

# **BUDGET & PERFORMANCE PANEL**

**31<sup>st</sup> July 2007**

## **Audit Commission VFM Statistical Profile**

### **Report of the Corporate Director (Finance & Performance)**

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide the Panel with comparative statistical information prepared by the Audit Commission in respect of the council's 2006/7 financial estimates.

**This report is public**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) That the Panel consider the statistical profile data set out in the report and identify any areas that require further consideration.

#### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 As part of the Panel's responsibility for monitoring value for money (vfm) in Council services, this report presents the latest comparative data that has been prepared by the Audit Commission (see Appendix A).
- 1.2 The data contained in this report is relevant to the annual Use of Resources judgement undertaken by the Council's external auditor in respect of vfm and reported each year in the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter. Members will recall that for 2005/6, the council scored 3 out of 4 (performing well) in the overall Use of Resources judgement but only 2 out of 4 (adequate performance) in the vfm part of the assessment.
- 1.3 In particular, the data contained in the report will help the council consider :-
- How well the council's overall and service costs compare with others?
  - To what extent are costs commensurate with service delivery, performance, and outcomes achieved ?

1.4 The data used in the profile is collated from a number of sources and includes :-

- Information about spending taken from the annual revenue estimates supplied by Councils. It should be noted that comparisons don't take account of updated revised or actual spend for previous years.
- 2006/7 Best Value User satisfaction Surveys
- Estimated population figures prepared by the Office for National Statistics

1.5 Although the data used is not the most up to date information, it does provide members with an opportunity to highlight areas of service performance that may require a review or further consideration. As a consequence, members are asked to consider the data and to make any appropriate recommendations.