

TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 12th MARCH 2003

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL AUDIT & REVIEW OFFICER

(this matter is the responsibility of Jefferson Horsley, Executive Councillor responsible for Best Value and Performance Indicators)

ANALYSIS OF 2001/02 STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To report the Council's relative performance in respect of the 2001/02 statutory performance indicators.

2. Background

- 2.1 The 2001/02 statutory performance indicators were released to councils for comparative purposes early in 2003. This allowed the Council to consider its own performance across over 60 performance indicators. The full analysis was circulated to all Councillors in February 2003.

3. Report Summary

- 3.1 The analysis of statutory indicators revealed that overall TDBC's relative performance is very good, based on the following information:
- 44% (28) of the 63 indicators rank amongst the top 25% of performers nationally
 - Just 8% (5) rank amongst the bottom 25% of performers nationally, an improvement of 14%
 - 67% of indicators have either improved or remained constant between years
 - Performance ranks well above average in comparison with our Nearest Neighbours group and the other Somerset Districts
 - TDBC's Council Tax precept in 2001/02 was 66th lowest of 238 councils (ie there are only 65 other district councils with a lower precept)
- 3.2 Overall this is a significant step forward on our already good 2000/01 performance, of which the District Auditor recently stated that TDBC "...is performing at a level well above average in most areas with service expenditure that is below average."
- 3.3 In preparing for the Council's inspection within the Government's proposed Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) it is important that we can clearly demonstrate that not only is the Council aiming to be a top service performer but that we have clear evidence of success.

- 3.4 The report also included details of the Council's intention to improve the small number (5) of lower quartile indicators.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 None

5. Effect on Corporate Priorities

- 5.1 The suite of statutory indicators measures how the council is performing across key services, which contribute to the delivery of all six Corporate Priorities. Good local performance is therefore important to demonstrate achievement and improvement.

6. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Executive is asked to note:
- (i) The Council's very good performance in respect of the 2001/02 statutory performance indicators.
 - (ii) The Council's intention to improve the small number of lower quartile indicators.

Contact Officer:

Adrian Gladstone-Smith, 01823 356397, a.gladstone-smith@tauntondeane.gov.uk