

Subject: Use of Resources 2008-09
Assessment

Status: For Publication

Report to: Cabinet

Date: 17th February 2010

Report of: Head of People & Policy

Portfolio

Holder: Finance and Resources

Key Decision: No

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 For information. This report is to inform Cabinet of the outcome of the Council's Use of Resources 2008-09 assessment.

2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

2.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:-

- Delivering quality Services to our customers
- Delivering regeneration across the Borough
- Encouraging healthy and respectful communities
- Keeping our Borough clean, green and safe
- Promoting the Borough
- Providing value for money services

3. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report. The risk identified within the Corporate Risk Register 'not achieving level 3 due to changes in framework methodology' is no longer a risk. The Council now needs to ensure Level 3 is maintained.

4. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

4.1 The Council under took a Use of Resources assessment for 2008-09 which scrutinizes how well the Council is managing and using it's resources to deliver value for money and better sustainable outcomes for local people. This

was conducted by the Audit Commission and is a requirement for all local authorities. This was the first year under a new, more stretching assessment framework. The Council's self assessment submission was coordinated through the Use of Resources Working Group.

- 4.2 The Council has been awarded a Level 3 overall score. **Level 3 denotes an organisation that 'exceeds minimum requirements – performs well'**. This is an excellent achievement for Rossendale and an improvement on last year's assessment. The hard work and commitment of Officers and Members should be acknowledged and celebrated.
- 4.3 The official final report of the Council's Use of Resources score are included in it's Organisational Assessment which will be published on the CAA 'One Place' website, with the results of the Lancashire Area Assessment was published on the 10th December 2009. A copy of the full report is attached at Appendix 1 and can be accessed on the internet via the following link:
<http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/Pages/default.aspx>
- 4.4 The results have been communicated internally to staff and Members and a press release issued. The Council also worked with the NHS East Lancashire on a joint response to the red flag issue on health inequalities. 'High death rates in deprived areas' was highlighted in the Lancashire Area Assessment. The Lancashire Area Assessment can be accessed via the following link:
<http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/infobyarea/region/area/areaassessment/pages/default.aspx?region=53&area=372>
- 4.5 The Use of Resources Working Group is already underway with the 2009-10 assessment process and Officers have met with the Audit Commission to discuss key areas of focus for the 2009-10 assessment.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

5. SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 5.1 The Use of Resources judgement specifically assesses the Councils effectiveness in: Managing Finances, Governing the Business and Managing Resources.

6. MONITORING OFFICER

- 6.1 No legal implications arising from this report.

7. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)

- 7.1 No Human Resources implications arising from the report.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The Council has achieved a Level 3 for its Use of Resources assessment 2008-09, which is a significant achievement and an improvement on the previous year's performance in this assessment. This also means that the Council has achieved its commitment as per the 2009-10 Resources Business Plan to achieve Level 3.

9. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 9.1 It is recommend that Cabinet note for information the outcome of Use of Resources assessment for 2008-09.

10. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- 10.1 Not applicable.

11. COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Is a Community Impact Assessment required ~~Yes~~ / No

Is a Community Impact Assessment attached ~~Yes~~ / No

12. BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment required ~~Yes~~ / No

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment attached ~~Yes~~ / No

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Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection
Full Use of Resources Report – Rossendale	http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/Pages/default.aspx
Lancashire Area Assessment	http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/infobyarea/region/area/areaassessment/pages/default.aspx?region=53&area=372