

SOUTHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

BEST VALUE POLICY STATEMENT



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BEST VALUE POLICY STATEMENT

Terms of Reference

1. Southwater Parish Council should embrace Best Value principles and follow Best Value so far as possible.
2. To secure continuous improvement in the way the Council's functions are carried out with regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
3. To provide high quality services to the community.
4. To consult with local people on major projects.
5. To review all its functions periodically.
6. To be modern and dynamic.
7. To respond quickly and creatively to people's needs where possible.
8. The value of service to be dependent on how it is delivered and not necessarily the cost of that delivery.
9. It is essential to the successful practice of Best Value that it be **Councillor** led by setting objectives which reflect the views of local people.
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.
11. To be flexible.
12. To seize the opportunity and collaborate with the other tiers of local government.
13. To advertise the services this Council provide and invite comment.
14. To continuously improve – be realistic and achievable – **KEEPING IT SIMPLE**