

COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT INSPECTION 2007

3rd JUNE 2008

Report of Corporate Director (Finance and Performance)

PURPOSE OF REPORT						
To consider the recommendations from the recent Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) inspection and agree any actions as appropriate.						
Key Decision	Non-Key D	ecision		Referral from Corporate Direct	or	X
Key Decision Date Included in		ecision N/A.		Referral from Corporate Direct	or	X

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

To note the actions already taken in respect of the CPA recommendations and approve the attached action plan to deliver further improvements.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In February 2008 the Council received the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) inspection report from the Audit Commission announcing that the Council was now adjudged to be a "good" performing Council.
- 1.2 Copies of the report were circulated to members in February and it was discussed at full Council as part of the Leader's annual executive report on 16 April.
- 1.3 Within the report there were many positive conclusions about the improvements the Council had made and were continuing to make. However there were also a limited number of recommendations that the inspectors proposed that could bring further improvements.

2 PROPOSAL DETAILS

2.1 Since receiving the report, some actions have already been taken by officers to address the recommendations but there are still some aspects that require member consideration.

- 2.2 As a result an action plan showing progress made to date and proposing further action where appropriate is attached for members' consideration. Cabinet is asked to note the actions taken so far and approve the proposed actions set out in **Appendix A** to further address the inspection report's recommendations.
- 2.3 As referred to in 1.2 above Members received a copy of the CPA inspection report in February but it can be accessed on the intranet or www.audit-commission.gov.uk and follow the link for "Your local area".

3 **OPTIONS**

- 3.1 The options available to Cabinet are as follows:
 - 1 To note the actions taken to date to address the CPA inspection report recommendations and approve the action plan attached as *Appendix A*.
 - 2 To note the actions taken to date to address the CPA inspection report recommendations and approve an amended action plan.
- 3.2 The preferred option is option 1.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 The Council has been recognised as an improving Council by the Audit Commission's inspectors. To continue the improvement journey approval of the action plan will see the remaining inspector's recommendations implemented.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

The implementation of the CPA action plan will bring improvements to help the Council deliver its budget and policy framework objectives.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

None directly arising from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None arising directly from this report. If any cost implications arise from the work proposed they will be brought forward as part of the 2009/10 budget exercise.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Deputy Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Legal Services have been consulted and have no comments to add.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no additional comments.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

Contact Officer: Roger Muckle Telephone: 01524 582022

E-mail: rmuckle@lancaster.gov.uk

Ref: RCM/JEB