Services

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Lindsay Parr	5341	25 April 2006	Performance Agreement 2006/07 Report to Council