

## REPORT OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

(Meeting held 12 March 2001)

### 1. BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2001/02 (REPORT A) (MINUTE No 173).

The Committee has considered the draft Best Value Performance Plan for the 2001/02 year, for approval by Council. Legislation requires the Plan to be published by 31 March 2001. A great deal of work has gone into drafting the Plan within a very short timescale, and all those who contributed to producing such a clear report are to be congratulated. A number of typographical corrections will be made before the Plan is published, and pictures will be captioned where possible. Comments from the public and from members on the 2000/01 Plan were taken into account in drafting the 2001/02 Plan, and both the length and cost of this year's document have reduced considerably. It is confidently anticipated that the Plan will meet all the requirements of legislation, and District Audit.

As very few reviews have run their full course to date, there is little information at this stage on outcomes. However, one review which has been completed is that of the Tourism Service, which resulted in £66,000 savings.

The Best Value process will be examined with the aim of developing a process that is less resource intensive than, but as least as robust as, the existing one. All members who have been involved in the process and who have not yet done so are urged to complete the questionnaire issued to them.

#### **RECOMMENDED:**

***That the Best Value Performance Plan for 2001/02 be approved as attached to Report A, subject to the typographical corrections and the following amendments:***

- (i) inclusion of a definition in Chapter 3 of a Best Value Local Council; and***
- (ii) further guidance through Chapter 6 of the document of the meaning of the "faces" in column three of the national performance indicator charts.***

### 2. FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE PRECAUTIONS – REFUSE COLLECTION

The Committee has discussed this issue as a matter of urgency in view of the need to resolve a problem relating to refuse collection as soon as possible.

In view of the current outbreak of foot and mouth disease refuse collections have not been taking place from farms and premises located on farms. Occupiers of such premises have been requested to take their refuse to the highway. However, a number of complaints from affected occupiers have been received, and the Committee was therefore requested to make a formal resolution on the item.

Members were advised that many other Councils were operating a similar policy. However, postal services to farms were continuing.

The Committee considers that in view of the special nature of the Forest it is imperative to take all precautions against the spread of this disease. The practice of not collecting refuse from farms or premises located on farms has been confirmed unless and until MAFF advise that this can safely resume. Affected householders will be asked to take their refuse to the highway for collection. The Committee's decision will be publicised as widely as possible.

**Councillor S A Hayes**  
**CHAIRMAN**

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## APPENDIX