

COMMITTEE: REGENERATION AND CITIZENSHIP SCRUTINY

DATE: 17th APRIL 2008

SUBJECT: REFERENCE FROM PERFORMANCE,
RESOURCES & ASSETS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
PROPOSED SCRUTINY TOPIC

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE - HEAD OF LOCAL
DEMOCRACY

CONTACT OFFICER: SUSAN ROWLAND 546036

IMPLICATIONS:

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|------------|---|------------------|
| LEGAL | ✓ | COMMUNITY SAFETY |
| EQUALITIES | | ENVIRONMENT |
| FINANCIAL | | CONSULTATIONS |
| STAFFING | | OTHER |

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

PURPOSE

1. To refer the recommendations of Performance, Resources and Assets Scrutiny Committee.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. Regeneration and Citizenship Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:-

- (i) Scrutinise the lower headline rating received in the recent CPA assessment by Culture.**
- (ii) Investigate how to improve the headline rating for Culture at the next CPA assessment.**
- (iii) Report its findings of (i) and (ii) above, back to the Performance Resources and Assets Scrutiny Committee.**

BACKGROUND

- 3. At its meeting on 28th February 2008, Performance, Resources and Assets Scrutiny Committee discussed the 2007 Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Scorecard and Direction of Travel (Ref: 11).
- 4. CPA is an annual process that applies to all English single tier local authorities and county councils.

REPORT

- 5. Since the introduction of CPA in 2002 the Council has consistently scored well, but has never reached the top level of performance. From 2002 to 2004 the authority was judged “good”, and since 2005 (when the scoring labels changed) the Council has been judged “3 star”. Both of these labels are one below the top level (“excellent” prior to 2005, and “4 star” since 2005). 2007 has once again seen the Council judged to be a 3 star authority.
- 7. It was noted by the Performance, Resources and Assets Scrutiny Committee that Culture only received a headline rating of 2. The Committee suggested that if this could be increased to a 3 before the next inspection it would assist the Council in achieving a 4 star rating.
- 8. Performance, Resources and Assets Scrutiny Committee resolved:-
 - “(i) That Regeneration & Citizenship Scrutiny Committee be requested to scrutinise the lower headline rating received in the recent CPA assessment by Culture Services
 - (ii) That Regeneration & Citizenship Scrutiny Committee be requested to investigate how to improve the headline rating for Culture at the next CPA assessment.

- (iii) That Regeneration & Citizenship Scrutiny Committee be requested to report its findings of (i) and (ii) above, back to the Performance Resources and Assets Scrutiny.”

PROPOSAL/OPTION

9. Regeneration & Citizenship Scrutiny Committee can agree or refuse to scrutinise why Culture only received a 2 star rating in the recent CPA assessment and investigate whether its star rating could be improved to 3 at the next assessment.
10. Regeneration & Citizenship Scrutiny Committee can note the report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

11. There are/are no legal implications to this report and this has been agreed by Mary Cormack Solicitor in Legal Services on 4th March 2008.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

Committee Report Ref: PR&AS/2B/08/11
Minute No: PR&AS/11/08