

## REPORT BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

### **The Local Government (Best Value Performance Indicators) (Wales) Order 2002 (Revocation) Order 2005 and The Local Government (Best Value Performance Indicators)(Wales) Order 2005**

The Committee considered *The Local Government (Best Value Performance Indicators) (Wales)(Revocation) Order 2005 and The Local Government (Best Value Performance Indicators)(Wales) Order 2005* at its meeting on 19 January 2005.

In discussion the following issues were raised:

- the distinction between an 'emergency' situation in schedule 2 to the Order and routine circumstance in which temporary accommodation was used;
- the absence of National Strategic Performance Indicators (NS PI) relating to primary education;
- the inclusion of a NS PI on Welsh medium education was welcomed, however more specific indicators were needed in the core data sets to reflect further the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment in *Iaith Pawb* to mainstream the Welsh language into policy development and service delivery; and
- the number of recommended core data sets and the need to ensure that local authorities were collecting performance information that was purposeful and helped assess improvement.

In response the following points were made:

- the term 'emergency' was defined in section 189 of the Housing Act 1996. Families would be excluded from the indicator only where they were housed in temporary accommodation as a result of such an emergency. They would be included if they were to remain in such accommodation after the emergency had been resolved;

- the NS PIs were one of a number of methods by which local authority performance was measured;
- there were currently two indicators measuring performance at key stage 2, which ends in the final year of primary school;
- the Welsh Language Board were consulted fully regarding the NS PIs and were content with the inclusion of the indicator on Welsh medium education. Officials were continuing discussions with the Board regarding the non-statutory core indicator sets;
- further consideration would be given to the inclusion of indicators for pre-school and infant education;
- much of the performance information required was currently collected by practitioners and service providers. It was not intended to over-burden local authorities unnecessarily.

The Committee recommended approval of the regulations without amendment.

**Ann Jones AM**  
**Chair, Local Government and Public Services Committee**