

Item No

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**NORTHAMPTON**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	28th June 2007
<b>Directorate:</b>	Governance, Resources and Improvement
<b>Corporate Manager:</b>	Dale Phillipson
<b>Agenda Status:</b>	Public

<b>Report Title</b>	Best Value Performance Plan 2007/08
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<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Yes</b>
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## 1. Recommendations

**That Full Council approve the Best Value Performance Plan 2007/08.**

## 2. Summary

**Production and publication of an annual Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) by 30<sup>th</sup> June is a statutory requirement for all local authorities. This year the BVPP forms an appendix to our Corporate Plan, providing a single strategic plan for the Council.**

**Targets and data within the Draft BVPP have been subject to consultation and challenge with Service areas and Partners. This process has not yet been completed and may result in minor amendments being tabled at Full Council.**

### **3. Report Background**

**Last year the Council succeeded in achieving an unqualified BVPP.**

**This year, the integration of the BVPP into the Corporate Plan provides a more coherent approach to setting out the Council's priorities.**

**There have been other changes this year impacting on the production process for the BVPP for all councils, notably changes to data quality arrangements. We have been required to undertake validation of Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) including the checking of all background papers for each indicator. This is to ensure the reliability of the outturn data presented in the BVPP.**

**An Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish group was established in May 2006 to explore the production process of the BVPP. This group made a number of recommendations regarding the BVPP, the majority of which have now been addressed. These include the incorporation of BVPP introduction into Councillor induction programmes, the bringing forward of clearly defined timelines for the BVPP process and consultation with trade unions. A further recommendation – that a more accessible version of the BVPP is produced by the Communications Team – is in preparation and will be ready for publication at the end of June, once the BVPP has received final approval.**

### **4. Options and Evaluation of Options**

**None**

### **5. Resource Implications (including Financial Implications)**

**None**

## 6. Risk and Opportunity Issues

**Risk of external auditors qualifying the BVPP if it fails to meet the specific requirements of the Local Government Act 1999**

## 7. Consultees (Internal and External)

<b>Internal</b>	<b>Trade Union consultation scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> June 2007- Draft document circulated in advance of agenda- 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007</b>
<b>External</b>	<b>None</b>

## 8. Compliance Issues

### A: How Proposals Deliver Priority Outcomes

<b>Improvement Plan</b>
<b>Sets out targets for improvement</b>
<b>Corporate Plan</b>
<b>Identifies targets for all services specifically on Best Value Performance Indicators</b>

### B: Other Implications

<b>Other Strategies</b>
<b>None</b>

<b>Finance Comments</b>
<b>None</b>

<b>Legal Comments</b>
<b>None</b>

<b>Crime and Disorder Issues</b>
<b>None</b>

**Equality Impact Assessments**

Assessment highlights that use of colouring without symbols may prevent certain groups of people accessing the information provided. An action to address this has been incorporated within the Service Plan for the Performance Team to ensure that future BVPP's address this issue.

**9. Background Papers**

Title	Description	Source
None		

[Report Author, title and extension]

Name	Signature	Date	Ext.
Author	Dale Phillipson	4 June 07	8273
Director	John Edwards – Interim Chief Executive	4 June 07	
Monitoring Officer or Deputy (Key decision only)	Francis Fernandes-	4 June 07	
Section 151 Officer or Deputy (Key decision only)	Isabell Procter- Director of Finance	4 June 07	