

REPORT TO: BEST VALUE SUB-COMMITTEE - 26 JUNE 2006

REPORT ON: BEST VALUE REVIEW PROGRAMME

REPORT BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (COMMUNITY PLANNING)

REPORT NO: 403-2006

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To make recommendations on the best value review programme for 2006/07.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the sub-committee:

- i) approve the best value review programme for 2006/07 as set out in Appendix 1 of this report
- ii) agree to delete a number of reviews from the programme as set out in Appendix 2
- iii) remit the Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) to develop proposals for the approach to best value reviews in future years, as part of the process of preparing the new corporate plan to be agreed in 2007

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications resulting from this report.

4. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

East best value review will consider relevant sustainability issues.

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

Each best value review will consider relevant equalities issues.

6. BACKGROUND

6.1 The Council Plan 2003-2007 contained a programme of best value reviews spread over the years 2003-2007 as agreed by the sub-committee in August 2003. In March 2005, the sub-committee approved a report (174-2005) which deleted a number of reviews from the programme on the basis that these had been overtaken by events or were being addressed in other ways. This report provides up-to-date information on the reviews which have been completed since March 2005 and the reviews which are due to complete in 2006/07. As last year, the report proposes deletion of a number of reviews which were scheduled to start in 2005/06 or 2006/07.

6.2 The following reviews have been completed since March 2005:

- effective approaches to creating employment opportunities
- ways to effectively tackle the problem of fly tipping

- occupational therapy
- what responses to community safety create the best sense of improved security for older people?
- non-housing repairs

6.3 Appendix 1 lists the reviews which are underway and which it is expected to complete during 2006/07, along with the new reviews which will begin in 2006/07. Reports on progress with these, along with final reports containing recommendations for improvements, will be brought forward during the course of the year.

6.4 Appendix 2 lists those reviews which it is recommended should be deleted from the programme, along with the reasons for these recommendations.

6.5 Implementation of the recommendations in this report will complete the programme of best value reviews agreed in 2003. It is recommended that the Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) be remitted to develop proposals for the Council's approach to best value reviews in future years, as part of the process of preparing the new corporate plan to be agreed in 2007.

7. **CONSULTATIONS**

The Chief Executive and Depute Chief Executives have been consulted on the contents of this report.

8. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Report 551-2003 : 4 Year Best Value Review Programme
Report 174-2005 : Best Value Review Programme

Chris Ward

Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning)..... 23/06/2006

Appendix 1 : Reviews to be completed in 2006/07

Appendix 2 : Reviews proposed for deletion

Appendix 1

Reviews to be completed in 2006/07

<u>Review Topic</u>	<u>Progress to Date</u>
How can we maximise the Council's investment in CCTV?	Awaiting report from external consultant
Can better value be achieved from all public resources that promote physical activity?	Report to be drafted, following which final meeting of review group will be held. Tayside review has been to Committee
Is there a more joined-up way of managing neighbourhood streetscape and landscape?	Options identified and proceeding towards final report
What measures will significantly improve educational attainment in our schools?	Two meetings of the review group have taken place and further meetings are scheduled
Is the variety of organisations that inform and advise young people leaving school delivering best value?	Third meeting of review group taking place in May, and will receive reports from two task groups established
How can the Council meet its recycling targets and be best value?	Two meetings of review group have been held and third is scheduled for September
How can we use the information supplied for claiming benefits to join up the process for claiming other benefits such as free school meals and clothing grants?	Review not scheduled to begin until 2006/07 but some work has already been done to streamline processes, supported by staff resources funded by the Modernising Fund
What is the best value approach to the long-term repair and maintenance of our roads?	Review is scheduled to begin in 2006/07 and first meeting has now been held. Second meeting scheduled for June.
How can the Council make more efficient and economic use of transport-related assets?	Review is scheduled to begin in 2006/07 and preparations for first meeting are underway

Appendix 2

Reviews proposed for deletion from the programme

<u>Review Topic</u>	<u>Progress to Date</u>
How can the Council improve the health and safety of staff in schools?	Departmental review underway to produce a health and safety strategy for Education
What charges are required to the sheltered housing service to ensure it provides best value?	Review group met, but changes were brought forward as a result of discussions on the 2006/07 budget which overtook the process of the review
Are school/Council catering operations achieving health improvement objectives and should they be expanded?	Hungry for Success strategy being implemented and recent audit has commended the Council's approach
Should the Council pursue mobile/home working to reduce the overall property requirement?	Report on this subject approved by Personnel Committee in December 2005
Are changes required to services for young people who need extra support?	These issues are being taken forward through the Implementation Management Group of the new Integrated Children's Services Strategic Planning structure
How can opportunities for lifelong learning be developed?	These issues were addressed during development of the Community Learning and Development Strategy 2005-2008 and a series of Community Learning and Development Action Plans covering issues such as adult learning, children and young people, literacies, community arts, sports and outdoor education