

Report to: The Executive -13 September and Policy & Review
(Performance) Panel – 15 September 2004
Report by: Martin Evans

COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT: PROGRESS ON THE ACTION PLAN – JULY 2004

1 Purpose: to comment on progress with the improvement action plan agreed following the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) in 2002.

2 The Executive and the Policy & Review (Performance) Panel are recommended to:

- **note that progress is being made on all seven improvement priority areas**
- **note that implementing the Moving Towards Excellence Review should add to the drive for improvement, particularly by creating units which will focus on the priority issues such as benefits administration, cleansing, performance management, project and risk management and communications**
- **in future to consider progress on the CPA improvement plan quarterly**
- **agree that the points in paragraph 4.9 should be included in the summary sought by the Audit Commission for their annual assessment of the Council's progress.**

3 Background

Progress on the seven priority actions in the CPA improvement plan was being monitored half yearly. The PMIB consider that the importance of checking progress on this means it should be reviewed quarterly.

4 Commentary on progress with the action plan

Appendix 1 updates progress with the actions originally agreed. This shows substantial progress, though some actions are taking longer than planned.

4.1 Benefits: The backlog arising from implementing the SX3 computer system was cleared by May 2004. Sustaining this improvement and maintaining claimants' satisfaction ratings is very important. A task team has been set up to look at bringing revenues and benefits administration together into a corporate unit. This should make it easier to cope with peaks in workload than when the staff are spread over local offices. We are now making other process improvements and tackling issues raised by the Benefit Fraud Inspectorate, such as preventing fraud and recovering overpayments..

4.2 Clean and tidy city: Appendix 1 shows there has been progress on the main actions planned. There continue to be issues in achieving a common standard of cleansing across the contracts. This will be a priority for the new Strategic Director for Environment and Transport.

4.3 Performance management continues to develop. The officers' Performance Management Improvement Board has reviewed each service's performance management arrangements and it has commented on the draft business plans for each service to ensure they focus on priorities. Members have agreed a new set of indicators for the corporate scorecard, based on issues highlighted in business plans. Progress with Local Public Service Agreement has been looked at closely to try to maximise our chances of gaining the reward grant.

4.4 Priority driven resource allocation: The Medium Term Resource Strategy was implemented for the 2004/5 budget. The next annual update will begin earlier in the year to give time for a more thorough assessment of existing expenditure and future pressures on each service.

4.5 Medium term communications strategy: The Moving Towards Excellence Review will set up a dedicated communication and customer services team that will be responsible for implementing this strategy.

4.6 Project and risk management. The piloting of the Project Management Review Boards has been completed and this approach is now being applied to 12 major projects. 12 staff have been trained in the Project Management system called 'Prince 2'. A cut down project management process has been agreed for projects that do not warrant a fully-fledged review board. The Council has agreed important changes to project management and decision-making arrangements that the Chief Executive will report back on in October 2004.

4.7 Information is being collected on key risks. Progress has been slowed because recruitment of a new Risk Manager was unsuccessful. We are looking into whether some interim support can be brought in. The Strategic Directors need to agree on the key corporate risks and PMIB can then review each one and the action plans for managing them. The Democratic Services Manager and the Chief Executive are also reviewing our Corporate Governance framework.

4.8 Improved CPA assessment: Work on the annual assessment for 2004 will be done in the September to December period. The Audit Commission will look at evidence from:

- our corporate plan
- performance indicators for 2003/4
- the star rating of social services
- results of inspections of housing (particularly the repairs service), the Ofsted inspection of the Local Education Authority and desk top assessments of benefits, environmental services and culture and leisure services.

4.9 We have been invited to add a short summary of more recent evidence by the end of September 2004. This could include:

- agreement of the community strategy for Portsmouth
- new partnership boards on each of the priorities in the community strategy

- the results that the medium term resource strategy has had in focusing our resources on the priorities
- the 'Moving Towards Excellence Review', particularly its focus on following through the priorities, modernising our management structure and improving communications
- the latest GCSE results
- the impact of delays with the Spinnaker Tower and the demolition of the Tricorn
- promoting South Hampshire as a growth area
- progress with the pilot Children's Trust
- residents involvement in allocating the latest round of Neighbourhood Renewal funding.

..... Head of Strategy

The recommendations set out above were approved/approved as amended/deferred/rejected by the Executive on signed

Consultation and background reports

This report has been considered by the PMIB. Background papers are held in the Strategy Unit.

Me/bv/cpaimptprog panel sept 04

Improvement priority, scope and outcome	Proposed action	Planned to complete by	Progress by July 2004	Led by
<p>2 Clean and tidy city, implementing proposals for integrated management of the street scene to increase public satisfaction with cleansing <i>Outcome: increase resident satisfaction with street cleansing to 65% by March 2005</i></p>	2.1 Agree common cleansing standards and a co-ordinated management approach to cleansing	October 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issues remain to be resolved with Housing amenity land and with Leisure on seafront cleansing. High level buy-in has been achieved with Colas, the preferred bidder for the Highways PFI. Next roll-out to be to Somerstown at end of July. GIS mapping is being done to guide the help desk staff in following up complaints with the appropriate contractor</i> 	Alan Higgins
	2.2 Resolve problems with waste collection including piloting of improved containment of recyclables and taking action to deter early refuse	October 2003		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The programme of issuing new recycling containers has started and a review has been undertaken to give residents more choice</i>
	2.3 Undertake Clean & Tidy plan proposals to tackle fly tipping	July 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Are now meeting the Ground Work Trust & aim to have feasibility studies done by January 2005. A new database has been set up to track fly tips. Have agreed with the Environment Agency that we can take enforcement action on fly tipping. Feasibility study completed on recycling white goods.</i> 	
	2.4 Implement proposals for co-ordinating enforcement activity	October 2003		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Enforcement policy agreed. Transfer of staff from Planning & Environmental Health to Engineering completed & an extra post recruited. Clean City services are liaising with community wardens.</i>
	2.5 Implement the co-ordinated clean & tidy communications strategy	October 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>'Proud to be Portsmouth' communications strategy launched in June. Common badging and uniforms agreed.</i> • <i>Progressing</i> 	
	2.6 Implement co-ordinated reporting to the Helpdesk	April 2004		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Results of BVPI satisfaction survey show the key satisfaction measure is up from 50% to c. 63%, though satisfaction with environmental services is down from 58% to 46%. Further panel survey planned in 2004. Scorecard has been developed to monitor the clean & tidy programme.</i>
	2.7 Monitor public satisfaction with cleansing	Nov. 2004	Adam Reeves	

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	2.8 Decide if a full inspection of clean & tidy city review is required and carry it out	2005/6		Audit Comm.
3 Performance management including involving members more fully in reviewing performance on corporate scorecards. <i>Outcome: performance improvements arising from a fully implemented programme of performance reporting to members by April 2004</i>	3.1 Refresh and monitor the corporate balanced scorecard on service health; where significant deviations from targets are likely, demand and then monitor improvement action plans	April 2003 & April each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Scorecard indicators were refreshed in April 2003 and 2004 and regular monitoring reports made to PMIB. Action plans sought since January 2004 have been on housing benefits, arrears and empty council housing. Comparisons over time and with other councils are being added.</i> • <i>Achievement of the community plan was monitored in April 2004 with actions taken up in the new community strategy. Business plans for 2004/5 follow up the new community strategy</i> • <i>Framework agreed & monitoring considered by LSP Executive in January. A successful evaluation of the LSP's progress was made by the Government Office for the South East in July</i> • <i>Progress monitored in Jan. & July. Action plans have been presented to PMIB on recruitment of lone parents, health of looked after children and GCSE attainment at A*-G, since January. Pump priming grant has been monitored & some of it reallocated .</i> • <i>Achieved</i> • <i>Completed for 2003/4</i> 	Kelly Nash
	3.2 Monitor and propose action to deliver those community plan outcome targets that remain relevant and any more recent equivalent targets that now apply	April 2004		Paddy May/ Kelly Nash
	3.3 Agree a performance management framework for the community strategy and then monitor its achievement using this	September 2004 & then 6 monthly		Laura Caton
	3.4 Monitor achievement of the LPSA targets and require improvement action plans to keep on target	April 2005		Paddy May
	3.5 Fulfil an annual calendar of reporting on performance to PMIB, the Policy & Review (Performance) Panel, the Executive & LSP and support members in proposing appropriate action	Annual		Kelly Nash
	3.6 Annual assessment of progress	2003/4 & 2004/5		Audit Comm.
4 Priority driven corporate resource management, including priority	4.1 Evaluate pilots of priority theme based business plans and decide whether to extend them or how to strengthen the focus on priorities	September 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Completed. Themed plans have been replaced by delivery plans on each priority in the community strategy.</i> • <i>Being implemented in 2 phases. 1st phase</i> 	Paddy May
	4.2 Medium term resource strategy for			Roger

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<p>theme-based business plans, championed by executive members; medium term resource strategy and corporate management of key resources including property.</p> <p><i>Outcome: Resource allocation clearly based on priority themes by 2004/5.</i></p>	<p>2003/4-2005/6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agree the strategy • implement the strategy <p>4.3 Undertake a review of base budgets including their contributions to priorities</p> <p>4.4 Ensure that the capital programme reflects the priorities in the asset management plans</p> <p>4.5 Agree an overall business plan for corporate support services to ensure they focus on supporting the priorities</p> <p>4.6 Fully implement other priority driven strategies for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • human resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • procurement 	<p>Sept. 2003 April 2006 February 2004</p> <p>March each year</p> <p>April 2004</p> <p>Review in July each year</p>	<p><i>completed in 2003/4. 2nd phase in 2004/5 to include more detailed assessment of existing expenditure & pressures.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Evaluation against priorities was done in 1st phase of MTRS. More detailed review to follow in phase 2. The Executive has also brought in monthly monitoring of budgets</i> • <i>Review is being undertaken. To be considered by the Executive.</i> • <i>Plan completed</i> • <i>The Moving towards Excellence review has making the best use of staff resources at its heart. The management structure and principles for new processes have been agreed. Implementation is phased over 12 months to June 2005. Business plans have followed-up on the HR strategy. The diversity implementation plan has been followed up. A workforce development officer has been appointed. Arrangements for secondments will be proposed. A competency framework is being considered that will aid appraisals. A new HR strategy will be developed with the Strategic Directors.</i> • <i>A 3-year procurement business plan has been agreed. Aims include gaining full commitment from members & staff, realising the benefits of good procurement including e-procurement, setting up a corporate contracts programme and a unified procurement process for contracts. The plan also</i> 	<p>Ching</p> <p>Roger Ching</p> <p>Roger Ching</p> <p>Paddy May</p> <p>Kay White</p> <p>David Pointon</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="434 555 954 584">• information technology & e-government <li data-bbox="434 959 869 987">• property and asset management <p data-bbox="434 1203 936 1294">4.7 Undertake critical friend reviews of the progress, adequacy and effectiveness of the policies</p> <p data-bbox="434 1299 898 1327">4.8 Property asset management review</p>	<p data-bbox="981 954 1178 983">2003/4 – 2005/6</p> <p data-bbox="981 1203 1093 1232">On-going</p> <p data-bbox="981 1299 1066 1327">2005/6</p>	<p data-bbox="1272 341 1877 552"><i>includes raising awareness of partnering and developing working relationships with contractors, suppliers (including small & medium sized firms) & with the voluntary & community sectors. It also continues the development of the Common Values Partnership. Procurement indicators have been added to the 2004/5 corporate scorecard.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1227 560 1895 951">• <i>The City Help Desk has been extended to clean & tidy city services & Planning. Environmental Health & Trading Standards is in the process of being added. This will be followed by a consolidation review & the business case prepared for including further services. A next generation web site is being developed including improved design, a new contact management system, search engine & a higher specification hosting arrangement– these improvements should be completed by the end of 2004. A project is underway to upgrade the NGFS finance system by the end of 2004/5. A PCC-wide best value review of IT has been launched</i> <li data-bbox="1227 959 1895 1198">• <i>Asset Management Plans & the capital strategy no longer have to be published. Capital bids have been evaluated in relation to priorities. Most of the data on performance vs targets for property PIs has been assembled. A scrutiny review of asset management is currently being done & is due to be completed in Nov. 2004. A further report on under-performing properties is being prepared.</i> <li data-bbox="1227 1206 1850 1267">• <i>No longer shown in Audit Commission's planned programme of inspections</i> 	<p data-bbox="1924 555 2065 584">Bob France</p> <p data-bbox="1924 959 2033 1019">Stephen Checkley</p> <p data-bbox="1924 1203 2011 1264">Audit Comm.</p> <p data-bbox="1924 1299 2011 1359">Audit Comm.</p>

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<p>5 Medium term communication strategy, linked to community plan priorities. <i>Outcome: Better public understanding of Council priorities/achieve ments by autumn 2004</i></p>	<p>5.1 Agree the vision for corporate communication and the key corporate messages (update these each year) 5.2 Agree the implementation plan for the communications strategy 5.3 Monitor and review delivery of the key messages and their impact on public perceptions 5.4 External assessment of progress against the milestones</p>	<p>September 2003 November 2003 January each year 2003/4-2004/5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Key messages & an action plan agreed by CMT & the Executive in Feb. 2004 and updated</i> • <i>Agreed</i> • <i>A review has been undertaken by the Audit Commission</i> 	<p>Adam Reeves Karen Traviss Adam Reeves Audit Comm.</p>
<p>6 Project and risk management to ensure capacity to deliver our ambitions, key projects on time & to manage major foreseeable risks. <i>Outcome: All major projects to be done in-line with best practice requirements; Corporate Risk Management Strategy agreed & implemented by 2004/5</i></p>	<p>6.1 Introduce the corporate project management system including review boards for major projects 6.2 Review the effectiveness of the project management system and improve it if necessary 6.3 Complete the identification of risks, incorporate them in business plans and update these annually 6.4 Agree the corporate risk management strategy 6.5 Compile the first Strategic Risk Register 6.6 Initiate annual monitoring of key corporate risks and controls 6.7 Critical friend reviews of progress 6.8 Detailed review of revised risk management arrangements.</p>	<p>June 2003 April 2004 June 2003 & each year July 2003 Dec 2003 April 2004 2003/4 & 4/5 2004/5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Completed and is now being applied to 12 major projects. Pool of project management staff identified & training given to 12 of them</i> • <i>Completed. Good practice notes circulated to project review leaders</i> • <i>Risk assessments in business plans updated. Controls on them are being assessed</i> • <i>Agreed in December 2003</i> • <i>Being drafted</i> • <i>To be undertaken by PMIB</i> • <i>Review is to be undertaken by the Audit Commission early in 2005</i> 	<p>Roger Ching Gary Lark Gary Lark Gary Lark Risk Manager Audit Comm.</p>

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<p>7 Improved CPA assessment to improve the Council's standing & gain freedoms & flexibilities. <i>Outcome: Year-on-year improvement in service scores, Implementation of the improvement plan and to achieve an excellent CPA rating in 2006</i></p>	<p>7.1 Six-monthly monitoring of service score indicators and inspections which feed into the annual refreshing of the CPA scores</p> <p>7.2 Draw up an action programme to address key themes in the major reassessment of the CPA in 2006</p> <p>7.3 Respond to the Annual Audit letter; undertake agreed actions and report on progress</p> <p>7.4 Input to the annual assessment of direction of travel</p> <p>7.5 Self-assessment for next CPA</p> <p>7.5 Corporate assessment inspection if required as part of annual refreshment of CPA</p>	<p>Nov. & July each year</p> <p>July 2004</p> <p>Jan. each year Sept. each yr.</p> <p>Dec. 2003 & 2004</p> <p>2006</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Scores were revised in December 2003 with an increase of 5 'weighted' points on service scores, so that we are now near the top of the Good range. Awaiting data to estimate what the overall score for services could be in 2004.</i> • <i>The Audit Commission' new approach was reported to the Executive. Key points were circulated before business plans were drawn up</i> • <i>Completed for 2003/4</i> • <i>Contribution Isought to the 2003/4 Quality Assessment report in August/September</i> • <i>Decided not to take this up in 2004</i> 	<p>Kelly Nash</p> <p>Martin Evans</p> <p>Roger Ching</p> <p>M Evans</p> <p>Audit Comm</p>