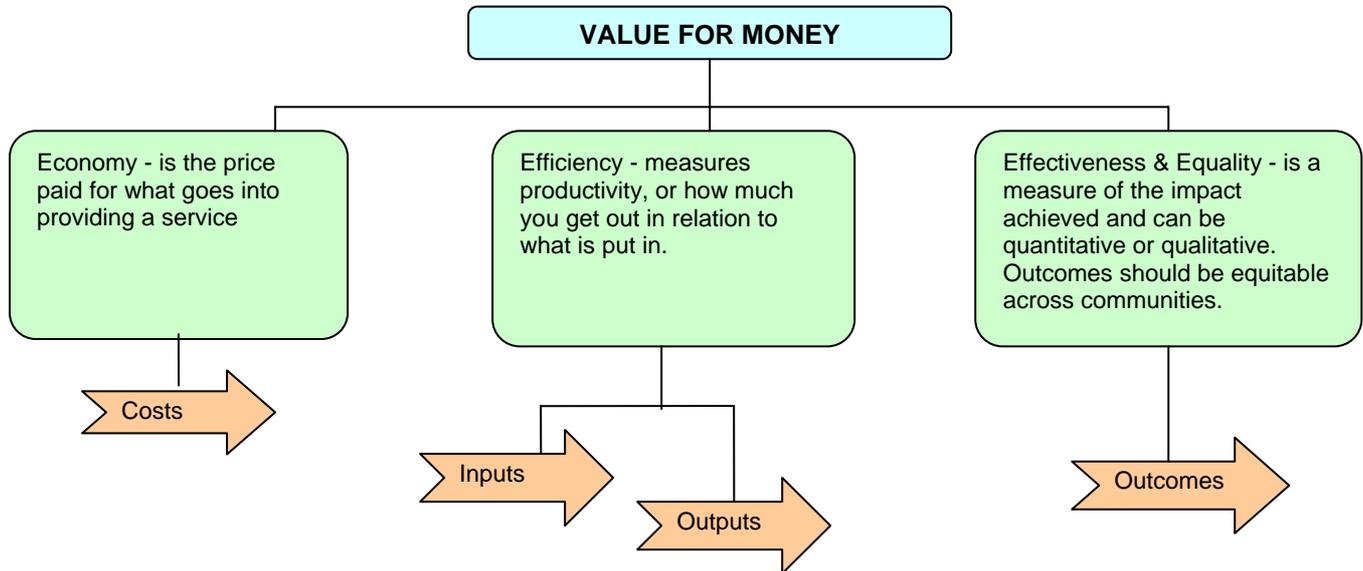


APPENDIX C: VALUE FOR MONEY

Value for Money (VFM) is defined as the relationship between **economy**, **efficiency** and **effectiveness** (the Three E's). Achieving VFM for Breckland, means achieving a balance between all three: relatively low costs, high productivity and valued outcomes.



As guardians of the public purse, councils must show that they provide **Value for Money**.

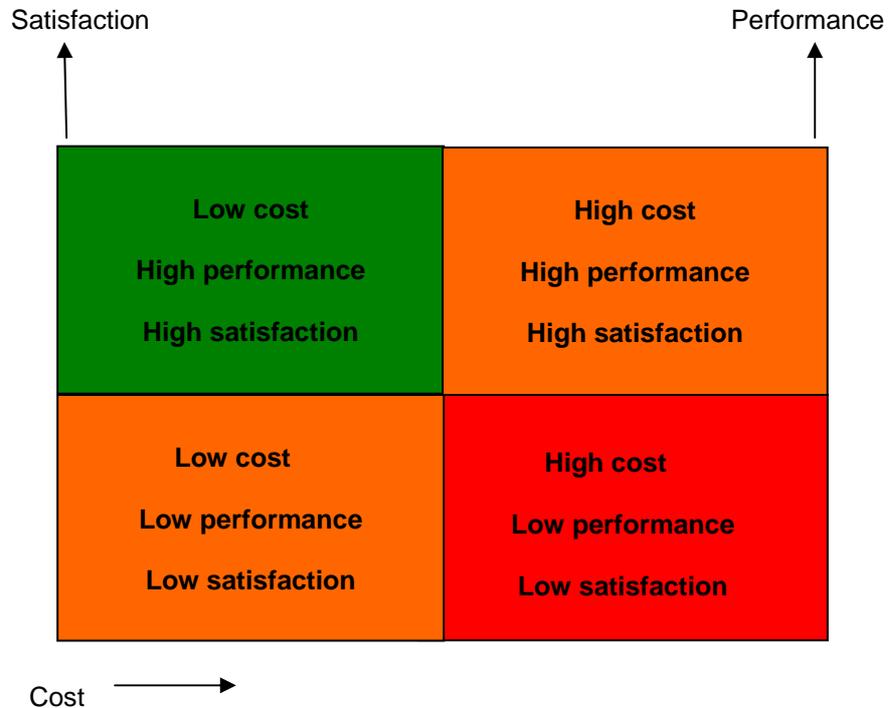
The need to be effective and provide VFM has long been a priority for Breckland and the council's approach to VFM is summarised in its VFM Strategy which can be found on the Council's Intranet site (Finance Dept – Policies and Strategies) The VFM Strategy sets out how Breckland will achieve VFM within the services it provides:



Service Managers are expected to keep the value for money of the services they provide under constant review, which is assured by the close monitoring of performance through monthly portfolio meetings, performance clinics, and, where appropriate reference of significant problems to the performance "hothouse". This process integrates the Council's performance, financial and risk management systems for consideration by the Council's political leadership on a quarterly basis, and is underpinned by quarterly reports to the Executive and Corporate Management Team.

Service Managers are also be required to collect and assess benchmark data of cost, performance and customer satisfaction data for the services that they deliver and develop an improvement plan for any that fall into the “Improvement Mandatory” quadrant of Diagram 1.

Diagram 1: Strategic mapping of value for money



Notes to Diagram 1:

Only services that are demonstrated to fall within the green box achieve full value for money. Services that fall into either amber box will be reviewed with a view to improving performance and satisfaction (subject to issues related to the Council’s priorities and resource availability) or reducing cost. Services falling within the red box will receive particular scrutiny since regardless of the priority attached to them they provide low levels of performance and satisfaction at a high cost.