

SOUTHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

BEST VALUE STATEMENT POLICY



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1. Terms of Reference

- 1.1. Southwater Parish Council should embrace Best Value principles and follow Best Value so far as possible.
- 1.2. To secure continuous improvement in the way the Council's functions are carried out with regard to economy, efficient and effectiveness.
- 1.3. To provide high quality services to the community.
- 1.4. To consult with local people on major projects.
- 1.5. To review all its functions periodically.
- 1.6. To be modern and dynamic.
- 1.7. To respond quickly and creatively to people's needs where possible.
- 1.8. The value of service to be dependent on how it is delivered and not necessarily the cost of that delivery.
- 1.9. It is essential to the successful practise of Best Value that it be **Councillor** led by setting objectives which reflect the views of local people.
- 1.10. To look at the Council's functions in terms of the "4 C's".
 - **Challenge** why, how and by whom a service is being provided – question existing commitments and explore opportunities to make improvements (to look forwards and outwards) – are the decision making process as efficient as they could be? Does the committee structure best serve the needs of the Council?
 - **Compare** performance with the performance of other Parish Councils and organizations providing similar services. Be open to alternative ways of working.
 - **Consult** local people and key partners, including local businesses and voluntary organizations in setting Council priorities. More towards participatory democracy; promote the Council and raise its profile. Put an emphasis on partnership working. To be responsive to the changing aspirations of the community.
 - **Competition** this to be wherever practicable, fair and open as a means of security efficient and effective services.

- 1.11. To be flexible
- 1.12. To seize the opportunity and collaborate with the other tiers of local government.
- 1.13. To advertise the services this Council provide and invite comment.
- 1.14. To continuously improve – be realistic and achievable.