

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

MONDAY 15 MARCH 2004 AT 2.00 P.M.

Agenda Item

No.

12

**BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN -
PROPOSED PROMISES 2004/2005**

Report of the Chief Executive

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Executive Members: Robert Ellis and David Beatty

1. Purpose of report

To present proposed Promises 2004/05 recommended by the Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) Cabinet Panel.

The role of the Panel is to consider the promises proposed for 2004/05, the indicators chosen to measure the promises, and whether the indicators are effective measures of the promises and are useful in themselves. The Panel has met four times: in December 2003 to examine and discuss in detail the wording of the promises and draw up a list of promises and measures that required more work; in January 2004 to review the revised promises and measures; at the beginning of February 2004, with all the appropriate officers to discuss the issues in more detail; and again on the 25 February to finalise the proposed promises. The amendments requested by the Panel have been incorporated in the papers attached.

Officers have liaised with Executive Members in preparing information for the Panel.

Proposed Promise Measures 2004/05 are attached as appendix A.

There are no financial implications relating to this report.

A further report will be submitted to Cabinet and County Council in May seeking approval to the Best Value Performance Plan for 2004/2005.

2. Conclusion

Cabinet is invited to consider the proposed Promises for 2004/2005 as recommended by the Panel and set out below.

Proposed Promises for 2004/2005

Promise Ref.	Promise wording 2004/2005
A	To make Hertfordshire a better place to live and work we will:
1	work with local communities and partners to improve the environment and quality of life
2	strenuously oppose the loss of green fields and avoid, wherever possible, development on green areas in our towns by encouraging the building of high quality and affordable housing for local people on previously developed land
3	improve the efficiency of the highway network and encourage alternatives to the use of the car
4	work with the police, district councils and other organisations to reduce crime, drug/alcohol misuse and anti-social behaviour
5	work with other organisations to make Hertfordshire a safer place to live, work in and travel
6	develop an economic and social environment that is business friendly and improves standards of living in a sustainable manner
7	introduce more sustainable management of household waste without the use of incineration in Hertfordshire
B	To offer children a better future we will:
8	strive to improve educational achievement throughout the county
9	ensure that children are protected from harm and improve their life chances, and support vulnerable families
10	promote the learning of all children by tackling behavioural problems and truancy
11	assist under performing schools to improve their standards substantially
12	<i>help children develop their skills and talents and ensure that Hertfordshire has a range of specialist schools</i>
C	To help people to help themselves we will:
13	help people to continue learning throughout their lives

Promise Ref.	Promise wording 2004/2005
14	work with NHS hospitals, Primary Care Trusts, District Councils and Voluntary Organisations to improve health and social care services
15	fight for the interests of elderly and disabled people and their carers and help them lead independent lives
16	promote the right of everyone to equal treatment when they use our services, our buildings, or apply for a job with us
17	make it easier for people to get the information and advice they need from us
D	<i>To continue to be a top performing council we will:</i>
18	manage the organisation effectively with a diverse and capable workforce
19	give the public value for money by getting more cost efficient every year