

	<p>Audit Committee 18th December 2007</p> <p>Report from the Director of Policy and Regeneration</p>
For Action	Wards Affected: All
<p>Report Title: Data Quality Review 2007/08</p>	

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the outcome of the Data Quality Review 2007/08 and Brent Council response to recommendations made in this review.

2.0 Recommendations

The Audit Committee are asked:

- 2.1 To note the recommendations made in the *Data Quality Review 2007*
- 2.2 To provide comments on the *Data Quality Action Plan 2007/08*.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 Data Quality Reviews were introduced in 2006 by the Audit Commission as a means of assessing a council's data quality arrangements. This incorporated our governance arrangements as well as the quality and effectiveness of our systems and procedures for collecting, monitoring and reporting on performance information. The results of the review will inform our overall CPA assessment.
- 3.2 Price Waterhouse Coopers finalised their second Data Quality Review of Brent Council in November 2007. This review covered the period of April 2006 to March 2007.
- 3.3 The review was broken down into 3 stages:
- Stage 1: Review of corporate arrangements
 - Stage 2: Analytical review
 - Stage 3: Data Quality Spot Checks

4.0 Summary of Findings

- 4.1 The results of the review were mostly positive and Brent Council's progress with improving our governance arrangements regarding data quality was acknowledged. This was largely due to the introduction of the new Data Quality Strategy and roll out of our performance management system Performance Plus. These two achievements, however, could not be fully considered as they took place post March 2007 and were outside the stated timeframes of the review.
- 4.2 Areas of weakness for the council include:
- information sharing arrangement / verification of external data
 - business continuity arrangements
 - controls in place for ensuring data quality of systems and audit trails
- 4.3 During stage 3 of the review 6 performance indicators from Housing, Environment and Culture were selected and audited. Two indicators of the 6 were reserved, these were:
- BVPI212 Average re-let times
 - IPF Cost per library visit
- 4.4 BVPI212 Average re-let times was reserved because the parameters set up within the system used to calculate the outturn could not record the appropriate data. IPF Cost per library visit was reserved due to an insufficient audit trail to cover the visitor numbers and financial expenditure figures.
- 4.5 The Policy and Regeneration Unit has revised its Data Quality Action Plan as a result of the recommendations made in the review and is working with the members of the Performance Management Group around implementing action plan by March 2008.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications to this report.

6.0 Legal Implications

- 6.1 There are no legal implications to this report.

7.0 Diversity Implications

- 7.1 There are no diversity implications to this report.

Background Papers

- Data Quality Review 2007/08
- Data Quality Action Plan 2007/08
- Data Quality Strategy

Contact Officers

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