

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
RESOURCES, PROSPERITY, PARTNERSHIP AND
CONSULTATION SELECT COMMITTEE
1 NOVEMBER 2001 AT 10.30 A.M.**

**Agenda Item
No.**

3

SCRUTINY OF THE BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2002/03

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy)

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Executive Member:- Bernard Lloyd

1. Purpose of the report

To consider the way the Resources, Prosperity, Partnership and Consultation (RPP&C) Select Committee scrutinises specific promises included in the Best Value Performance Plan.

2. Background

This year, the RPP&C Select Committee will change the way it scrutinises the BVPP. It will undertake a two-part scrutiny, of the Promises for next year and of this year's performance. Hopefully this will increase engagement with the BVPP and avoid the problems around timing that we faced last year. However, this still limits BVPP scrutiny to a once a year event, where it is difficult to engage in scrutiny of specific Promises. This report outlines a method for achieving this.

3. Conclusions

- 3.1** The RPP&C Select Committee may wish to undertake regular scrutiny at its meetings of HCC's performance in achieving specific Promises.
- 3.2** Each Promise could be scrutinised through a report on the current state of achievement of the Promise Action Plan as set out in the BVPP. This could be supported by traffic-lighted PI information.
- 3.3** Members may wish to consider how best to promote a more informal dialogue with Executive Members and Officers that is both forward looking and seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of the actions set out in the BVPP in achieving each Promise.
- 3.4** It may be that the Council's other Select Committees would wish to review their scrutiny programme in the light of this proposed approach of the Resources Select Committee, to achieve consistent scrutiny of the Promises and the performance information that fall within their remit.

4. Timetable

- 4.1** At the January meeting in the Select Committee cycle the wider scrutiny of HCC's performance across the authority would be undertaken, together with a forward-looking scrutiny of the next year's Promises. This has been previously agreed by the Select Committee. Additionally, at this meeting a schedule for scrutinising next years' BVPP Promises would be agreed.
- 4.2** At each subsequent meeting, 2 or 3 Promises would be scrutinised, together with supporting Action Plans and PI information.

5. Financial Implications

None known at this stage