



Meeting **CABINET**

Date **7 JUNE 2006**

agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCE

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN 2006-2007

Purpose of Report

1. To seek Cabinet agreement to the content of the Annual Performance Plan and the Annual Improvement Plan contained within it.

Background

2. Under the Local Government Act 1999, local authorities are required to produce a Best Value Performance Plan summarising the Council's strategic objectives and priorities for improvement and detailing performance against Best Value Performance Indicators. However, since the introduction of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment the requirement for high performing councils is more limited. This has been confirmed this year in ODPM Circular 05/2006.
3. Though as a Four Star authority the minimum reporting requirement relates to performance and targets against Best Value Performance indicators, there is a clear expectation in the guidance that these Councils will be publishing their annual plans and the performance information is seen as an adjunct to that. This is the approach that has been taken this year.

Structure of the Plan

4. The Annual Performance Plan this year seeks to perform a number of functions:
 - It looks back and reports on our performance and progress with development and improvement work last year.
 - It looks forward, setting out our plans and targets for performance for the next three years, describing the developments and improvements for each service area and spelling out the improvement plan for the Authority.

- It sets out the targets for the new Strategic Plan which will be monitored and reported on over the next four years.
5. Previous Performance Plans have been structured around the themes in the Strategic Plan 2001-2005 “Building a future”. The County Council has now adopted a new Strategic Plan “All together better” This Plan adopts five new themes around which its commitments are based. These themes provide the structure for this year’s Performance Plan.
 6. It is , of course, a time of considerable change for the Council with the restructuring of Council Departments and changes in the portfolio responsibilities of Cabinet members. This change agenda is well reflected in the Performance Plan.

Annual Improvement Plan

7. Since the Nottinghamshire Improvement Plan, following the first corporate assessment in 2002, the Council has produced annual improvement plans which have been outlined in the Annual Performance Plan. This year’s improvement plan arises from the new Strategic Plan. This sets four improvement priorities

i) Being civic leaders and good partners

Improvement will include

- Establishment of governance arrangements and a partnership agreement for the Nottinghamshire partnership
- The delivery of the Local Area Agreement.
- Strengthening support for Councillors to work for their communities.

ii) Being responsive

Improvement will include

- Development of the Contact Centre
- Developing consultation and community engagement
- Working toward Level Three of the LGA Equality Standard

iii) Designing the Future

Improvement will include

- Integration of services for children and young people, for adults and for community and environmental services
- Establish corporate leadership of community engagement partnership work and democratic leadership
- Develop the competences and flexibility of our employees

iv) Working efficiently

Improvement will include

- Achieving our annual efficiency target
- Modernise work practices making effective use of technology
- Review our current performance against Comprehensive Performance Assessment Corporate Assessment criteria
- Implementing measures to reduce sickness absence

The Improvement Plan in full is in Chapter Three of the Performance Plan which also contains a report on the outcomes from last year's Improvement Plan.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service. Where such implications are material, they have been described in the text of the report.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that Cabinet agrees the content of the Annual Performance Plan and recommends it for approval and adoption by Full Council on 29 June 2006.

COUNCILLOR JOHN STOCKS
Cabinet Member for People and Performance

Director of Resources' Financial Comments

The anticipated cost of producing and distributing this Annual Performance Plan is £12,000 (including design, print and materials). This cost will be contained within the budget for Performance within the Chief Executive's Department. [NS 19/05/06]

Legal Services Comments (PDH 190506)

Responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the Best Value Performance Plan is within the delegation to Cabinet. Adoption of the Best Value Performance Plan is within the delegation to Full Council as part of the Policy Framework.

Background Papers Available for Inspection

None

Electoral Divisions Affected

All

Pe: H /APP 2006/APP Cabinet Report 19.5.06