

THE EXECUTIVE

18 MARCH 2003

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH OFFICER FOR POLICY

YEAR 3 CROSS CUTTING REVIEWS	FOR DECISION	
<p><i>This report requires Executive approval, as the Best Value Review Programme is the responsibility of the Executive.</i></p>		
<p><u>Summary</u></p>		
<p>This report: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides the rationale for the recommended 2003-5 Best Value Review Programme, taking on issues raised both in our Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Self Assessment, the CPA report itself and follow up meetings with the various inspectorates on improvement planning.• Highlights that we need to develop and undertake one further cross-cutting review for 2003-05, on Procurement. This will replace the reviews based on the community priorities in the existing programme.• Details a draft outline Scope for the review in Appendix A. Further work will need to be undertaken on this.		
<p><u>Recommendation</u></p>		
<p>The Executive is asked to agree that we undertake the cross-cutting review identified and note that changes will made to the outline scope in Appendix A.</p>		
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1. Background

- 1.1 The Council is no longer required to review all of its functions within a 5 year period.
- 1.2 The existing Best Value Programme needs reviewing in response to specific Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) comments and areas we have identified in our self assessment.
- 1.3 We are currently undertaking one cross-cutting review, Regenerating the Local Economy. The review of social care is not proceeding because of other initiatives to improve services in this area. Two areas have been identified for Best Value Reviews in the draft CPA improvement plan that has been previously tabled at the Executive - Procurement and Improving Officer Capacity. After positive discussion with the various inspectorates, it is recommended that we proceed with these two reviews, the

review of Officer Capacity in light of the re-organisation of Chief Executives department, will not be a formal Best Value Review.

- 1.4 The draft outline scope for the "Procurement" is shown in Appendix A.
- 1.5 Further work will need to be undertaken to develop the draft scope and it will need to change in response to this.
- 1.6 Members will be identified to join panels overseeing all cross-cutting reviews (Regenerating the Local Economy and Procurement) by Assembly.

Background papers used in the preparation of the report

- LBBB self assessment May 2002
- LBBB CPA report December 2002

Title: Procurement

Outline Scope

What are we trying to tackle through this review?

1. What steps we need to take to bring our procurement practice up to the level of the best.
2. Capacity issues;
 - Resources/skills/training/distribution
 - Commitment/culture
 - Process and procedures

What quality or policy issues will be looked at?

How we can embed procurement options to drive up performance

Procurement Policy and Principles

What are the issues that need to be tackled?

Are the current processes and procedures appropriate
Compliance with internal and external rules and regulations
Are our monitoring procedures appropriate
E procurement
Joint commissioning
Procurement and Best Value
Green Procurement

What outcomes do we want to achieve?

Clear view on Byatt, Egan and PWC and how we will respond
Strategy for culture change
Willingness to change procurement practice
Commitment to making the right decisions
Organisation has the appropriate skills to make the right decisions

What is in and what is out?

List all the services/activities/functions that **should** be included in the review

Central Procurement
Purchasing
Social Services Contracts
Assets/Development Support Services as a case study
Shape Up (assessment of policies and procedures)

List all the services that **could** be included but are not, and why they are not

N/A

What are the givens?*

None

*Although the principles of best value ensures that nothing is taken for granted in reality, especially with a cross-cutting review of a key area, there will be may be givens, for example a recent policy decision or strategy.