VFM Programme – Summary of Priority Areas

Priority Area	Identified Value for Money Opportunities
Adult Services	• Increasing the speed of implementation of Self Directed Support (Personal Budgets) to achieve 100% personalisation within 3 years. • Developing the Resource Allocation System (RAS) to improve the prioritisation and allocation of resources across different types of need. • Implementing re-ablement services more widely and increasing the number of people benefitting from re-ablement services to reduce long-term care needs.
Children's Services	• Investing in prevention and ensuring it is more effectively targeted and aligned with other support through improved use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF). • Changing the planning and processing of care placements, in particular, so that the whole-life costs of different care pathways are fully understood at the point of being commissioned. • Improving procurement and commissioning through the review of contracts and other provider arrangements.
ICT	• Enhancing governance and processes to ensure that all ICT investment provides value for money, is supported by a valid business case, improves the service for the customer, and is aligned with corporate priorities. • Improving ICT application management to rationalise the number of systems (currently around 400) to improve data management and reduce the cost of the council's ICT infrastructure. • Improving ICT infrastructure management and costs by reviewing the current architecture and use of networking technologies and hardware.
Workstyle	• Rationalising the council's administrative buildings through the use of available ICT technologies and by redesigning offices to support more flexible ways of working. • Enhancing productivity through new ways of working (e.g. mobile working, home-working, hot-desking) supported by technological and performance management changes.

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Procurement	• Introducing category management (compared with current service based procurement) to take advantage of the council's substantial buying power and rationalising the number of suppliers the council contracts with. • Implementing operational changes to improve procurement practice and increase compliance with ordering processes across the council.
Sustainable Transport & Fleet Management	• Assessment of transport priorities and legal obligations in relation to bus subsidies. • Restructuring the workforce across Sustainable Transport to align services with priorities and achieve productivity efficiencies. • Improve the procurement of the council's entire vehicle fleet by managing this on a whole council basis to achieve value for money gains. There is also an opportunity to manage the fleet in a more efficient way using improved fleet management information and systems.