

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION
15 MARCH 2007**

**2006 COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT RESULTS
(Assistant Chief Executive)**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The 2006 Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) results for all single tier and county councils were published by the Audit Commission on 22nd February 2007. The detailed report supporting the Audit Commission's CPA judgement (the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter - AAIL) is in the process of being finalised, and is due to be presented to the meeting of the Council's Executive on 13th March 2007. Subsequently, the AAIL is due to be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission at their next meeting, on 7th June 2007. As that meeting is some months away, the recently published results, attached at Annex A, are being presented to the Commission now for information.

2 SUGGESTED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission notes the recently published 2006 CPA results for the Council.
- 2.2 That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission considers these results in more detail at their meeting on 7th June 2007, when the AAIL will be presented by the Council's External Auditor.

Contact for further information

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Bracknell Forest Borough Council

Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) scorecard 2006

Overall performance for this Council

This is a Council that is **improving adequately** and demonstrating a **3 star** overall performance.



We reached this overall rating by looking at:

- What progress Bracknell Forest Borough Council has made in the last year –
- How Bracknell Forest Borough Council manages its finances and provides value for money
- How Bracknell Forest Borough Council's main services perform
- How Bracknell Forest Borough Council is run

Service assessments, use of resources and corporate assessments are scored on the Local Services Inspectorate Forum scale:

- 1 = Inadequate performance – below minimum requirements
- 2 = Adequate performance – only at minimum requirements
- 3 = Performing well – consistently above minimum requirements
- 4 = Performing strongly – well above minimum requirements

Direction of travel

The progress Bracknell Forest Borough Council has made in the last year

Direction of travel	2005	2006
This assessment indicates the progress being made, or otherwise, to achieve improvement.	improving well	improving adequately

The following summary has been provided to support this direction of travel assessment:

The Council is generally improving services, with many improving well. It continues to achieve good overall customer satisfaction and provides good overall value for money, but its track record is mixed. Education and children's services generally are improving well. Recycling rates have greatly improved, and housing management has improved. The Council provides good community leadership, and works well with its partners. It has made good community improvements such as health, road safety and street scene, which are increasingly visible to local people. However, three areas of concern remain: adults' social care, housing-related services for vulnerable people, and the operational leadership of these two services. The Council has now dealt with the leadership issue and has the corporate ability to support future improvement. It is making good progress on its plans to sustain improvement and is well-advanced in reviewing its workforce to deliver them, but some are not robust enough. Firm plans are now in place to regenerate Bracknell town centre. The Council's medium-term financial strategy reflects the key improvement priorities.

Use of resources

How Bracknell Forest Borough Council manages its finances and provides value for money

Use of resources	2005	2006
We have assessed how well the Council manages its finances and provides value for money.	3	3

This use of resources judgement is drawn from five individual judgements provided by the Council's appointed auditor:

Auditor judgements	2006
Financial reporting	3
Financial management	3
Financial standing	3
Internal control	3
Value for money	3

Service performance

How Bracknell Forest Borough Council's main services perform

Service area	2005	2006
Benefits - The Council's performance in providing housing and council tax benefit services. The assessment is made by the Benefit Fraud Inspectorate (external link) and is based primarily on achievement against the 2005 housing benefits/council tax benefits performance standards.	4	3
Children and young people - The Council's performance in providing children's services, such as children's education and social care. The joint assessment is made by the Commission for Social Care Inspection (external link) and Ofsted (external link) following a review of the Council's overall performance and key indicators.	3	3
Culture - The Council's performance in services, such as libraries and leisure, as assessed by the Audit Commission. More details	3	2
Environment - The Council's performance in services, such as transport, planning and waste, as assessed by the Audit Commission. More details	2	3
Housing - The Council's performance in community housing and, where applicable, housing management services, as assessed by the Audit Commission. More details	1	2
Social care (adults) - The Council's performance in adult social care services. The assessment is made by the Commission for Social Care Inspection (external link) following a review of the Council's overall performance and key indicators.	2	2

Corporate assessment

How Bracknell Forest Borough Council is run

Corporate assessment	2006
In assessing how the Council is run, the Commission considers what the Council, together with its partners, is trying to achieve; what the capacity of the Council, including its work with partners, is to deliver what it is trying to achieve; and what has been achieved?	4

Score used is from the 2004 corporate assessment.

The way we carried out corporate assessments changed from 2005 onwards. Until 2008, when all councils will have been assessed using the new-style corporate assessment, the CPA category will be based on either its new corporate assessment score or the previous one if that is higher.

Corporate assessment reports

No current corporate assessment report is available. **2004 score 4**