

5. Explanation to Tables and Performance Information

- Corporate Health
- Community Safety and Well-being
- Culture and Related Services
- Education
- Environment
- Social Care and Health

Explanation to Tables

The Best Value Performance Indicators in the tables which follow, on pages 26 to 89, provide a detailed overview of our current performance and future targets in relation to a whole range of Council services and corporate performance.

The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) sets performance standards, in respect of the performance indicators, which must be met. The indicators are listed under the criteria set by the ODPM. Performance results are scrutinised by our external auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC), to confirm their accuracy and conformity to these standards.

The indicators provide a measurement of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of the Council as well as the quality of services provided. We have included the English National Average figures, compiled from the results of all the Councils in England, and that of all County Councils. This provides us with a guide to our comparative performance.

The indicators appear as follows:

The First and Twelfth Columns	Details the number and source of the performance indicator, e.g. Best Value (BV). Any new, amended or deleted BVPIs are also noted.
The Second Column	Contains a brief description of the performance indicator. Definitions are provided by the ODPM.
The Third Column	Shows our target figure for 2003/2004 as reported in last year's Best Value Performance Plan.
The Fourth Column	Shows the actual audited results (outturns) for 2003/2004.
The Fifth Column	Gives the All England National Average for 2003/2004.
The Sixth Column	Gives the All County Average for 2003/2004.
The Seventh and Eighth Columns	Show our target for 2004/2005 and our actual or estimated performance against the target.
The Ninth and Tenth Columns	Shows our target for 2005/2006 and our Medium Term Targets respectively. Our targets are designed to be both realistic and challenging and aim to reflect continuous improvement on previous performance.
The Eleventh Column	Includes a commentary against the indicator on our year on year performance or against last year's target, where relevant.