

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

FROM: Head of Corporate Services

REPORT NUMBER: G216

TO: Strategy Committee

DATE OF MEETING: 6 March 2008

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK: THE DEVELOPMENT AND SETTING OF PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TARGETS FOR 2008-09

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 At the 27th September 2007 meeting, this Committee resolved that officers be asked to work with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to devise a process for the setting of performance indicator targets in such a way as to strengthen Member involvement, prior to Strategy Committee approving targets on an annual basis. Furthermore, it was resolved that the suggested process be reported for approval to the Strategy Committee. This report sets out our proposed approach.
- 1.2 Essentially the approach sets out a timetable by which both Overview and Scrutiny Committees – who hold responsibility for monitoring the Council's performance throughout the year – can input into the development of performance indicators and targets for 2008-09. The role of Overview and Scrutiny committees would be to give their views on the proposed indicators and targets prior to these being approved by the Strategy Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Committee approves the proposed approach set out in this report together with the timetable (attached as Appendix A).

The Committee is able to resolve this matter.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 This report is most closely linked with the Council's Significant Business Risk No. 7 – Finance, Performance and Risk Management.

5. KEY INFORMATION

5.1 It is important that the target-setting process for 2008-09 is not seen as a 'stand alone' exercise, but rather that it is embedded into the council's strategic (corporate) planning and performance management cycle.

5.2 Since the 27th September 2007 Strategy Committee meeting, the Government has launched the new performance framework for local government. A key building block for this new framework is a clear set of national outcomes and a single set of National Indicators (NIs) by which to measure progress. These NIs will supersede the current statutory Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) with effect from 1st April 2008. The Management Team, Heads of Service and relevant managers are actively managing the transition to the new framework. The Policy Section is co-ordinating the process and supporting divisions to ensure that data collection and monitoring systems are in place from 1st April.

5.3 Prior to developing targets, the initial stage in managing the transition to the new performance framework has been to start identifying the measures (indicators) Babergh will require to:

- i) monitor the delivery of its key outcomes as set out in the draft Strategic Plan 2008-18 and;
- ii) monitor delivery of critical business activities (e.g. Council Tax collection, processing of planning applications).

In addition to the new NIs, appropriate measures include, for example, existing BVPIs, new and existing local performance indicators, Local Area Agreement 2 and CDRP targets and other key project milestones. Where appropriate, targets will then be drafted for all performance measures. However, for new indicators it is likely that the most sensible approach will be to establish a baseline first and set targets thereafter.

5.4 It is suggested that a full report on the new performance framework, incorporating all strategic indicators, critical business measures and targets for 2008-09, be brought for approval to the next meeting of this Committee on 1st May 2008.

6. APPENDICES

(a) Target setting and the new performance framework for 2008-09 – Member Timetable.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO:

G189 – Managing the transition to a new national performance framework (29 January, 2008)

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Target setting and the new performance framework for 2008-09 – Member Timetable

Key dates for Members (Strategy dates highlighted in bold)	
29 Jan / 5 Feb 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on Managing the transition process to a new performance framework to Overview & Scrutiny (Stewardship) / (Community Services) Committees
6 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to Strategy Committee detailing Member involvement in the development and setting of targets
18 March / 25 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on the new Performance Management Framework (draft indicator set and targets for 2008/09) to Overview & Scrutiny (Stewardship) / (Community Services) Committees Quarter 3 Finance & Performance Report (incorporating the new national quartiles) to Overview & Scrutiny (Stewardship) / (Community Services) Committees
1 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to Strategy Committee on the new Performance Management Framework to approve indicators and targets for 2008/09
24 June / 1 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End-of-year 2007/08 Finance and Performance Report to Overview & Scrutiny (Stewardship) / (Community Services) Committees Report to approve a new basket of Key Performance Indicators for the 2008/09 quarterly reporting cycle