

COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT [CPA] FOR 2003

Report of the Head of Performance Improvement

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1. Purpose of Report

To report the findings of the Council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment [CPA] for 2003.

2. Summary

This paper, requested at the October 2003 meeting, outlines the Council's CPA results for 2003, compares the results with 2002 and points to some areas of possible concern.

3. Conclusion

Members are asked to see if there are results from the CPA that they wish to scrutinise further, or recommend to other Scrutiny Committees to consider.

At the 16 October 2003 meeting the Committee asked for a report on the outcomes of the CPA for 2003.

Background

Comprehensive Performance Assessments were carried out for all Single Tier and County authorities in 2002. In 2003 the assessments are refreshed. As an Excellent Authority refreshment covered only:

- Best Value Performance Indicator results
- Auditor judgements on Corporate Governance
- 'star ratings' from Ofsted and the SSI

In addition Excellent Authorities were invited to ask their Audit Commission Relationship Manager to carry out an assessment of the 'direction of travel' of the authority.

The CPA results are shown as an Appendix to this report:

Changes from 2002

- Our CPA score for 2003 improved again from an already excellent result for 2002.
- The service score block has increased from 41 to 43 out of a maximum of 48. Environment has moved from a rating of 'Good' in 2002 to 'Excellent' now.
- The Auditor scored judgements also showed improvement from a total of 17 out of a possible 20 to 19 out of 20.

Comparative Performance

- The CPA results allow comparisons between authorities. Using the Audit Commission's weighting for scores we are the most successful County Council and a joint top performer for all authorities with Hartlepool, Kensington and Chelsea (using unweighted scores Bexley and Westminster would also be joint top performing authorities).