

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR AND MONITORING OFFICER
TO THE EXECUTIVE
2nd March 2007
TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
15th March 2007

Best Value Performance Indicators – Performance against Top and Bottom Quartile 2005-06

1.0 Introduction and Report Summary

- 1.1 This report compares the Council's performance for 2005/6 against that of the national top and bottom quartile data for 2005-06 which was published by the Audit Commission in late December 2006.
- 1.2 The Contact Officer for this report is Robert Woodside, Principal Performance Management Officer (01235 520202 ext 499).

2.0 Recommendations

Executive

- (a) *That Members note the Council's performance against the national top and bottom quartile results for 2005-06 and that active management of Best Value Performance Indicators is undertaken through the Corporate Governance Reporting process*

Scrutiny Committee

- (a) *That Members note the Council's performance against the national top and bottom quartile results for 2005-06 and that active management of Best Value Performance Indicators is undertaken through the Corporate Governance Reporting process*

3.0 Relationship with the Council's Vision, Strategies and Policies

- (a) Vision Statement objective A and E.
- (b) The report does not conflict with any Council Strategies.
- (c) The report complies with existing policies.

4.0 Background

- 4.1 The Audit Commission has recently published top and bottom quartile data for Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) for 2005-06. This allows a comparison to be made between the Vale's audited actual performance for 2005/6 with that of all of the Councils in England.
- 4.2 The table attached to this report (Appendix A) contains all 2005/06 BVPIs where the Audit Commission have supplied top and bottom quartile data. The headline totals for 2005/06 (the corresponding figures for 2004/05 are shown in brackets) from Appendix A are:

Top Quartile	21 (20)	38% (43%)
Middle Quartiles	23 (16)	42% (35%)
Bottom Quartile	11 (10)	20% (22%)
Total	55 (46)	

The table in Appendix A includes a column of the quartiles for 2004/05 (where available) which enables any change in the quartiles between the two years to be seen. There are 6 indicators where performance has moved to a better quartile, 5 indicators where performance has moved to a worse quartile, and 24 indicators where performance has stayed in the same quartile. This is shown by the direction of the arrows in the TQ/BQ 2004/05 column of Appendix A.

The Quarterly Corporate Governance Report (third quarter 2005/06) will include these latest quartiles (2005/06) which will enable a comparison to be made with the current year's performance.

- 4.3 The following table shows the relative numbers of BVPIs in the top and bottom quartiles between 2001/02 – 2005/06. Members should note that it is not possible to do a direct comparison between the years because there are changes each year to BVPIs; new ones are added and others deleted.
- 4.4 Appendix B is a table which lists all 11 BVPIs which were in the bottom quartile in 2005/6. The table includes the third quarter 2006/7 results and shows the current quartile position. In summary, of the 11 that were in the bottom quartile in 2005/6, 6 remain in the Bottom quartile, 4 have moved into the middle quartile and 1 into the top quartile.
- 4.5 A detailed commentary on the third quarter performance for all BVPIs for 2006/7 is included in the third quarter Corporate Governance Report which is also on this agenda.

Comparison of numbers of BVPI's in top, middle and bottom quartile: 2001/02 – 2005/06

	2001/02		2002/03		2003/04		2004/05		2005/06	
Top Quartile	13	31%	18	38%	14	34%	20	43%	21	38%
Middle Quartiles	20	48%	21	45%	17	42%	16	35%	23	42%
Bottom Quartiles	9	21%	8	17%	10	24%	10	22%	11	20%
Total	42		47		41		46		55	

ROBERT WOODSIDE
PRINCIPAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT OFFICER

TIM SADLER
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

Background Papers: None

Appendix A

Best Value Performance Indicators – Top, Middle and Bottom Quartile Report 2005/06

Key:	T – Target	I - Indicator
21		Top Quartile (T)
23		Middle Quartiles (M)
11		Bottom Quartile (B)

Total 55

Top and Bottom quartile data is against all England Authorities

Trend arrows: compares 2005/6 performance with 2004/5 (not possible for all BVPIs)

T = top; B = bottom; M = middle quartile

↑	6 Better
↓	5 Worse
→	24 Same

BVPI	Indicator Description	Tgt/Ind	TQ 05/06	BQ 05/06	Actual 05/06	Quartile 05/06	Quartile 2004/05	Trend
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Corporate Health

2b	The duty to promote race equality checklist score	T	79	53	47	B	M	↓
8	% Invoices paid on time	T	96.71	89.24	92.88	M	M	→
9	Council tax collected (%)	T	98.4	96.39	99.08	T	T	→
10	NNDR collected (%)	T	99.26	98.1	99.21	T	T	→
11a	% of top 5% of earners that are women	I	42.58	22.22	14.29	B	B	→
11b	% of top 5% of earners that are from ethnic minorities	I	4.33	0	7.14	T	B	↑
12	Days sick per member of staff	T	8.34	10.94	10	M	M	→
14	Early retirements / staff	I	0.17	0.78	0	T	B	↑
15	Ill health retirements / staff	I	0.1	0.37	0	T	T	→
16a	% staff with disabilities	I	3.86	1.86	5.9	T	T	→
17a	% staff from ethnic minorities	I	4.8	0.9	2.51	M	M	→

Housing

64	No of vacant private sector dwellings returned into occupation	T	77	7	5	B	M	↓
183a	Average length of stay in B&B (weeks)	T	1	4.27	3.26	M	M	→
183b	Average length of stay in Hostel (weeks)	T	0	17	12.32	M	B	↑
202	No of people sleeping rough on a single night	T	0	5	0	T		
203	% change in average number of families in temporary accommodation	T	-15.84	19.27	-14.2	M	T	↓
213	Number households considered homeless - housing advice intervention resolved situation 1,000 households	I	5	1	2	M		
214	Housing advice service: Repeat homelessness (%)	I	0.32	4.26	3.33	M		

Benefits

78a	Average time for processing new claims	T	26.4	39.1	25.96	T	T	→
78b	Average time for processing changes of circumstances	T	9.1	18.8	6.17	T	T	→
79a	% of cases where calculation was correct	T	99	96.6	99.6	T	T	→
79b(i)	% of overpayments recovered as a % of Housing Benefit deemed recoverable	T	79.39	58.98	102.85	T	T	→
79b(ii)	% overpayments recovered during the period including overpayments identified during the period	I	39.69	27.35	49.97	T		
BVPI	Indicator Description	Tgt/Ind	TQ 05/06	BQ 05/06	Actual 05/06	Quartile 05/06	Quartile 2004/05	Trend

Environment

82ai	% of household waste recycled	T	20.87	14.22	22.14	T	T	→
82aaii	Total tonnage of waste recycled	T	15126	6086	9038	M		

82bi	% of household waste composted	T	13.05	3.54		1.09	B	B	→
82bii	Total tonnage of waste composted	T	8770	1802		699	B		
84a	Household waste collected (Kg per head of population)	I	393	478		352	T	T	→
84b	% change (from previous year) waste collected KG per head	T	-3.74	1.31		1.09	M		
86	Cost of waste collection (£)	T	39.48	52.42		45.9	M	M	→
91a	The % of households served by a kerbside collection of recyclables	T	100	93.5		98.6	M	T	↓
91b	The % of households served by a kerbside collection of at least 2 recyclables	T	100	90.1		98.6	M		
166a	Environmental health checklist (%)	T	100	85		66.25	B	B	→
199a	Cleanliness of relevant land and highways (%)	T	8.8	21		12	M	M	→
199b	Proportion relevant land and highways with unacceptable levels of graffiti visible %	T	1	6		1	T		
BVPI	Indicator Description	Tgt/ Ind	TQ 05/06	BQ 05/06		Actual 05/06	Quartile 05/06	Quartile 2004/05	Trend
199c	Proportion of relevant land and highways with unacceptable levels of fly postings visible %	T	0	2		0	T		
216a	Contaminated land - number of sites of potential concern	I	1428	325		1078	M		
216b	Number sites where remediation of land necessary % of 'sites potential concern'	I	9	1		1.32	M		
217	% pollution control improvements to existing installations completed on time	T	100	83		97	M		
218a	% of reports of abandoned vehicles investigated within 24 hours of notification	T	96.64	73		94.93	M		
218b	% of abandoned vehicles removed within 24 hours (of legally being able to)	T	95	61.11		61.11	B		

Planning

106	% new homes on brown field sites	T	96.47	62.43		95.29	M	M	→
109a	% of major planning applications in 13 weeks	T	74.9	57.08		50	B	M	↓
109b	% of minor planning applications in 8 weeks	T	81.07	69		71.8	M	B	↑
109c	% of other planning applications in 8 weeks	T	91.39	83.37		86.66	M	B	↑
179	% of standard searches carried out in 10 working days	T	100	98		99.79	M		
205	Quality of service checklist (%)	T	94.5	83.3		83	B	B	→
219b	% of conservation areas with an up to date character appraisal	I	31.81	0		0	B		
219c	% of conservation areas with published management proposals	I	7.7	0		0	B		
BVPI	Indicator Description	Tgt/ Ind	TQ 05/06	BQ 05/06		Actual 05/06	Quartile 05/06	Quartile 2004/05	Trend

Community Development

126	Domestic burglaries per 1000 households	I	6.4	13.7		5.94	T	T	→
127a	Violent crimes per 1000 population	I	12.4	22.8		12.39	T	M	↑
127b	Robberies per 1000 population	I	0.3	1.3		0.16	T	T	→

128	Vehicle crimes per 1000 population	I	7.3	14.6		5.88	T	T	→
156	% of authority buildings open to the public - accessible for disabled	T	84.7	44.66		83	M		
175	% of racial incidents that resulted in further action	T	100	100		100	T		

Appendix B

Best Value Performance Indicators in Bottom Quartile 2005/06 (position at end of third quarter 2006/7)

BVPI	Indicator Description	Tgt/Ind	TQ 05/06	BQ 05/06	Actual 05/06	Quartile 05/06	Third Quarter 2006/7	Quartile (as at third quarter)	Trend
2b	The duty to promote race equality checklist score	T	79	53	47	B	31.6	B	→
11a	% of top 5% of earners that are women	I	42.58	22.22	14.29	B	15.38	B	→
64	No of vacant private sector dwellings returned into occupation	T	77	7	5	B	49	M	↑
82bi	% of household waste composted	T	13.05	3.54	1.09	B	6.86	M	↑
82bii	Total tonnage of waste composted	T	8770	1802	699	B	2196	M	↑
166a	Environmental health checklist (%)	T	100	85	66.25	B	66.25	B	→
218b	% of abandoned vehicles removed within 24 hours (of legally being able to)	T	95	61.11	61.11	B	42.86	B	→
109a	% of major planning applications in 13 weeks	T	74.9	57.08	50	B	79.31	T	↑
205	Quality of service checklist (%)	T	94.5	83.3	83	B	88.88	M	↑
219b	% of conservation areas with an up to date character appraisal	I	31.81	0	0	B	Annual reporting	B (estimated)	→
219c	% of conservation areas with published management proposals	I	7.7	0	0	B	Annual reporting	B (estimated)	→