

CULTURE, TOURISM AND ENTERPRISE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 38

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: The new performance and assessment frameworks – an overview

Date of Meeting: Thursday 13th November

Report of: The Director of Cultural Services

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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of the new local performance and assessment frameworks and recommends how the committee can support the council and its partners to achieve success.
- 1.2 From April 2009 a new assessment framework for councils and their partners will come into effect. The Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) replaces the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA), and will bring together the work of seven inspectorates to provide an overview of how successfully local organisations are working together to deliver improvement against local priorities.
- 1.3 CAA represents a fundamental change in the way the council and its partners are assessed moving away from solely focusing on the past performance of the council towards a forward looking assessment of our prospects for future success against its objectives. It comprises of two main elements; the Area Assessment and the Organisational Assessment.
- 1.4 The Area Assessment is a qualitative assessment of prospects for future improvement and will focus on, but not be constrained by, a review of progress with the Local Area Agreement (LAA).
- 1.5 An Organisational Assessment will be conducted for each of the four main organisations in the area: the council, the police, the Primary Care Trust and the Fire and Rescue Service. The council's assessment will cover the following areas: managing finances, governing the business, managing resources and managing performance.

- 1.6 The managing performance theme will look at how effective the organisation is at:
- identifying and delivering priority services, outcomes and improvements
 - providing the leadership, capacity and capability it needs to deliver future improvements
 - contributing to improving wider community outcomes, including those set out in the LAA
 - tackling inequality and improving outcomes for people in vulnerable circumstances

Detailed guidance on the scoring model will be published in February 2009.

- 1.7 The new local performance framework was set out in the Local Government White Paper *Strong and Prosperous Communities* in 2006. The two key elements of the framework are the LAA and the National Indicator Set (NIS).
- 1.8 The LAA forms the heart of the new performance framework. It sets out the agreement between central government and local authorities and their partners to improve services and the quality of life in a place. Brighton and Hove's LAA (2008-2011) comprises 35 negotiated targets, 16 statutory education and early years targets and a set of local indicators. The LAA Delivery Plan sets out a detailed improvement action plan for each indicator and identifies lead responsibilities and time-scales. The Local Strategic Partnership monitors the LAA Delivery Plan six monthly.
- 1.9 The National Indicator Set (NIS) was published as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007. This is a set of 198 outcome focused indicators that replace Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs). The NIS includes indicators for which partner organisations have lead responsibility such as mortality and crime rates. Whilst all target commitments are contained in the LAA, outcomes across the NIS are expected to improve.
- 1.10 The Corporate Plan 2008-2011 was developed alongside the LAA and sets out the priorities for the council. It uses measures drawn from the NIS, where appropriate, to track progress.
- 1.11 The Management Team (TMT) and Cabinet monitor organisational performance through the quarterly Performance Improvement Report (PIR). The report contains updates on the LAA Delivery Plan, the Corporate Plan, organisational health indicators (such as staff sickness) and the value for money programme.
- 1.12 The Cultural Services Directorate Management Team monitors all relevant PIR indicators and actions quarterly.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the committee are updated on progress with all LAA and NIS indicators and actions relevant to its remit.

2.2 That the committee take a quarter 2 update at the meeting on 5th February 2009 and a year one update after June 2009 (precise date to be arranged).

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

3.1 None

4. CONSULTATION:

4.1 None

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 Successful achievement of the LAA outcomes 2008-2011 will attract some performance reward grant; precise amounts are still to be confirmed by central government.

Legal Implications:

5.2 None at this stage.

Lawyer consulted: Bob Bruce Date:20.10.08

Equalities Implications:

5.3 The new performance management framework aims to incorporate monitoring of progress against equalities and inclusion outcomes in the city.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 The new performance management framework aims to incorporate monitoring of progress against sustainability outcomes in the city.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 Reducing crime and disorder is a central theme of the Corporate Plan and the Local Area Agreement and monitoring progress against these outcomes is a key element of the proposed new performance management framework.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 The management of performance is important and contributes to avoiding the risk that the council's improvement priorities will not be delivered. Progress against performance indicators informs our risk and opportunity management assessments.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Proposed content of the Feb 09 performance report.

Documents In Members' Rooms

1. A copy of the LAA Delivery Plan 2008-2011 has been placed in the Member's Room for reference
2. A copy of "The New Performance Framework for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships: Single Set of National Indicators" (Oct 2007) has been placed in the Member's Room for reference

Background Documents

None