

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE: AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE

DATE: 9th DECEMBER 2008

SUBJECT: CORPORATE VALUE FOR MONEY (VFM) REVIEWS

REPORT BY: HEAD OF AUDIT

CONTACT OFFICER: DAVID GOWING

TEL: 01582 546077

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL ☐

COMMUNITY ☐

SAFETY

EQUALITIES ☐

ENVIRONMENT ☐

FINANCIAL ☐

RISKS ☐

STAFFING ☐

OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: NONE

PURPOSE

- 1 To provide the Audit and Governance Committee with details of the current system of reporting and decision making on corporate VFM reviews and to consider if any change if required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2 The Committee endorses the current system of reporting on corporate VFM reviews.

BACKGROUND

- 4 The system of reporting corporate VFM reviews was discussed at the previous Audit and Governance Committee meeting and it was agreed this was to be considered at the next meeting. The issue was in respect of the status of corporate VFM reviews and how these should be reported to Members.

- 5 For clarification, corporate VFM reviews are not internal audit reviews but internal audit provide significant resource to the reviews. The first three reviews (Human Resources, Information Management and Legal/Democratic Services) have all been lead by Internal Audit. The reviews form part of the Luton Excellence Programme (LEX).

REPORT

- 6 There is a defined process for reporting and consideration of corporate VFM reviews, which results in a formal report to CLMT. Once decisions on recommendations are made by CLMT. Any service and/or structural changes are presented to Executive and Administration Committee for consideration which is the normal process for this type of change. This is in compliance with the Council Constitution. Staff are consulted as appropriate and in accordance with the organisational change policy.
- 7 The Performance Resources and Assets Scrutiny Committee reviews the LEX work programme on a six monthly basis. Any corporate VFM review will be noted as part of this programme and the Committee can request at any time to see reports produced as part of this programme.
- 8 A management group, comprising of CLMT, Head of HR, Head of Finance and Head of Customer Access and Business Transformation, has been formed to oversee the progress on the LEX programme. This team will meet quarterly.
- 9 The processes described in the paragraphs above provide a clear trail of decision making from each review.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 10 There are no risk implications to this report other than those set out in the body of the report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 11 There are no financial implications to this report other than those set out in the body of the report. This has been agreed with the Head of Corporate Finance on 25th November 2008.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 12 There are no direct legal implications to this report save for those set out in the body of the report. This has been agreed with Richard Stevens, Head of Legal Services on 25th November 2008.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D

COUNCIL CONSTITUTION AND ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE POLICY