
USE OF RESOURCES JUDGEMENT 2006

Purpose of Report

1. To present the external audit report on the 2006 Use of Resources judgement.

Information and Analysis

2. Attached is a copy of the report produced by PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PwC) following the 2006 Use of Resources assessment. The assessment was completed in accordance with the methodology and guidance issued by the Audit Commission.
3. Representatives from PwC will attend the meeting to present the report.
4. The outcome from the assessment is positive. Overall the Council scored a level 3 i.e. performing well – consistently above minimum requirements. This overall score is the same as that received in 2005, however, year on year the bar continues to be raised in terms of scoring requirements.
5. Nevertheless progress has been made both at theme level and within themes and no scores have reduced. The score for the Financial Standing theme has increased from 2 to 3 and the theme elements for ‘the council manages its significant business risks’ and ‘the council manages and improves value for money’ within the Internal Control and Value for Money themes respectively have also increased from 2 to 3.
6. The report highlights areas for improvement and these are to be addressed by officers.

Legal Implications

7. This report has been considered by the Borough Solicitor for legal implications in accordance with the Council's approved procedures. There are no issues which the Borough Solicitor considers need to be brought to the specific attention of Members, other than those highlighted in the report.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

8. The contents of this report have been considered in the context of the requirements placed on the Council by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, namely, the duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. It is not considered that the contents of this report have any such effect.

Recommendation

9. It is recommended that the report and scores be noted.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Corporate Services

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of the report.

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