

**CABINET – 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2004**

**EXTRACT FROM THE DRAFT MINUTES OF  
THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION**

**BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN**

The Commission considered a report of the Chief Executive and Director of Resources concerning the draft Best Value Performance Plan for 2004/05. A copy of the report marked 'D' is filed with these minutes.

In reply to questions, the Commission was advised of the role of the District Auditor in relation to the Plan which was primarily to ensure that the Plan complied with legislative requirements rather than comment on the Council's priorities. It was suggested that it might be appropriate for the Commission to consider the District Auditors Annual Management Letter which would set out any significant issues arising out of its audit and inspection programme and comments on other current issues. The Commission was also advised that a more 'user friendly' statement outlining progress against the commitments in the Medium Term Corporate Strategy would shortly be circulated to all members of the County Council.

With regard to monitoring progress on priority issues, the Commission was advised that quarterly reports were now submitted to the Cabinet. This was in addition to the regular meetings between Chief Officers and Lead Members to discuss current issues.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Best Value Performance Plan for 2004/05 be supported;
- (b) That with regard to Appendix 4 – 'Explanations for Variations of Actuals from targets for 2003/04' the information be broken down in relation to each Scrutiny Committee area of responsibility and that:
  - (i) the Chairman and Spokesmen of each Committee be asked to meet with the appropriate Chief Officer(s) to discuss in detail the reasons for the underperformance and to satisfy themselves that appropriate measures were being taken or planned to address the underperformance.
  - (ii) the outcome of the discussion in (b)(ii) above to be reported to the Scrutiny Reference Group.