

COMMITTEE: COUNCIL

DATE: 20th JANUARY 2009

SUBJECT: REFERENCE FROM AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE
COMMITTEE – CORPORATE VALUE FOR MONEY
(VFM) REVIEWS

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE (HEAD OF LOCAL
DEMOCRACY)

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IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES	ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL	CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING	OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: NONE

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to refer to the Council the resolution of Audit and Governance Committee in respect of Corporate Value for Money (VFM) Reviews.
2. This matter was considered by Audit and Governance Committee at its meeting held on 9th December 2008. Three Members present and voting required that the resolution be submitted as a recommendation to the Council.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

3. **Council is recommended to endorse the following resolution of Audit and Governance Committee:**
 - (i) That the current system of reporting Corporate Value for Money reviews be noted.**
 - (ii) That the issue of the reporting of Corporate Value for Money reviews be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.**

REPORT

4. At its meeting on 9th December 2008, Audit and Governance Committee considered a report of the Head of Audit entitled 'Corporate Value for Money (VFM) Reviews'.
5. Under the current system of reporting, VFM reports are considered by the Corporate Leadership Management Team (CLMT). Unless approval from a Committee is required to implement the recommendations, members are not informed of VFM reports.
6. Some Members expressed the view that there should be a mechanism whereby Members are informed of all VFM reports that contain recommendations and where CLMT decide not to accept those recommendations.
7. Councillor Davis proposed, and Councillor Farooq seconded, the following recommendation:
 - (i) That the current system of reporting Corporate Value for Money reviews be noted.
 - (ii) That the issue of the reporting of Corporate Value for Money reviews be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.
8. Councillor Pantling proposed, and Councillor Rutstein seconded, an amendment:

Delete (ii) and replace with ' That the Head of Audit to report back to the next meeting on how those VFM reports containing actions that are not taken forward by CLMT will be reported with the reasons for the non-acceptance of those recommendations'.
9. On being put to the meeting, Councillor Pantling's amendment was lost on the casting vote of the Chair.
10. On being put to the meeting, Councillor Davis's recommendation was agreed on the casting vote of the Chair.

11. In accordance with Standing Order 68.1, at least two Members present and voting (in this case three members, Councillors Pantling, Patterson and Rutstein) required that the resolution be submitted as a recommendation to this meeting of the Council.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. There are no legal implications to this report and this has been agreed by Richard Stevens in Legal Services on 17th December 2008.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no financial implications to this and this has been agreed by the Head of Corporate Finance on 17th December 2008.

PROPOSAL/OPTION

14. That the Council notes the current system of reporting Corporate VFM Reports.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Report of the Head of Audit to the Audit and Governance Committee meeting of 9th December 2008

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

Audit and Governance Committee Minute N° 31/08