



## **Report to Cabinet**

**Subject**      Comprehensive Area Assessment  
                         Managing Performance Self-Assessment

**Date**            6 August 2009

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### **1. Purpose of the Report**

§ To update Cabinet on progress with the Managing Performance element of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) Organisational Assessment

### **2. Background**

Members will be aware from previous reports that CAA has replaced Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA).

Within it, the former Use of Resources and Direction of Travel Assessments have been brought together in a single, scored Organisational Assessment.

Key Lines of Enquiry have been substantially revised, as previously reported. Use of Resources is assessed around three broad theme areas, and is scored. Managing Performance is a separate theme area, building on the former Direction of Travel, and will be given a separate score. The two scores will be brought together to give a single published Organisational Assessment score. Councils will therefore no longer receive a separate published Use of Resources score – to do well on Use of Resources, councils will need to demonstrate that they are also effectively managing performance.

Use of Resources self-assessments have already been completed. Feedback from inspectors on these documents has been positive, both in terms of content and presentation.

Senior Management Team considered whether a self-assessment should also be completed for the Managing Performance element. Self-assessment for this element is optional but, in view of the importance the Council has attached to doing well under the previous Use of Resources regime, SMT agreed it would be appropriate to produce a Managing Performance self-assessment, to allow the Council to outline recent progress made, in particular since the CPA assessment last year.

### **3. Proposal**

A copy of the Managing Performance self-assessment is attached for members' information at **Appendix A**. The document has been written primarily to show how the Council has managed and improved performance, in particular over the last year. It focuses particularly on the Key Lines of Enquiry the Audit Commission will use when carrying out its inspection work.

Auditors will also look to see that councils are addressing the underpinning CAA themes of: -

- Sustainability
- Tackling inequality, disadvantage and discrimination
- People whose circumstances make them vulnerable
- Value-for-money.

Issues relevant to these themes have therefore been built into the self-assessment.

The document was submitted to the Audit Commission in mid-July, along with relevant supporting information.

At the time of writing, there has been no formal feedback from the Commission's inspector. Any feedback received between now and the Cabinet meeting will be verbally reported.

### **4. Resource Implications**

None specific to this report.

### **5. Recommendation**

Cabinet is **recommended**:

- To note the report