

TO: ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 4 MARCH 2003

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BEST VALUE REVIEW

FROM: POLICY SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider and comment upon the following:-

Papers that you should have attached:

1. the final draft of the Best Value Review report including the improvement plan;
2. a revised outline proposal for a South Warwickshire Economic Development SRB6 Project;
3. a draft Economic and Regeneration Action Plan for South Warwickshire;
4. an extract from the County Council's Quality of Life indicators.

The four papers are linked. Item 2 provides resources that affect the content of the improvement plan in Item 1. Item 3 provides, in effect, an agenda for Items 1 and 2. Item 4 could be used to monitor outcomes.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Economic Development Best Value Review has taken some time to complete. The final draft report sets the findings from the work undertaken on:-

1. Consultation
2. Comparison
3. Challenge
4. Competition

2.2 However, the Best Value Review has been complicated though aided by the opportunity to develop and obtain SRB6 funding and by the need to develop an economic strategy. Papers on both of these are attached for consideration and comment.

2.3 Developing indicators of effective performance has proved difficult in determining but the Quality of Life indicators may contain some information of use.

3.0 **OUTCOMES**

3.1 Councillors may wish to consider the following:-

(i) Do you think that the review has achieved its objectives?

The five objectives are set out on page seven of the Best Value Review report.

(ii) Have all of the issues identified in the review been adequately addressed by the Improvement Plan?

(iii) Is the outline SRB6 proposal acceptable?

(iv) Does the draft Economic and Regeneration Action Plan reflect the aspirations and priorities for the area?

(v) Do you consider that the proposed improvements will lead to an improved service?

3.2 With these questions answered, it should be possible to sign off this review which will then go to the Executive on the 10 April 2003. The report to the Executive will take on board comments from the Change Board (25 February) as well as the Scrutiny Committee.

Chris Elliott,
Strategic Director.