



Report to Cabinet

Subject: Comprehensive Performance Assessment
Value-for-Money Self-Assessment

Date: 22 September 2005

Author: Senior Management Team

1. Purpose of the Report

- To seek Cabinet approval for the draft Comprehensive Performance Assessment Value-for-Money Self-Assessment, attached to this report.

2. Background

The Audit Commission has introduced new arrangements for the Use of Resources element of Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) for 2005/06.

Details were reported to Cabinet on 11 July 2005, in a report and accompanying presentation.

These arrangements include a new section on Value-for-Money, for which councils are required to carry out a self-assessment.

The self-assessment has to be completed on an Audit Commission proforma against a pre-defined set of questions, drawing on the Commission's key lines of enquiry for this element. It should not exceed 5,000 words (excluding references).

The self-assessment has to be submitted to the Audit Commission by 30 September 2005.

3. Proposal

A draft self-assessment has now been completed and is attached for members' consideration at **Appendix A**.

The draft is substantially completed, though a few final points of detail remain to be confirmed. Issues for final clarification appear in red type (grey in printed versions). It is hoped that these will be clarified before Cabinet meets and reported to members verbally at that time.

Further work is also required to complete referencing and outstanding documentation is set in red italic type. All required documents are publicly available and will be compiled in time to support the submission.

At the time of writing, the draft is due for discussion at a meeting of Scrutiny Chairs on 15 September. Any feedback from that meeting will be reported to Cabinet verbally.

On a related matter, members may be aware that the Audit Commission has recently published draft proposals for future CPA for district councils and is consulting with local authorities on this issue. It is hoped that a report on the proposals will be ready for Cabinet consideration in early November, in time to respond to the consultation.

4. Resource Implications

Workload arising from completion of the self-assessment has been managed from within existing resources, though other projects have been slightly delayed as a result.

Proposals included in the self-assessment are largely accounted for in current plans. Some have already been delivered – others will generate future savings.

The final score for the Use of Resources assessment may have future resource implications, but at this point it is unclear what these might be.

5. Recommendation

Members are recommended to endorse the Comprehensive Performance Assessment Value-for-Money self-assessment.