

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

CABINET – 16 JUNE 2008

COUNCIL PLAN: 2008/09

REPORT OF HEAD OF POLICY, PERFORMANCE & PARTNERSHIP

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek agreement to the publication of the Council Plan (formerly Best Value Performance & Improvement Plan) for 2008/09.

(NB. A copy of the draft Council Plan is available for public viewing at Civic Offices and Darby House Receptions and via the internet. The document is also available in the Members' Room and on the Corporate Intranet).

2. RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

To endorse the draft Council Plan as the basis for publication by the end of June 2008 and to authorise the Head of Policy, Performance & Partnership, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to finalise the Plan and any supporting information.

3. INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Council Plan 2008/09 is a key corporate document as it sets out:

- An overview of the Borough and Council and the key issues and challenges we face;
- Details of our Corporate Strategy in terms of our Vision and Community Priorities, our medium-term service and financial planning strategy and our Local Area Agreement 2;
- An assessment of how the Council performed in 2007/08;
- A summary of the key targets and actions that the Council is working to achieve in 2008/09 and also over the next three years to progress our Community Priorities;
- An outline of how we manage and are looking to improve our organisation.

- 3.2 The document brings together, in particular, the performance framework articulated in each of our Priority Plans which were approved by the Cabinet on 12 May 2008. The Plan also sets out our

approach in relation to our corporate priority of being an “efficient, effective and customer-focused Council that delivers value-for-money for the community”.

- 3.3 It is important to note that 2008/09 marks the commencement of the new National Indicator Set (NIS) of some 198 indicators. In some instances, we are unable to set performance targets yet as there are new indicators where baseline data will need to be collected this year. It should also be noted that performance and budget information contained in this Plan remain subject to audit by the Council’s external auditors.
- 3.4 Copies of the finalised Plan will be posted on the website and hard copies will be circulated to key partners and placed in public reception areas, libraries etc. A brief summary of Council performance in 2007/08 was included in the last edition of ‘Insight’ Council magazine which was circulated to every household.

4 LEGAL & OTHER COMMENTS

- 4.1 While the Council no longer has a statutory duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to publish a Best Value Performance Plan, it is considered good practice to publish an overview of how we are performing and our approach to delivering our Community Priorities and managing the organisation. The Plan covers all aspects of Council business and, as such it has implications across all parts of the Council, its policies and all aspects of its work. The Council’s whole approach to performance planning and management is underpinned by its risk management process.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Council Plan 2007/08: ‘One Year On’
Priority Plans 2008/09 – 2010/11

**Report prepared by Hilary Knight, Corporate Performance Manager
01952 380134**