

Agenda Item No:

NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

REPORT TITLE:

BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2004

REPORT OF:

HEAD OF WASTE STRATEGY AND CONTRACTS

FOR SUBMISSION TO:

AUTHORITY MEETING

DATE:

28th APRIL 2004

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Authority is now required to publish a Best Value Performance Plan by 30th June every year. Members are recommended to comment on and approve the attached Draft Best Value Performance Plan so that it can be published on time.

RECOMMENDATION

The Authority is recommended to comment on and approve the attached Draft Best Value Performance Plan, delegating authority to the Head of Waste Strategy & Contracts, in consultation with the Chair, to make the necessary final changes as full year-end data becomes available.

**Signed by Head of Waste Strategy
and Contracts**

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Date:.....

1. INTRODUCTION TO BEST VALUE.

- 1.1. The Local Government Act 1999 places a duty of “Best Value” on local authorities to secure continuous improvement in exercising all their functions having regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness. Authorities must produce reports on their past and current performance and how they plan to improve the service in the future. They must also work towards meeting national and local targets, while consulting with users of their services to ensure that services provided match users requirements.
- 1.2. Best Value is part of the Government’s plan for modernising local government. The NLWA is defined as a “Best Value Authority” within Section 1 of the Local Government Act 1999.
- 1.3. This Best Value Performance Plan reports to service users the Authority’s past performance to 2003-04 and the steps that the Authority is taking towards providing “Best Value” in the delivery of its services in the future. Significant emphasis in this regard is placed on the Authority’s work in leading the development of the current draft North London Joint Waste Strategy (NLJWS).
- 1.4. The Plan is still clearly in early draft form, as year-end recycling and composting data is not yet available, and it is only at another item on this agenda that the Authority is taking a preliminary look at its own implementation of the NLJWS. This latter work will follow Best Value principles.
- 1.5. This is the Authority’s fifth Best Value Performance Plan. It includes details of the Authority’s current performance and compares it to similar organisations and the targets that have been set. It also includes details of the progress made in implementing the decisions following previous Best Value Review work and shows the work planned for 2004-05.
- 1.6. The Best Value Performance Plan is subject to audit by the External Auditor. The same team that audits the financial accounts will also be responsible for auditing this plan. The Auditors report on last years Best Value Performance Plan is also reported in this plan.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Authority comments on and approves the attached Draft Best Value Performance Plan, delegating authority to the Head of Waste Strategy & Contracts, in consultation with the Chair, to make the necessary final changes as full year-end data becomes available.

3. COMMENTS OF THE FINANCE OFFICER

- 3.1 At this stage of the year it is not possible for the financial section of the draft 2004 Best Value Performance Plan to include details of the 2003/04 financial outturn. The draft plan therefore currently includes details of the 2003/04 revised estimate. The 2003/04 final outturn is due to be reported to the Authority on 7th July 2004 and therefore outturn figures should be available by the time that the final Plan is published.

5. COMMENTS OF THE LEGAL ADVISER

- 5.1 The Legal Adviser has no comments to make.

Local Governments Act 1972 – Access to information

Best Value Performance Plan 2003
Various Authority reports

Contact Officer: Andrew Lappage, Head of Waste Strategy & Contracts
Contract House
Tottenham N17 9AY

Tel: 020 8489 5730 Fax: 020 8365 0254
Email: post@nlondon-waste.gov.uk