



Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Planning and Improvement)

Executive Board

Date: 8th February 2008

Subject: Comprehensive Performance Assessment – 2007 Result

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In
(Details contained in the report)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Council's performance is judged annually through the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA). Our next scored judgment is due to be announced on the 7th February 2008. There is an embargo on publication of these results until this date and for this reason details of our new CPA result will be tabled at this meeting.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the arrangements for reporting our Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) judgment for 2007.

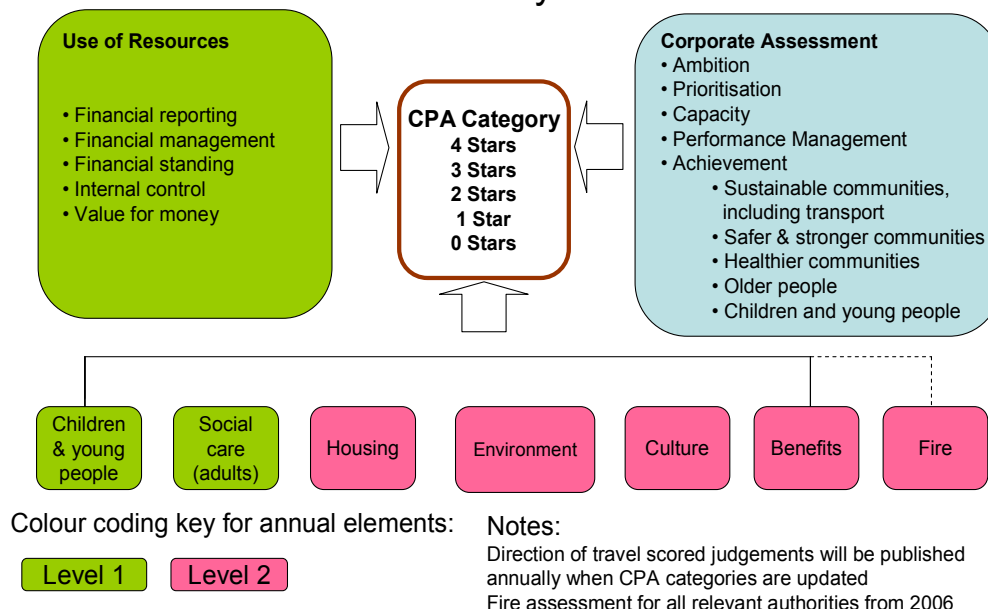
2.0 Background Information

2.1 The elements of the CPA framework are set out in the diagram below.

The overall framework comprises:

- An annual use of resources assessment by the Audit Commission, based on work by the council's appointed auditors (KPMG);
- Annual service assessments by the Audit Commission (AC) or provided to the AC by Ofsted, the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) and the Benefits Fraud Inspectorate (BFI);
- Periodic corporate assessments by the AC; and
- Direction of travel statements, with straightforward labels, reported by the AC.

New CPA framework for single tier and county councils



2.2 The assessment scores for each element are brought together by the Audit Commission, and using a series of rules, they determine the council's overall CPA score.

2.3 Members will be aware that we have just had our three yearly Corporate Assessment. The results of this inspection have not yet been published and therefore do not impact on our 2007 CPA judgment. The new Corporate Assessment is likely to feed into our 2008 CPA score announced in February 2009. After the 2009 CPA judgment, the CPA methodology is due to be replaced by the new Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). Members will receive a further report on this in due course.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 The national CPA results are announced formally on the 7th February 2008. In order not to break the Audit Commission embargo on publication of results we are unable

to include details of our new CPA score in this report. We will however be able to table these results at the actual meeting on the 8th February.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

4.1 No specific issues.

5.0 Legal And Resource Implications

5.1 No specific issues.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 The annual CPA announcements are an opportunity for all Councils to assess; their performance relative to others; and progress made to deliver improved outcomes for local people in the last year.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Members are asked to note this report and receive an update on our CPA 2007 judgment at the meeting of Executive Board on 8 February 2008.