



Monitoring and Improving Value for Money in Walsall

Audit Committee 1 September 2010

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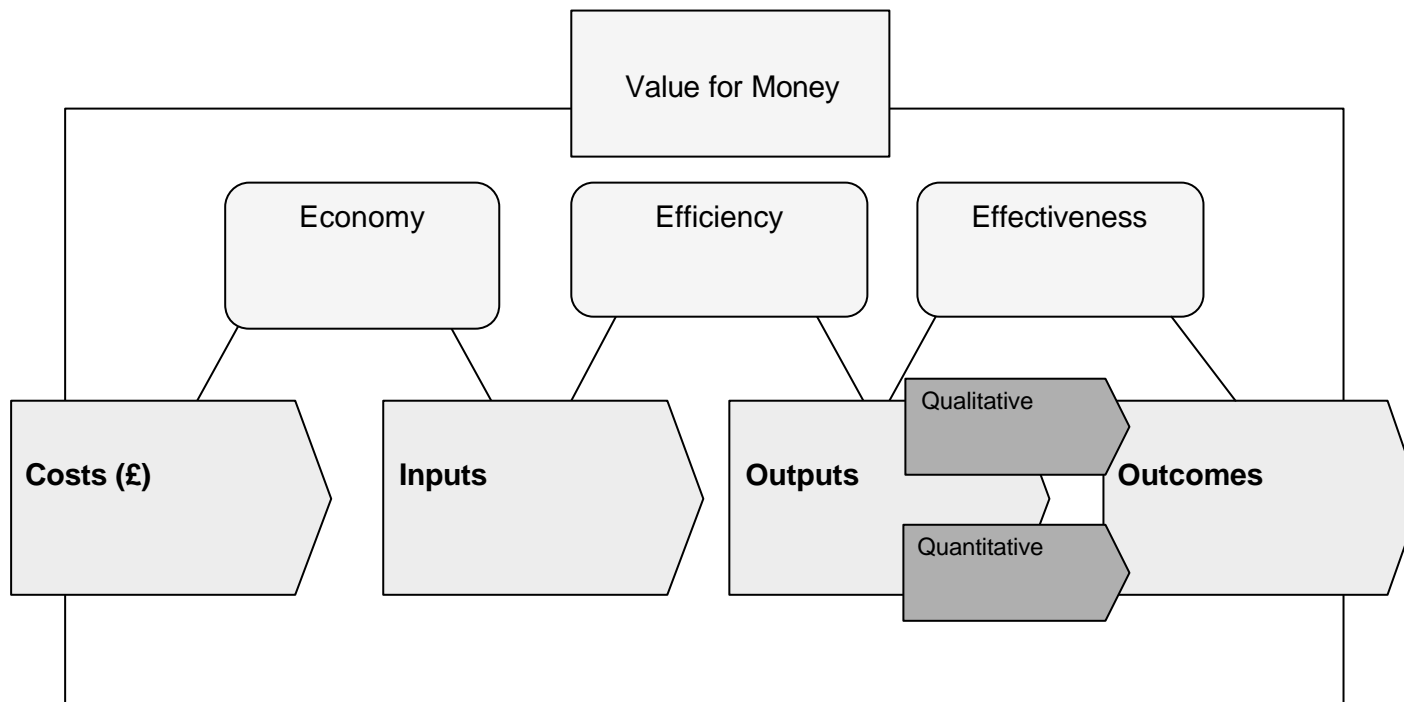
Job Title Principal Corporate Performance Officer



Walsall Council

What is meant by Value for Money?

“ Spending Less, Spending Well, and Spending Wisely”





Current State- what do we know about how much value for money we currently get from our services?

- Grant Thornton told us in their interim report that they are satisfied that we are meeting at least the minimum required level of performance for value for money in all areas of their use of resources assessment.
- During 2009/10 we made over £14 million in 'on-going cash-releasing value for money gains' (NI 179)
- We can demonstrate strong performance and low cost in some services areas (e.g. waste collection)



Current State- what do we know about how much value for money we currently get from our services?

- We know we spend more than, but do not out perform other similar councils overall.
- We know that overall customer satisfaction with the Council is below similar areas
- We do not have a consistent and robust value for money rating for every service the council delivers.



Future State- where do we want to be?

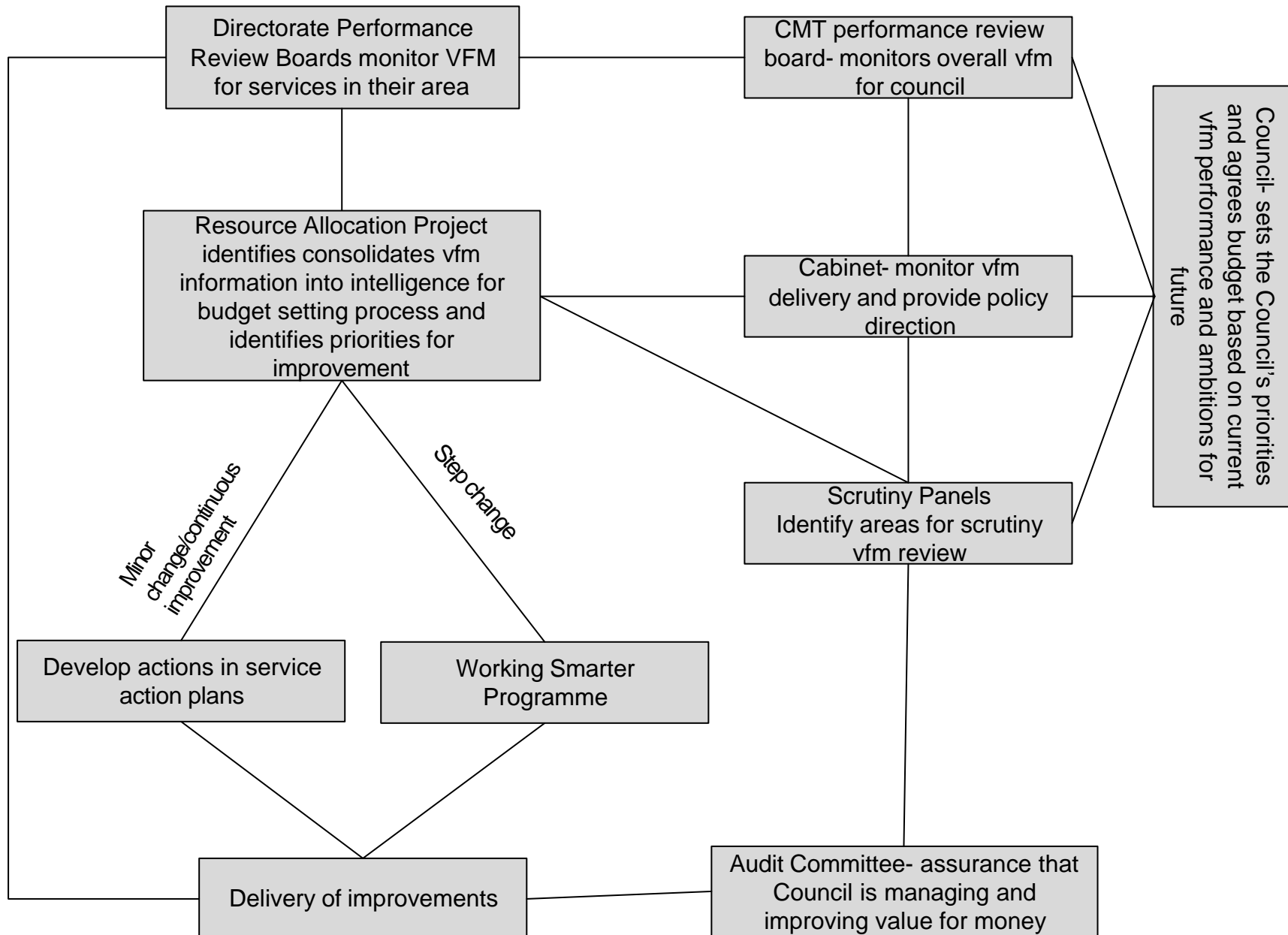
- Spend in line with the average for metropolitan councils
- Increase customer satisfaction with the Council
- Improve the efficiency of the services we deliver by removing waste and changing the way we do our business
- Improve the robustness and consistency of data intelligence to challenge and improve value for money across all services



How will we get there?

- Performance Review Boards- monitor and challenge value for money for services in their area
- Resource Allocation Project- provides Members with intelligence to make budgeting decisions aimed at improving value for money
- Working Smarter Programme- takes out waste, improves customer service and change the way we do our business

How will we get there?






Responsibilities- Elected Members

- Provide the policy direction for the council
- Agree budget decisions, including:
 - which services they are willing to accept a reduction in performance\service delivery in exchange for reduced costs; and
 - which services they are willing to accept high spend in return for improved performance
- Hold services to account for delivery of savings targets and performance improvement
- Be proactive in carrying out VFM reviews (scrutiny) to identify improvements



Responsibilities- Senior Management

- Challenge value for money within their services and provide strategic management to drive VFM improvements
- Take personal responsibilities for budgets and savings targets
- Provide leadership for the working smarter programme



Responsibilities- Support Services

- Provide intelligence to senior managers and members to help inform robust decision making based on vfm principles
- Provide technical assistance to improvement programmes and projects



Responsibilities- All Staff

- Take personal responsibility for spending money wisely
- Be proactive in identifying improvements and raising these with managements (staff suggestion scheme)
- Contribute to service reviews where necessary