

07/07 - 2006/2007 YEAR END PERFORMANCE REPORT (UNAUDITED): In the absence of the Performance Manager, the Strategic Policy Officer presented a written report, outlining the Council's 2006/07 performance on the national best value performance indicators. The Strategic Policy Officer confirmed that the figures quoted in the report were unaudited but that they had been included to ensure the Commission's awareness of the performance data to be used in the Council's 2007/08 Performance Plan which would be published by 30 June 2007. It was also confirmed that a report on the Council's 2006/07 performance would be reported to the Council once the data had been audited.

The Strategic Policy Officer invited Members' questions in relation to the report and the data set out therein. Councillor Webber referred to Appendix 1 to the written report, specifically references to affordable housing and queried the reasons behind the 2006/2007 performance in this service area. The Strategic Policy Officer advised that the Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI's) on affordable housing covered a range of issues and that 57% of the Performance Indicators improved year-on-year. Councillor Webber referred to work carried out by officers as part of the Golden Triangle Partnership to provide affordable housing in the Harrogate District. The Strategic Policy Officer said that the Council had not been able to achieve or develop the intended number of affordable housing units in 2006/2007 because of a number of factors, one of which was the level of funding and resources to Housing Associations from the Government Office, the performance of developers, the use of planning policies to provide affordable housing on new developments and the level of Government funding to address the affordable housing need. The Strategic Policy Officer referred to a recent Audit Commission report that stated "Harrogate had the best track record on affordable housing" and acknowledged its work through the Golden Triangle Partnership as "good practice" – hence its inclusion in the CPA re-categorisation bid.

The Strategic Policy Officer referred to knock on effects and highlighted BV183A, the length of stay in temporary accommodation, referred to at Appendix 2 to the report that had shown a slight increase in 2006/2007.

Councillor Clark queried the definition of minority ethnics and whether the definition included Eastern Europeans. The Strategic Policy Officer agreed to check the definition and provide the Commission with a response.

The recommendation to receive the report and note the Council's 2006/2007 year-end performance was then moved and seconded, with an additional recommendation that the Commission notes with reference to affordable housing that some of the targets were not met in 2006/2007, due to insufficient Government Resources. The recommendations were unanimously **agreed**.

(5.55 pm – 6.08 pm)