

## report

meeting	<b>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE &amp; RESCUE AUTHORITY</b>	
date	<b>9 June 2006</b>	agenda item number

### REPORT OF CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

#### **BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2006-07 INCORPORATING ANNUAL REPORT 2005-06**

##### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to present to Members the Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07 incorporating the Annual Plan 2005/06 for approval prior to its required publication date of 30 June 2006.

##### **2. BACKGROUND**

Since 1999 the Authority has been required to report on its performance for public and government scrutiny under the Act. Reporting has involved the production of a Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) detailing past and present performance.

##### **3. BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE**

- 3.1 With the underlying principal of demonstrating progress in delivering local and national priorities and taking account of any formal inspections, the Service is expected to provide specific information within its plan. To this end the plan must include any reviews undertaken and developments made as a result to demonstrate our performance improvement.
- 3.2 The Best Value Performance Plan and the Annual Report will be published on the Service Website on 30 June 2006 to meet the requirement of the Act. Placing the plan, which includes the Best Value performance indicators, on the website allows us to make regular updates, providing the most up to date information. Attention will be drawn to the actual reporting date and the process of update for the reader. Another distinct advantage of providing the plan in this format is the ability to provide hyperlinks to other information, assisting the reader to digest the information contained within the plan.
- 3.3 The Plan will be audited by the District Auditor to ensure that it complies with the Local Government Act 1999 and the subsequent Best Value Guidance. Each year since publication of the plan became a requirement the Authority has had an 'unqualified letter', which means there is no recommendation to the Secretary of State to carry out a Best Value Inspection of our Service.
- 3.4 Members will note that the Financial Report details (page 74) are dated 2004/05. Details for 2005/2006 will be available following the closure of Accounts and associated audit which is due the second week in June 2006. The figures will be available electronically prior to the BVPP deadline of 30 June 2006.

3.5 Following the publication of the report on the Internet there will be advertisements in the local press and posters in libraries, doctors surgeries and other public buildings to encourage members of the community to find out more about the performance of the Service.

3.6 It is intended only to produce hard copies of the report if they are specifically requested. A copy of the draft plan for approval prior to publication is attached as Appendix A.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The estimated cost of producing the posters and placing the advertisement is about £1000. This cost is significantly lower than would be the case if the plan was not published on the Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service website as publishing costs would be incurred.

#### **5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

#### **6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

An initial impact assessment has identified the need to ensure the BVPP is accessible to all members and the Community. The plan will be available to all members of the community either via the Internet, audio format, or as a document in Braille, large print and in one of the ten main languages spoken in Nottinghamshire.

#### **7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The production of a Best Value Performance Plan is contained within the Local Government Act 1999. Failure to produce a plan would be in contravention of the requirements of that Act.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Members approve the draft Best Value Performance Plan and Annual Report and the associated publication process.

#### **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION**

- Local Government Act 1999 ;
- BVPP Circular 03/2003 ;
- Fire and Rescue Services National Framework 2004/05.

Paul Woods  
**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**

## **Appendix A**

An electronic version of this appendix is not currently available. Please contact Committee Section at Guildhall (0115 9154594) to obtain a disc copy or request the document e-mailed.