

Time started – 5.00 pm
Time finished – 5.15 pm

SPECIAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
21 JUNE 2004

Present: Councillor Burgess (in the Chair)
Councillors Care, Graves, Gupta and Nath

16/03 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Hickson, Smalley and Williamson.

17/03 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

18/03 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Gupta declared a personal interest as she was a member of the projects in Normanton mentioned on page 28 of the report.

19/03 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2004 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

20/03 Best Value Performance Plan 2004-05

The Committee considered two reports on the Best Value Performance Plan, one from the Director of Finance and one from the Scrutiny Management Commission.

It was noted that Council Cabinet had agreed the principles of the Plan on 18 May 2004 and it had been referred to Scrutiny Management Commission on 8 June 2004.

Scrutiny Management Commission's report recommended that each of the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions should scrutinise performance statistics on a quarterly basis. The Commission suggested that the relevant Council Cabinet Members and Chief Officers should be invited to the Commission meetings to answer questions on poorly performing areas and the measures being put in place to address the problems.

Councillor Graves suggested that Scrutiny Management Commission should co-ordinate all of the Commission's comments on the Best Value

Performance Plan to Council Cabinet.

Councillor Care asked the Commissions to give feedback on what non-statutory performance indicators are useful and which added little value.

David Armin, Head of Strategic Planning and Performance, presented a report that sought the approval of the Best Value Performance Plan so that it could be published by the statutory deadline of 30 June 2004.

The Committee welcomed the news that the Council had either achieved what was expected, or exceeded expectations for two thirds of the indicators. It was too early to compare results with this year's national figures, but compared to previous years there had been an increase in the number of indicators that fell within the top two quartiles.

Councillor Burgess said that he wanted the Council to continue to build on good performance and examine those areas where performance was not so good. He was keen to continue to make improvements so that the Council could be classified by the Comprehensive Performance Assessment as excellent.

Resolved

- 1. to approve the Best Value Performance Plan 2004-05, subject to any amendments agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leaders of the three main groups on the Council.**
- 2. to recommend that a report be presented to Council Cabinet setting out how the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions should scrutinise the Best Value Performance Plan in future years.**

MINUTES END