

**BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2001-02**

*Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy)*

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**Executive Member:** - Alan Searing

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 The Cabinet on 18 December 2000 (Cabinet report attached) approved a draft Best Value Performance Plan for 2001-02 and agreed the following proposal for consideration by all Select Committees in January 2001:

"That the draft Best Value plan be approved."

The Plan is now submitted (circulated separately to all members as Appendix 1) to all Select Committees for comments which will be considered by Cabinet on 29 January 2001.

1.2 The following promise sections are within this Select Committee's remit: -

- Pages 50-53: be one of the top five county education authorities in the country
- Pages 54-63: improve pupil achievement in Hertfordshire schools
- Pages 64-66: raise the educational achievement and educational participation of 16-19 year olds
- Pages 67: assist schools with lowest current levels of pupil attainment to make accelerated progress
- Pages 68-70: help people to continue learning throughout their lives
- Pages 92-98: improve our support to children and families

1.3 In addition, this Select Committee may wish to consider the relevant indicators in the general promise sections, found on pages 39-48; 71-78, 121-135

1.4 The Cabinet will submit a final draft to full Council on 15 February 2001.

## **2. Background**

2.1. This is the second year in which the County Council has to produce a Best Value Performance Plan, which covers all its activities, sets targets for performance, and sets out the Council's priorities for the future as well as being a vehicle for reporting outcomes of the Best Value Reviews.

## **3. Best Value Performance Plan 2001-02 Content**

3.1. The key approach within the plan is to show links between a promise, the actions taken to achieve the promise and how success is to be measured. All nationally set (and proposed) performance indicators have been linked to the promises. The Plan is arranged by promise.

3.2. There are a number of 'gaps' in the plan. Some information will not be available until late January. In addition work is continuing in a number of areas including target setting for next year, budgetary information and good news stories (which are shown as headlines only).

3.3 A number of gaps also exist in the wording of information relating to promises or where local indicators are being investigated. In all cases, work is being undertaken to complete these sections. The relevant gaps exist in Appendix 1 at:

page 67 – news stories relating to assisting schools with the lowest current levels of pupil attainment to make accelerated progress. Local indicators are being developed

page 93 – further text relating to support to children and families

3.4 The final version of the Plan will contain data to show how HCC compares with Shire Counties. At present the comparative data is provisional and is shown as Appendix 2 of the Plan.

3.5 The final version will be 'portrait' not 'landscape' and typeface and spacing will be addressed.