

# ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Agenda Item 34**  
Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** The Environment CPA service block  
**Date of Meeting:** 10<sup>th</sup> November 2008  
**REPORT OF:** Director of Strategy and Governance  
**Contact Officer:** Name: **Andy Edwards** Tel: **01273-29-6823**  
E-mail: [Andy.edwards@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Andy.edwards@brighton-hove.gov.uk)  
**Wards Affected:** All

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 This report updates the committee on the expected performance score that the Environment service block of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) is likely to achieve.

1.2 The report also confirms the meeting dates when committee will receive the Q2 and Q3 performance reports.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That the committee are updated on the council's performance against the Environment CPA service block and continue to monitor performance.

2.2 That the committee approve the plan to bring performance reports before them as follows:

The Q2 Performance Report – meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009

The Q3 Performance Report – meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2009

### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 This will be the last CPA score we will receive. As from April 2008 the new local government performance framework (LGPF) came into effect and with it the new National Indicator Set (NIS) and the 2008-2011 Local Area Agreement (LAA).

3.2 Next year the CPA will be replaced by the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). This 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 to a forward looking assessment of our prospects for future success against objectives. Elements of this new approach are still subject to consultation, final guidance is expected early in 2009.

3.3 The 2008 CPA scores will provide evidence to inform initial CAA judgements from April 2009.

3.4 The service assessment scores for environment, culture, housing and benefits will be used, together with the corporate assessment score, use of resources score and other annual service assessments, to determine the overall CPA category as set out in the Audit commissions publication "CPA – the harder test framework for 2008".

3.5 The Environment Service block is made up of 30 performance indicators which each have a nationally set upper and lower threshold. Appendix 1 shows the indicators plotted against these thresholds.

3.6 The distribution of indicators around these thresholds is summarised as the percentage of indicators above, between and below the thresholds. The overall assessment of performance is determined using the table below:

<b>Score</b>	<b>Distribution of PIs</b>
<b>4</b>	No PIs at or below the lower threshold, and 35% or more PIs at or above the upper threshold
<b>3</b>	No more than 15% of PIs at or below the lower thresholds, and 25% or more PIs at or above the upper thresholds
<b>2</b>	Any other combination
<b>1</b>	35% or more PIs at or below the lower threshold

3.7 This year Environment look set to achieve a distribution of 10% at or below the lower threshold, 40% between the thresholds and 50% above the upper threshold. **This would provide a score of 3 out of 4.**

3.8 This information is issued with a cautionary note. This score is not final until further data validation exercises have been completed. Final CPA scores should be available in February 2009.

The information in this paper represents the most up to date information available and the most likely outcome.

#### **4. CONSULTATION:**

4.1 None

**5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Financial Implications:

5.1 None

Legal Implications:

5.2 None – this report is for information only.

Equalities Implications:

5.3 None

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 None

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1 ECSOSC - Environmental indicators positional diagram

**Documents In Members' Rooms**

None

**Background Documents**

CPA – the harder test framework for 2008 - Single tier and county councils framework for 2008. See the full document at <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/cpa/stcc/downloads/CPATheHarderTest20087Aug08.pdf>

