

APPENDIX C
Agenda Item No. 6

MEDIUM TERM WORK PROGRAMME AND Chief Executive
COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (CPA) FEEDBACK

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Scrutiny Committee with an opportunity to comment on the relevant sections of both the Medium Term Work Programme and the feedback from the CPA Inspector considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 7 September 2004.
- 1.2 Cabinet agreed that the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate issues, be authorised to adjust the Medium Term Work Programme to take account of comments made by Scrutiny.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Scrutiny Committee considers ‘The Local Environment’ section of the Medium Term Work Programme, attached as Appendix 2, and comments as it feels appropriate, taking into account the CPA inspector’s report and the council’s Local Environment key aim and outcomes.
- 2.2 That the Scrutiny Committee defers consideration of the feedback from the CPA inspector in relation to our public space activity until its meeting on 16 November 2004.

3. Medium Term Work Programme

- 2.1 The Cabinet report considered at the meeting held on 7 September 2004 is attached as Appendix 1 (the original appendices have not been included). This report outlined the importance of the Medium Term Work Programme (MTWP) in the council’s performance management framework. The Medium Term Work Programme aims to set out a clear list of targets which will help the council to achieve the outcomes it has adopted. It is not an exhaustive list of every action to be taken over the next three years, but rather a list of those initiatives which are key to our success in improving the community, environmental and economic well-being of the district.
- 3.2 A copy of the Local Environment section of the MTWP is attached as Appendix 2 and Members are invited to comment on those targets and consider whether this section of the MTWP should be used to inform the Environment Scrutiny work programme in the future. It is proposed to provide Scrutiny with a monitoring report on those actions on a six monthly basis, commencing in May 2005.

4. Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Inspector's Report

- 4.1 A summary of the inspector's judgements about the strengths and weaknesses of the council was considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 7 September and actions to address the weaknesses have been included in the MTWP.
- 4.2 In addition to the strengths and weaknesses identified within the corporate assessment (recently considered by the Resources and Corporate Performance Scrutiny committee) the CPA inspection included a 'diagnostic' review of our activity in the area of 'Public Space'. Appendix 3 summarises the strengths and weaknesses highlighted by the Inspector and also includes:
- Explanatory notes alongside the identified weaknesses to clarify the points made by the inspector;
 - Information about the progress we have made to date in addressing the issues highlighted in the report, the majority of which were identified in our CPA Self Assessment; and
 - Information as to whether or not the action is included within the revised MTWP.
- 4.3 The result of the public space assessment requires further consideration, to identify whether we accept the weaknesses as detailed by the inspector, and what action we might take to improve our performance in those areas. For this reason, and to fit with the Committee's work programme, it is proposed to defer consideration of this Appendix until the Scrutiny Committee on 16 November 2004. At this time an updated report can be provided to Members.

5. Improvement Planning and Progress Monitoring

- 5.1 The Medium Term Work Programme will be a key document in the council's performance management framework – summarising the key actions to deliver our strategy, and providing a tool for officers and Members to monitor progress. It is proposed that relevant progress reports are brought to each Scrutiny Committee on a six monthly basis, to provide Members with an opportunity to review progress and inform scrutiny work programmes.

6. Options Considered and reasons for recommendation

- 6.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Scrutiny Committee with an opportunity to comment on the relevant sections of both the Medium Term Work Programme and the feedback from the CPA Inspector and therefore no other options have been considered.

7. Resource Implications

- 7.1 Where additional resources have been agreed these are highlighted in the Medium Term Work Programme. There are no financial implications in the proposed arrangements for monitoring and reporting.

8. Response to Key Aims and Outcomes

8.1 Appendices 2 and 3 relate directly to the council's activity in response to the Local Environment key aim.

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Background Documents: CPA report – June 2004;
AVDC Self Assessment January 2004;
AVDC Improvement Plan January 2004
Cabinet report 7 September 2004
Medium Term Work Programme 2004-07
Report to Resources and Corporate Performance Scrutiny Committee 27 July 2004

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