

Finance Task and Finish Group Corporate Action Plan 2010/11



Implementation Status



Little or no progress has been made to date.



Significant progress has been achieved.



The improvement action has been completed and the outcome has been achieved.

Area for Improvement identified	Status	Action Number	Action	Completion Date	Milestones	Accountable Officer	Responsible	Progress Update
Residents seem to be insufficiently aware of the good value for money record of the authority (as evidenced by Place Survey results)		1	That officers develop a Council-wide communication plan for improving residents' understanding of the value for money achieved by the District Council.	Sept 2010	Draft Communications Plan developed (linked with action 2 – publicising of information gathered by self assessments and benchmarking) (June 2010) Communications Plan rolled out to whole authority to inform communications and consultations with residents in 2010/11 (Sept 2010)	Corporate Manager – Community & Customer Services	Communications Manager	

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The Task and Finish Group found that the approach to benchmarking and value for money testing was excellent in some service areas but that this is inconsistent across the authority		2	That some service areas excellent approach to benchmarking and value for money testing in the service-review and service planning process be rolled out to all service areas.	March 2011	<p>Develop updated service plan template (May 2010)</p> <p>Updated template rolled out to whole authority and used by all service areas for completion of 2011/12 service plans (March 2011)</p> <p>Develop Corporate VfM Strategy (June 2010)</p> <p>Develop corporate VfM self assessment template (April 2010)</p> <p>Carry out VfM self assessments for all service areas to feed into CAA and Use of Resources self assessments (July 2010)</p> <p>Review existing benchmarking groups to ensure that they are relevant and fit for purpose (May 2010)</p> <p>Investigate possible new benchmarking groups relating to specific service areas to increase quality and validity of comparisons (May 2010)</p>	Corporate Manager – Community & Customer Services	<p>Performance & Policy Manager</p> <p>Senior Policy & Performance Officer</p>	VfM self assessment template agreed by SMT on 27 January 2010 to be rolled out across authority
Methods of consultation with the public about the budget have improved but there is still room for improvement		3	That officers explore a mechanism for working with the other bodies who share the council tax, to carry out joint consultation.	Dec 2010	<p>Action to be raised as an agenda item at the May Communications Partnership meeting (May 2010)</p> <p>SCDC to implement relevant actions agreed by countywide Communications Partnership meeting (Dec 2010)</p>	Corporate Manager – Community & Customer Services	<p>Communications Manager</p> <p>Senior Policy & Performance Officer</p>	Action placed on agenda (27/4/10)