
REPORT TO:	FINANCE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 14
DATE OF MEETING:	18 FEBRUARY 2003	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	DAVID SOANES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER EXT 5714	DOC:
SUBJECT:	ASSET MANAGEMENT BEST VALUE REVIEW	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: FM01

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That Members approve the content of the report and the Improvement Plan.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To advise Members of the outcome of the Best Value Review of Asset Management and seek approval of the Improvement Plan.

3.0 Detail

3.1 The Best Value Review of Asset Management commenced in April 2001 and has now been completed.

3.2 The Review report begins with an Executive summary followed by a short introduction, an explanation of the methodology used to undertake the review, and then a detailed analysis of the subject matter. The work undertaken on the 4 'C's of Challenge, Comparison, Consultation and Competition is summarised. Finally the report contains a short section covering the actions which will be taken to improve the Council's performance. A copy is attached as Annex A.

3.3 In addition to the Review report, there are a number of other relevant documents:

- Improvement Plan - setting out the key issues and actions proposed over the next 3 years (Annex B)
- Baseline Information - background information on which the report findings are based
- Asset Management Plan 2002 - this years submission, which sets out progress and intentions, performance indicators, and contains a number of additional action points

- SWOT analysis (Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats) for different ongoing management options
- District Audit report - of their review of Asset Management at the Council undertaken in 2000.

3.4 The draft findings of the review have been the subject of detailed consideration, both internally, and externally (an independent assessment was undertaken by officers at Derbyshire County Council). The Best Value Working Group are happy with the final version, as are Corporate Scrutiny committee

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The Improvement Plan includes certain actions which will result in a need for additional resources e.g improvements to premises to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act, new data management system etc

4.2 Certain actions will lead to potential savings or increased income, e.g identification of additional surplus properties, possible alternative management options, re-use of surplus space in Civic Offices etc.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 The delivery of the actions within the Improvement Plan will involve substantial time resources of a number of staff. There will inevitably be the need for a number of Divisions to prioritise their workloads to take account of these requirements.

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 None envisaged

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 The Asset Management Best Value Review has been a complicated and extremely time-consuming exercise involving staff across six divisions.

7.2 The cross-cutting nature of the review has developed positive corporate working. However, this needs to be built upon and developed to ensure that the desired outcomes are achieved.

8.0 Background Papers

The baseline assessment, Asset Management Plan, SWOT analysis and District Audit report are not attached to this report, in the interests of economy of printing, and with the agreement of the Committee Chair. Should Members wish to see them, please contact David Soanes on 01283 595714.