



# Council

Agenda and Reports

For consideration on

**Tuesday, 18th September  
2007**

In the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chorley

At 6.30 pm



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## Chief Executive's Office

Please ask for: Mr G K Banks  
Direct Dial: (01257 515123  
E-mail address: [gordon.banks@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:gordon.banks@chorley.gov.uk)  
Date: 7 September 2007

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**Chief Executive:** Donna Hall

**Chorley**  
Council

Town Hall  
Market Street  
Chorley  
Lancashire  
PR7 1DP

Dear Councillor

## COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER 2007

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chorley on Tuesday, 18th September 2007 commencing at 6.30 pm.

### AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Declarations of Any Interests**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. If the interest arises **only** as result of your membership of another public body or one to which you have been appointed by the Council then you only need to declare it if you intend to speak.

If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest, you must withdraw from the meeting. Normally you should leave the room before the business starts to be discussed. You do, however, have the same right to speak as a member of the public and may remain in the room to enable you to exercise that right and then leave immediately. In either case you must not seek to improperly influence a decision on the matter.

3. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)**

To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 July 2007 as a correct record for signature by the Mayor (copy enclosed)

4. **Mayoral Announcements**

5. **Executive Cabinet**

- a) **Chorley Local Development Framework - Sustainable Resources Development Plan - Submission Document (Pages 9 - 50)**

Report enclosed

- b) **General Report from Executive Cabinet meeting on 9 August 2007 (Pages 51 - 54)**

Report enclosed.

Continued....

c) General Report from Executive Cabinet meeting on 6 September 2007

Report to follow.

6. **Report of Development Control Committee (Pages 55 - 58)**

General Report enclosed.

7. **Licensing and Safety Committee (Pages 59 - 60)**

General Report enclosed.

8. **Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Panels (Pages 61 - 68)**

General Report enclosed.

9. **Standards Committee (Pages 69 - 70)**

General Report enclosed.

10. **Ulnes Walton Parish Council By Election (Pages 71 - 72)**

Report of Chief Executive enclosed.

11. **Representation on Outside Bodies**

Councillor Rosemary Russell has resigned from her position as the Council's representative on Homestart Chorley and South Ribble for personal reasons.

The Council is requested to approve the replacement appointment of Councillor Judith Boothman for the remainder of the current municipal year term.

12. **Questions Asked under Council Procedure Rule 7 (if any)**

13. **To consider the Notices of Motion given in accordance with Council procedure Rule 8**

The following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor D Edgerley to the last Council meeting on 10 July 2007 stood adjourned to await the decision of the Standards Committee on applications from appropriate Councillors who would otherwise be precluded from participating in the discussion and voting on the Motion for dispensation to debate and vote on the Motion:

“That this Council calls upon the Executive Cabinet to implement a free off-peak concessionary travel scheme across the NOW area within one month of tonight's meeting.”

The Standards Committee at its meeting on 3 September 2007 granted the applications from 24 Councillors for dispensation to debate concessionary travel scheme issues at Council meetings.

14. **Any other item(s) the Mayor decides is/are urgent**

Yours sincerely



Chief Executive

**Distribution**

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આ માહિતીનો અનુવાદ આપની પોતાની ભાષામાં કરી શકાય છે. આ સેવા સરળતાથી મેળવવા માટે કૃપા કરી, આ નંબર પર ફોન કરો: 01257 515822

ان معلومات کا ترجمہ آپ کی اپنی زبان میں بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ یہ خدمت استعمال کرنے کیلئے براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر ٹیلیفون

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**COUNCIL****Tuesday, 10 July 2007**

**Present:** Councillor Adrian Lowe (Mayor), Councillors Eric Bell, Judith Boothman, Pat Case, Henry Counce, Alan Cullens, Magda Cullens, Michael Davies, Mike Devaney, David Dickinson, Mrs Doreen Dickinson, Dennis Edgerley, Anthony Gee, Daniel Gee, Peter Goldsworthy, Mrs Marie Gray, Pat Haughton, Harold Heaton, Catherine Hoyle, Keith Iddon, Margaret Iddon, Kevin Joyce, Hasina Khan, Margaret Lees, Roy Lees, Laura Lennox, Marion Lowe, Peter Malpas, Thomas McGowan, June Molyneaux, Greg Morgan, Mark Perks, Geoffrey Russell, Rosie Russell, Edward Smith, Iris Smith, Shaun Smith, Joyce Snape, Ralph Snape, John Walker and Mrs Stella Walsh

**07.C.60 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of the Deputy Mayor (Councillor T Brown) and Councillors K Ball, N Ball, A Cain, M Muncaster and Mrs M Wilson.

**07.C.61 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS**

Councillor H Heaton declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7(a) (Capital Programme – Outturn for 2006/07 and Monitoring of 2007/08 Programme). Councillor Heaton remained in the meeting, but did not participate in the discussion or voting on the item.

**07.C.62 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 15 May 2007 and the Special Meeting of the Council held on 9 June 2007 be each confirmed as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.**

**07.C.63 MAYORAL ANNOUCEMENTS**

The Mayor referred to the recent death on 18 June 2007 of former Councillor and past Mayor, John (Jack) Wilson. Members and Officers had been shocked and saddened at Jack's death, following so close from his retirement from the Council in May 2007, after 34 years as a Member of Chorley Council and Leader of the Council for 16 years until May 2006. The tributes to Jack Wilson's passion, dedication and commitment to serving the people of Chorley were led by his close friend and colleague, Councillor Dennis Edgerley, the current Leader of the Labour Group. Councillor Edgerley's tribute was supported and augmented by the Executive Leader (Councillor Peter Goldsworthy), Councillor Ralph Snape (Leader of the Independent Group) and Councillor Mrs Stella Walsh on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group. All Members and Officers then stood in silence for a minute as a mark of respect for Jack Wilson's service to Chorley.

The Mayor also congratulated Councillor Ralph Snape upon his award of the MBE (Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) in the Queen's recent Birthday Honours List for his service to Local Government. The Mayor's congratulations were echoed by the Executive Leader (Councillor Peter Goldsworthy), Councillor Dennis Edgerley (Leader of the Labour Group), Councillor Mrs Stella Walsh on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group and Councillor Anthony Gee (a Ward

colleague), who each paid tribute to Councillor Snape's dedication and indefatigable service to his constituents.

Finally, the Mayor reminded the Council that the Mayor's Charity Cricket Match between Members and Officers was due to take place on Friday, 3 August 2007 at Chorley Cricket Club. The cost of participation was £5, including refreshments, with all proceeds being donated to the Mayor's chosen Charities. Any Councillor wishing to play was requested to contact either former Councillor Chris Snow, who was captaining the Members' team, or the Mayor's Secretary. A raffle would be held during the event and the Mayor welcomed the support of spectators as well as players.

#### **07.C.64 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There had been no request from any member of the public to ask a question on any of the agenda items.

#### **07.C.65 MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME**

The Council received a report of the Chief Executive enclosing a report on the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel appointed in December 2006 to review the Council's formal Scheme of Allowances for Members.

The Panel had met three times in January, March and June 2007 with a specific remit to consider the basic allowance payable to Members; the duties for which Members should receive a special responsibility allowance and the amounts of such allowances; and arrangements for the annual uplift of the allowances scheme.

It was moved by the Executive Leader, seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council, and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the following recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel be approved and adopted for implementation from 1 April 2007:

- (1) That the annual uplift of Members' Allowances be at the same rate as the officers annual pay increase and be implemented with effect from 1 April each year;
- (2) That Members' receive the same allowances for travel and subsistence as officers;
- (3) That if, following a Standards hearing, a Member is found to be in breach of the Code of Conduct and suspended their allowances should be withheld for the period of suspension;
- (4) That the payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance for the Chair of the Standards Committee be formalised in the Members Allowances Scheme at the sum of £1595.00 as previously agreed by Council on 9 July 2002;
- (5) That the posts of Lead Members for Development Control Committee and Licensing be redesignated as the Chair of Development Control Committee and Chair of Licensing and Safety Committee respectively;
- (6) That the special responsibility allowance for the Chair of Development Control Committee and Chair of Licensing and Safety Committee be increased from £1,595 to £2,700 per annum;
- (7) That a special responsibility allowance of £1,330 per annum be paid to the Vice-Chair of the Development Control Committee and the Vice-Chair of Licensing and Safety Committee;
- (8) That a special responsibility allowance of £1,330 per annum be paid to the Chair of the Audit Committee;



- (9) That the special responsibility allowance for the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee/Panels be reviewed in due course by the Panel following the introduction of a revised Overview and Scrutiny structure;
- (10) That the framework produced by the previous Independent Remuneration Panel be re-examined with minor amendments to some of the factor weightings, and that the revised framework be used for any further reviews of the Members' Allowances Scheme;
- (11) That the following revisions be made to the Members Allowances' Scheme:  
 Paragraph 3: The inclusion of a statement indicating that the Basic Allowance contains an element for Members to publicise their availability to constituents.  
 Paragraph 10: Inclusion of the methodology for the annual update.  
 Paragraph 11: Inclusion of the legal requirement to keep records of payments of allowances open to public inspection and be publicised annually.  
 Paragraph 12: The right to allowances will be removed whilst a Councillor is suspended from the Council for breach of the member code of conduct.  
 Paragraph 13: Reference made to equipment and stationery being made available to Councillors.  
 Appendix B: The inclusion of the Approved Duties for which travel and subsistence claims can be made (The Travel and Subsistence Allowances paid to staff will also apply for Members as previously agreed by the Panel).  
 Appendix C: The inclusion of Travel and Subsistence Allowances.

The inclusion of the following guidance notes:

Appendix D: How do I Claim My Allowances?

Appendix E: The Effect on Taxation, National Insurance Contributions and Benefit Entitlement.

#### 07.C.66 EXECUTIVE CABINET

##### (a) **Capital Programme - Outturn for 2006/07 and Monitoring of 2007/08 Programme**

The Executive Member for Resources presented a report accompanying the joint report of the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director of Finance on (i) the provisional outturn for the Council's Capital Programme for 2006/07; (ii) a progress update on the 2007/08 Capital Programme; and (iii) recommendations of the Corporate Improvement Board on suggested new proposals.

The provisional outturn for the 2006/07 Capital Programme was projected as £13,269,246, which was £944,676 in excess of the approved programme. Appendix 1 to the submitted report gave a detailed analysis of the provisional outturn against the approved programme. The appendix also outlined the proposed financing arrangements for the 2006 programme and identified a projected slippage of £236,260 to the 2007/08 Capital Programme. Appendix 2 to the submitted report contained a detailed analysis of the expenditure variations totalling £1,180,942.

The revised forecast for the 2007/08 Capital Programme revealed an increase in the programme of £8,302,450.

The report also contained a recommendation from the Corporate Improvement Board which sought approval to the inclusion of three new schemes in Category B of the Capital Programme.

It was moved by the Executive Leader, seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council, and subsequently **RESOLVED**:

- (1) That the provisional outturn for the Capital Programme for 2006/07 in the sum of £13,269,246 be noted.
- (2) That the financing arrangements for the 2006/07 Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved.
- (3) That the slippage of £236,260 from the 2006/07 Capital Programme to the 2007/08 Programme be authorised.
- (4) That the following recommendations of the Corporate Improvement Board be approved:
  - (a) the addition of the Astley Park – Woodland Management Scheme to the Capital Programme at a cost of £116,000, to be financed from Section 106 resources;
  - (b) the addition of the Coppull Playzone £25,000 contribution to the Capital Programme, to be financed from resources provided by the housing developer; and
  - (c) the addition of the Charnock Richard Football Club Pitch Improvements to the Capital Programme, with a £6,000 contribution from the external funding pot.

**(b) General Report**

The Executive Leader presented a report which summarised the principal matters considered at the last two meetings of the Executive Cabinet held on 24 May and 26 June 2007.

The report contained a recommendation for the Council to seek the confirmation of the Secretary of State for Health of revised draft model byelaws to regulate the practice of acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin colouring or cosmetic piercing.

It was moved by the Executive Leader, seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council, and subsequently **RESOLVED**:

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That approval be given to the submission to the Secretary of State for Health for confirmation of the draft model byelaws in the form presented to the Executive Cabinet for securing the cleanliness of premises registered under Sections 14(2) or 15(2) or both of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and the fittings in each premises and of persons registered under Sections 14(1) or 15(1) or both of the Act in connection with the practice of acupuncture or the business of tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring or cosmetic piercing.

**07.C.67 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND PANELS**

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Councillor D Edgerley) presented a report which summarised briefly the recent matters discussed at meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 21 May and 25 June 2007. The report also summarised the activities and issues considered by the Committee's associate Environment & Community and Corporate & Customer Overview and Scrutiny Panels at their recent meetings.

It was moved by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, seconded by the Vice-Chair (Councillor L Lennox), and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**07.C.68 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

(a) **Amendment to the Council's Scheme of Delegations with respect to Planning Applications**

The Chair of the Development Control Committee (Councillor H Heaton) presented a report recommending a revision of the currently operative scheme of delegations in respect of planning applications.

Since 2005 there had been a requirement for a commuted sum to be payable under the terms of a Section 106 Agreement in lieu of the provision of play space in respect of all planning applications that involved the development of an additional single dwelling. Under the Council's current scheme of delegations all applications that required a Section 106 Agreement needed to be determined by the Development Control Committee.

Since the lifting of the Windfall Housing Policy in December 2006, there had been an increase in the number of applications for residential development requiring to be presented to the Development Committee. This had, consequently, impacted on the Council's Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs), as applications were taking longer to process and determine.

In order to allow some flexibility in the determination of planning applications and meet BVPI targets, the Development Control Committee had recommended an amendment to the scheme of delegations to allow those applications which required the payment of a commuted sum for play space to be determined by Officers in instances where no objections had been received. Applications which generated objections could be considered by the Chair and Vice-Chair, in consultation with the Director of Development and Regeneration, subject to the usual considerations. However, those latter applications would not necessarily be precluded from consideration by the Development Control Committee, if the Chair and Vice-Chair chose to present them to the Committee.

It was moved by the Chair of the Development Control Committee, seconded by the Vice-Chair of the Committee (Councillor David Dickinson), and subsequently **RESOLVED** that approval be given to the amendment of the Council's scheme of delegations in order to allow (i) the Director of Development and Regeneration to determine planning applications for schemes requiring a Section 106 legal agreement for play space where no objections have been lodged; and (ii) the Director of Development and Regeneration, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Development Control Committee, to determine applications whenever objections are received, subject to the usual considerations.

(b) **General Report**

The Chair of the Development Control Committee presented a report which commented on a few of the more significant planning applications that had been determined at meetings of the Committee held on 24 April, 27 May and 19 June 2007.

It was moved by the Chair of the Development Control Committee, seconded by the Vice-Chair, and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**07.C.69 LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE - GENERAL REPORT**

The Chair of the Licensing and Safety Committee (Councillor Mrs I Smith) presented a report which summarised the principal matters which had been considered by the Committee at its meetings on 25 April and 23 May 2007.

It was moved by the Chair of the Licensing and Safety Committee, seconded by the Vice-Chair (Councillor E Smith), and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

#### **07.C.70 AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Audit Committee (Councillor A Gee) presented a report which summarised the matters considered at meetings of the Committee held on 21 and 28 June 2007.

It was moved by the Chair of the Audit Committee, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Cullens, and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

#### **07.C.71 STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Council received a report of the Chair of the Standards Committee (Mr R A Ellwood) which outlined the main issues discussed by the Committee at its meeting on 14 June 2007.

It was moved by Councillor J Boothman, seconded by Councillor T McGowan, and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

#### **07.C.72 AMENDMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

The Executive Leader submitted a report requesting the Council's approval to the amendment of the membership of five Council bodies in order to correct their political balance following the re-admittance of Councillor Shaun Smith to the Conservative Group.

In addition, the report drew attention to the need to replace Councillor Mrs M Cullens on the Audit Committee in order to avoid any conflict of interest by virtue of Councillor Mrs Cullens' position as wife of the Executive Member for Resources. The Chair of the Audit Committee (Councillor A Gee) thanked Councillor Mrs Cullens for her valued contribution to the work of the Committee over the past months.

**RESOLVED** that the following amendments indicated below be made to the membership of the following bodies:

Appointments Panel:

Delete Councillor R Snape and add Councillor S Smith;

Audit Committee:

Delete Councillor Mrs M Cullens and add Councillor S Smith;

Development Control Committee:

Delete Councillor S Smith and add Councillor D Edgerley;

Environment and Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Alter the designation of Councillor S Smith from Independent Member to Conservative Group Member;

Lancashire Local Committee for Chorley:

Delete Councillor J Walker and add Councillor T Brown;

Local Development Framework and Community Strategy Working Group:

Delete Councillor S Smith and add Councillor D Edgerley.

**07.C.73 QUESTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 7**

The following question that had been submitted by Councillor D Edgerley in advance of the meeting under Procedure Rule 7 of the Council's Constitution:

"Will the Executive Member for Resources confirm that the projected level of Council balances at the end of the financial year 2007/08 is approximately £1.8 million."

The Executive Member for Resources (Councillor A Cullens), in response, indicated that he was unable to confirm at this stage the projected level of balances at the current financial year's end. The projected amount of balances would be influenced by a number of factors (eg the envisaged amount of interest payable on the Gillibrand Link Road compensation sums and the closure of the Housing Revenue Account). The final reserves could only be forecast after the next medium term financial review.

**07.C.74 NOTICE OF MOTION**

The following Notice of Motion had been proposed by Councillor D Edgerley in accordance with Procedure Rule 8 of the Council's Constitution:

"That this Council calls upon the Executive Cabinet to implement a free off-peak concessionary travel scheme across the NOW travel area within one month of tonight's meeting."

The Mayor informed the Council that, on legal advice, in the light of the potential number of Members of the Council who would need to declare a prejudicial interest in the motion, the Standards Committee would need to determine applications for dispensation to allow relevant Councillors to speak and vote on the motion.

The motion, therefore, stood adjourned to await the deliberations of the Standards Committee on the possible grant of dispensation for relevant Members.

**07.C.75 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the ground that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.**

**07.C.76 NJC JOB EVALUATION SCHEME**

The Council received and considered a confidential report of the Director of Human Resources on the results of the single status job evaluation project, a revised pay structure for the Council and an appeals process for employees. The Executive Member for Resources (Councillor A Cullens) confirmed that further evaluations were currently underway from recent restructures and were not yet contained within the pay model.

**RESOLVED - That the recommendations be approved and that, once the outstanding evaluations are complete, all employees be notified individually of the outcome of the Job Evaluation exercise in September.**

Mayor

**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE CABINET****CHORLEY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

1. The Executive Cabinet received and considered a report of the Director of Development and Regeneration seeking our endorsement of the Sustainable Resources Development Plan document to be submitted to the Government as the first policy document within Chorley's new Local Development Framework.
2. The Development Plan has been compiled and refined following a series of consultation exercises. The Borough is well placed to contribute to the reduction of the impact of climate change and the document aims, through the development control process, to achieve more sustainable methods of construction of developments which will reduce carbon emissions and enable renewable energy generation across Chorley.
3. A further six weeks' consultation period will commence following the submission of the documents to the Government, during which time formal representations can be made, with objectors having the right to appear at a public hearing before an independent Inspector. Ultimately, the Inspector's recommendations on the document will be binding.
4. The Executive Cabinet endorsed the draft Sustainable Resources Development Plan (subject to two minor textual changes) and commend it for approval to the full Council. A copy of the relevant Development Plan document, together with a copy of the Director's report considered by the Executive Cabinet, is attached so that the Council is aware of all factors to be considered.

**Recommendations**

5. The Council is accordingly recommended:
  - (a) to approve the Sustainable Resources Development Plan document in the form attached for submission to the Government, subject to the Director of Development and Regeneration being delegated with authority to make minor textual and presentational amendments to the document;
  - (b) to delegate power to the Director of Development and Regeneration to approve minor amendments to the Development Plan document during the examination stage.

COUNCILLOR P MALPAS

Executive Member for Economic Development and Regeneration

There are no background papers to this report

AU



| Report of  | Meeting   | Date                               |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Director of Development and Regeneration<br>(Introduced by the Executive Member for Economic Development and Regeneration) | Local Development Framework and Community Strategy Working Group<br><br>Executive Cabinet | 30 August 07<br><br>6 September 07 |

## **CHORLEY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT SUBMISSION**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To present for endorsement/approval the Development Plan Document for Submission to Government.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S) TO COUNCIL**

2. To endorse/approve the Development Plan Document for Submission to Government subject to minor textual and presentational amendments being delegated to the Director of Development and Regeneration.
3. To delegate to the Director of Development and Regeneration powers to approve minor amendments to the Development Plan Document during the examination stage.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT**

4. Submission is the third stage of preparing a Development Plan Document and is marked by a further period of consultation. The document now presented for approval takes account of earlier representation responses. The policy content of the document has been refined to better achieve more sustainable construction and enable renewable energy generation across Chorley. The Borough is well placed to contribute to reducing the impact of climate change. However ultimately the outcome of the document's preparation will be decided by an Inspector who's recommendations will be binding on the Council.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **(If the recommendations are accepted)**

5. The Submission document needs Executive Cabinet (and Full Council) approval to comply with the Development Plan Regulations. This approval and delegated authority to make amendments will enable progress on this Corporate Strategy Key Project to keep to the published timetable.

### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

6. Alternative policy options have been considered at the previous preparation stage. The only other alternative open to the Council is to not proceed with the document however the need to help tackle climate change and to fulfil the potential of the Borough to do this, justify proceeding.

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

7. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

|  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the central Lancashire sub region |   | Improved access to public services                                |   |
| Improving equality of opportunity and life chance  |   | Develop the character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live | X |
| Involving People in their Communities  | X | Ensure Chorley is a performing Organisation                       |   |

**BACKGROUND**

8. The Submission stage is the third step in preparing a Development Plan Document. Three consultation opportunities were given at the previous Preferred Options stage and the responses received were reported to the Local Development Framework and Community Strategy Working Group at its meeting on 14 June 2007. The Preferred Options document published in March 2007 included alternative options as well as the favoured ones. Overall the representations received generally supported the preferred approaches set out and there was considerable backing for the Council’s commitment to the sustainable use of resources. The Submission document now presented for approval takes account of the comments made.
9. The next step is to submit the document to government in a form that the Council wants to adopt as the finalised version. The process is that when the document is submitted a further six week consultation process starts. During this period formal representations can be made and objectors have a right to appear at a public hearing before an independent Inspector. However the Inspector will examine the whole document (irrespective of which parts are objected to) and will also consider how the document has been prepared using the tests of soundness – see Appendix 2 of the attached document.
10. The Inspector has the power to find the document ‘unsound’ and force the Council to redo it. Alternatively he/she can impose minor changes that the Council will be duty bound to include in the finalised adopted version. If no objectors wish to attend a public hearing the examination process will be carried out through an exchange of written representations. The attached document includes the envisaged timescale for completing the preparation process.
11. In response to representations and/or any queries raised by the Inspector it may be appropriate for the Council to propose minor amendments to the Development Plan Document at short notice during the examination process. To enable these changes to be put forward quickly Officer delegated decisions are likely to be required although Executive Member consultation would be carried out.

**CONTENT OF SUBMISSION DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT**

12. The overall scope of the document (annexed to this report) remains similar to before:
  - To ensure most types of new development are more sustainable in terms of energy use and capture, sourcing of construction materials as well as water use and waste recycling through the incorporation of various building design features - Policy SR1
  - To enable where appropriate, stand-alone renewable energy schemes to be built – Policy SR2

13. The overall aim is to contribute to tackling climate change and reducing other adverse environmental impacts. Policy SR1 is proposed to apply to developments of 5 or more dwellings or non-residential units of 500 or more square metres floorspace. This is a compromise approach between other options previously consulted on which included applying the provisions to all developments irrespective of size and, at the other extreme, applying the provisions to schemes of more than 10 dwellings/over 1000 square metres floorspace.
14. Policy SR2, relating to stand-alone renewable energy schemes, is based on the preferred option previously consulted in that it seeks to ensure there is no unacceptable impact on landscape character and visual appearance.
15. To try to ensure that the policy objectives are met each policy is backed by a series of implementation targets with the aim that these will be progressively increased over time. The approach the Council is taking is in line with national and regional policies and advice but is ahead in terms of the implementation timetable. Full account has also been taken of Chorley's and Lancashire's Community Strategies.
16. Clearly the Borough needs to make a contribution to solving the global problem of climate change and the local research shows the area is well placed to do this, particularly in terms of capturing renewable energy. It will be beneficial for residents and businesses to be at the forefront of implementing these advanced building techniques as it will reduce building running costs, encourage innovation and develop construction skills for wide scale application.

**CONCLUSION**

17. It has taken longer than originally expected to get to the Submission stage because of the problems, that many authorities have also had, in fully appreciating the particular preparation requirements of the new development plan system. However, although every effort has now been made to comply with the procedures and policy presentation the Council will ultimately be in the hands of the examining Inspector.
18. Doing a topic base document like this, ahead of an overarching Core Strategy document (at an earlier stage of joint working preparation with Preston and South Ribble Councils), is now frowned upon by the Planning Inspectorate. There is therefore a risk the work will be abortive and hence wasteful of resources as well as harmful to the reputation of the Council. Nevertheless some authorities have successfully taken the route proposed and the justification for pursuing this approach in Chorley is considered strong and backed by the Government Office for the North West.

**IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT**

19. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

|                 |   |                        |  |
|-----------------|---|------------------------|--|
| Finance         | X | Customer Services      |  |
| Human Resources |   | Equality and Diversity |  |
| Legal           | X |                        |  |

**COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

20. There are no immediate financial implications associated with this report. However should the document need to be amended significantly then further costs may be incurred. However, funds have been set aside with regards to the Local Development Framework process and such costs would need to be contained within this sum. The targets contained in the report for improvements dealing with climate change may require the Council to commit further resources. An action plan needs to be created as to how the targets will be achieved. Once complete I will report back to Members regarding the financial implications. Such costs are likely to be mainly capital in nature and will require the Council to consider any resource requirements along with other priorities during the creation of the updated financial strategy and future capital programmes.

**COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMER, DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL SERVICES**

21. The decision of the Cabinet with regards to the contents of the Development Plan will have effect as a recommendation to full Council. This document forms part of the Council's policy framework and, as such, full Council must give its approval before it is submitted to the Secretary of State

JANE E MEEK  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

There are no background papers to this report.

| <b>Report Author</b>         | <b>Ext</b> | <b>Date</b>  | <b>Doc ID</b>                         |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Louise Nurser/Julian Jackson | 5281/5280  | 14 August 07 | T/SR SUBMISSION DPD MEMBER<br>REPOORT |



Chorley Borough  
Local Development  
Framework

# **Chorley into 2016: Sustainable Resources**

## **Submission Development Plan Document**

**October 2007**



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

**This information can be made available to you in larger print or on audio tape, or translated into your own language. Please telephone 01257 515281 to access this service.**

આ માહિતીનો અનુવાદ આપની પોતાની ભાષામાં કરી શકાય છે. આ સેવા સરળતાથી મેળવવા માટે કૃપા કરી, આ નંબર પર ફોન કરો: 01257 515822

ان معلومات کا ترجمہ آپ کی اپنی زبان میں بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ یہ خدمت استعمال کرنے کیلئے براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر ٹیلیفون کیجئے: 01257 515823

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## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework





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## How to make Comments and Contents

### How to Make Comments

This document has been prepared for consultation and community involvement. Comments can be made in any of the following ways:

- By post:** Planning Policy Section  
Chorley Borough Council  
Council Offices  
Union Street  
Chorley PR7 1AL
- By fax:** 01257 515478
- By e-mail:** [planning.policy@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@chorley.gov.uk)
- On-line:** [www.chorley.gov.uk/planning](http://www.chorley.gov.uk/planning)

For comments to be considered they must be received by the Planning Policy Team by no later than 5pm \*\*\* \*\* 2007. Respondents are asked to use the representations form a copy of which is appended to the back of this document.

Representations will be analysed by the local authority and the main issues arising will be sent to the Secretary of State along with copies of the representations made. It may be possible for minor amendments to wording to be made during the subsequent Examination stage. However, no substantive change will be possible.

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## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 1. About this document

1. This document aims through the control of the grant of planning permissions to enable the inclusion of sustainable methods of construction within residential, commercial and other developments that will reduce carbon emissions; manage water supplies; source construction materials; encourage the recycling of waste and promote renewable energy capture. The document also covers stand-alone renewable energy capture schemes.
  - *In relation to recycling, 78% of those who expressed a positive opinion supported the requirement for “employment and housing developments to make provision for the storage of wheelie bins and other recycling bins/containers”.*
  - *75% of those who expressed an opinion supported the production of policies, “which are positive about renewable energy schemes (including preferred locations) but which also provide protection from negative impacts upon the local environment, landscape and homes.”*
2. This is the first policy document within Chorley’s new Local Development Framework (the new style local development plan). It relates to one specific topic and will, as other Development Plan Documents are produced, result in a folder of planning policies relating to spatial development in the Borough. The document and the evidence based used to prepare it will influence the forthcoming Core Strategy of the Local Development Framework. The implementation of the document is also supported by a Sustainable Resources Supplementary Planning Document. This was issued in draft form in March 2006 and will be finalised following the adoption of this Development Plan Document.
3. The specific policies set out in this Submission stage document can be traced back to initial consultation work on the Issues and Options facing Chorley Borough. This took place in the autumn of 2004. The main findings were:
  - *80% of respondents supported the encouragement of “small scale renewable energy schemes on new and existing developments”.*
  - *75% of those who expressed an opinion supported the production of policies, “which are positive about renewable energy schemes (including preferred*
4. Building on the results of this work a Preferred Options document has been consulted upon. The most recent Preferred Options consultation started in March 2007. This consultation set out a number of options and made clear that it was possible to bring forward options that had not previously been considered by the Council. Previous consultation took place on the Preferred Options Development Plan (March 2006 and June 2006). The representations made at the Preferred Options stage generally supported the proposed policy options to:
  - *Include a requirement for renewable energy to be generated on site as part of a planning permission.*
  - *Ensure developments are designed in an energy efficient and sustainable way to include materials, design, climate proofing and waste management.*
  - *Set out a criteria based policy on stand-alone renewable energy generation schemes.*





## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 1. About this document

5. This Submission stage Development Plan Document takes into account the representations that were made relating to the Preferred Options Document, as well as changes to the national and regional policy context. It sets out detailed spatial planning policies that reflect the local distinctiveness of Chorley Borough and proposes how the policies can be implemented and monitored. These will help the Council to meet its responsibility to reduce the effects of climate change and lessen other adverse impacts on the environment.

***Sustainability Appraisal involves considering the social, economic and environmental impacts of the policies in this document.***

6. Sustainability Appraisal work has tested and informed the options from which the detailed policies are derived. Appendix 1 provides more details. The separate Sustainability Appraisal Report goes into considerable detail and it can be concluded that the two policies proposed will have a positive impact for Chorley. Following a Screening Report process it is not considered necessary to undertake an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Regulations Assessment.

***Habitats Regulation Assessment requires a determination of whether a proposed plan in combination with other plans and projects is likely to have a significant effect on sites designated for the protection of habitats and species of European importance. If significant effects are likely Appropriate Assessment is required to determine whether the plan would adversely affect the integrity of the sites.***

7. This submission stage Development Plan Document was approved for consultation at the Council meeting on 18 September 2007. Representations can be made to this document during the six week period X October Y- November 2007.
8. Following this period of consultation the representations will be forwarded to the Secretary of State who will appoint an independent Planning Inspector to examine the Soundness of the Development Plan Document and set out recommendations that will be binding on the Council.

***The term "Soundness" relates to nine tests set out in Appendix 2. These relate to the three broad headings of Procedural; Conformity; Coherence, Consistency and Effectiveness. It may be that all of those who have made comments are content to submit written representations. In such a circumstance there would be no public sitting of the Examination.***

9. The envisaged timetable for the remaining preparation process is set out below:
- Submission to Secretary of State - October 2007.
  - Pre-examination meeting – February 2008.
  - Public Examination - April 2008.
  - Adoption – November 2008.

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## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 2. Background

10. This Development Plan Document sets out what policies the Council intends to use when considering planning applications to ensure that the impacts of new development on climate change, and on the environment generally, are as benign as possible. It relates to energy efficiency, the reduction in carbon emissions, construction that is adaptable to climate change, as well as the promotion of renewable energy generation and the wider issue of waste reduction. It will also act as a promotional document to encourage all partners with an interest in the Chorley area to work towards the objective of sustainable development. It has been prepared in close co-operation with a number of stakeholders, in particular United Utilities, the Environment Agency and Natural England.
11. It takes into account the objectives of relevant national, regional and local strategies as well as the distinctive characteristics of Chorley Borough. It also draws heavily on the 2005 report 'Opportunities for Renewable Energy in Chorley'. This detailed evidence demonstrates that there is very significant potential to capture renewable sources of energy in the Borough.
12. So as to keep this policy document short detailed supporting background information is contained in separate documents<sup>1</sup>.
13. Given the fast evolving nature of relevant technologies and related legislation a detailed (draft) Supplementary Planning Document on Sustainable Resources<sup>2</sup>
14. This Development Plan Document has been prepared in advance of the Core Strategy of the Local Development Framework. This is because Chorley is very well placed to be a leading authority in sustainable resources in the North West and, given the compelling imperative of climate change, as well as the requirements of the Borough Community Strategy, the sooner such principles and policies are implemented the better.
15. Transport is a major user of fossil fuels and contributor to global warming. Issues concerning the location of developments, and accessibility by different types of transport will be considered in policies to be contained in the forthcoming Core Strategy.

## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

1 Technical Supporting Documents are available either from the Council's Offices or on the Council's web site.  
 2 To be finalised and adopted once the Council has receipt of the Inspector's recommendations following the Examination of this Development Plan Document.



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 3. National Context

16. The purpose of the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006 is to, “ enhance the United Kingdom’s contribution to combating change.” Local authorities such as Chorley Council are required to:

- Improve efficiency in the use of energy.
- Increase the amount of electricity or heat through micro generation or other low emission technology or source.
- Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases.
- Reduce the numbers of households living in fuel poverty.

**Greenhouse gases are those in the atmosphere which prevent the sun’s heat reflected from the earth’s surface from escaping into outer space and so contribute to global warming. The most common greenhouse gas is carbon dioxide.**

**A household is said to be in fuel poverty if it needs to spend more than 10% of its income on fuel to adequately heat their home.**

17. Policies in this document directly relate to these requirements.

18. The Government’s objective is to cut the United Kingdom’s carbon emissions by 60% by 2050 with real interim progress towards this by 2020. Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 22 - ‘Renewable Energy’ sets out how the planning system will contribute to this. More specifically PPS22 states that, “*the wider environmental and economic benefits of all proposals for renewable energy projects, whatever their scale, are material considerations that should be given significant weight in determining whether*

*projects should be granted planning permission.*”

19. The now former, Chancellor referred to all new homes being “zero carbon” by 2016 in his pre-Budget Statement in December 2006. This requirement has been reiterated in the recent Housing Green Paper. The draft Planning Policy Statement: ‘Planning and Climate Change’ (a supplement to PPS1) was released for consultation in December 2006. This made clear that spatial planning has an important role in combating global warming and that this role is central to both producing development plan documents and to assessing planning applications. Due to the importance of climate change the draft PPS supplement states that all substantial developments should include renewable energy capture so as to reduce carbon emissions by at least 10% irrespective of whether there is an adopted planning policy seeking to do this.

20. The Stern Review: ‘The Economics of Climate Change’ (2006) has set out the important role that planning has in combating climate change and that, “the costs of stabilising the climate are significant but manageable and that delay would be dangerous and much more costly”.

21. Building Regulations that set minimum construction standards, have become increasingly strict and will continue to be more challenging particularly in the use of energy. The Code for Sustainable Homes published in December 2006, sets out a standard, easily recognisable rating for sustainable homes. All publicly funded houses will be required to reach Level 3 of the Code which is significantly more stringent than the current Building Regulations.





## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 3. National Context

***The Code for Sustainable Homes is a progressive six stage set of construction and other development requirements.***

***More details are available on [www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk). The Code is a development of the Building Research Establishment BREEAM ratings for 'EcoHomes' - more details are available on [www.breeam.org.uk](http://www.breeam.org.uk)***

22. The consultation document 'Building a Greener Future: Towards Zero Carbon Development' has as its objective that by 2016 new homes will produce no carbon emissions. That is rated as Code 6 of the Code for Sustainable Homes. This rating does not just relate to the energy efficiency of a building but also to the wider sustainability of the development. It suggests that by 2008 it would be mandatory for all new homes to have a Code rating. It also sets out a draft timetable as to when each higher Code level is likely to be reflected in the Building Regulations. The Sustainable Code is similar to the BREEAM ratings for the non-domestic sector. The policies in this Development Plan Document directly relate to these measures.
23. Also in December 2006, a consultation document on 'Water Efficiency in New Buildings' was published. This stresses the importance of reducing water usage and considers that the best way forward is through amendments to the Building Regulations.
24. All new developments now require an Energy Performance Certificate. This also relates to the sale of older properties except for some smaller homes, which are likely to be included in the future.
25. This Development Plan Document is the local response to implementing these national objectives and ensuring that Chorley businesses and residents alike are able to benefit from good forward thinking design and best practice.

### 4. Strategic Context

26. Once adopted this Sustainable Resources Development Plan Document, together with saved policies from the Chorley Borough Local Plan Review, and other forthcoming Development Plan Documents within the Local Development Framework, the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan will make up the Development Plan. Advice set out in Planning Policy Statements is not replicated in this document as under the new planning system it is considered unnecessary to duplicate published national planning policies.
27. The current Regional Spatial Strategy is the Regional Planning Guidance for the North West adopted in March 2003. This will be replaced by a new Regional Spatial Strategy which is intended to be adopted in 2008. Until this Strategy is adopted the Joint Lancashire Structure Plan adopted in March 2005 remains part of the Development Plan. Work is taking place on replacing the Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan but until the new Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Development Framework is adopted, this will continue to be the relevant planning document relating to waste issues.



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 4. Strategic Context

In the interests of brevity Appendix 3 separately refers to the relevant strategic policies. The Waste Minimisation Supplementary Planning Document is very relevant to this policy document and can be viewed at <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/lmwlp/index.asp>.

28. These strategic documents and the national policy statements provide pointers to the detailed policy specific to Chorley that should be contained within the Local Development Framework, under the umbrella term of 'Sustainable Resources'. They fully support the spatial objectives set out below including the objective of setting site-specific targets for renewable energy generation.
29. In July 2006 the North West Regional Assembly published 'Advancing Sustainable Energy - A Sustainable Energy Strategy For the North West'. This makes clear that all energy users of the North West have a responsibility to cut their carbon emissions.
30. The Lancashire Economic Partnership's Lancashire Environmental Strategy includes Energy and Environmental Technology as one of its Regional Priorities in the development of the Knowledge Economy. Therefore the development of a strong local demand for renewable technology, energy saving installations, design and practical construction/manufacturing skills, will directly contribute to this regional priority.

#### How the Objectives of the Community Strategies relate to the Sustainable Resources Development Plan Document.

31. Ambition Lancashire 2005-2025 is the

<sup>3</sup> Chorley Borough's Community Strategy 2005-2025 was published in October 2005.

Community Strategy for Lancashire. It sets out a number of actions amongst which the following have a direct link to policies SR1 and SR2 of the Sustainable Resources Development Plan.

32. The Actions are to:
  - Promote energy efficiency in the domestic and business sector, especially among the most intensive users.
  - Encourage the development and deployment of renewable energy technology.
33. In developing Chorley Borough's own Community Strategy<sup>3</sup> there was close working during the initial preparation of the Local Development Framework. Planning Officers attended the meetings that took place with the public during consultation on the early stages of the Community Strategy. This joint working prepared the ground for the Issues and Options Paper of the Local Development Framework published in the autumn of 2004. This, in turn, directly influenced the two policies SR1: Incorporating Sustainable Resources into New Development and SR2: Renewable Energy. Appendix 4 sets out the relevant extracts from Chorley's Community Strategy.
34. One of the related actions of the Chorley Community Strategy is to develop a sustainable energy strategy for the Borough by 2008. This falls within Goal 1 of the Community Strategy to, "Improve our urban and rural surrounds and enhance the wildlife of the borough to provide an attractive environment for residents, visitors, and



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 4. Strategic Context

investors.” The Sustainable Resources Development Plan Document and the additional information that is contained within the Supplementary Planning Document will be complementary to this.

35. The Chorley Community Strategy also refers to waste minimisation, increased recycling and improvements in the energy efficiency of private sector housing. Reducing waste, ensuring that recycling facilities are designed into all developments at the planning application stage and that developments are designed to be energy efficient are all considerations that are directly addressed in the policies in this Development Plan Document. Appendix 4 illustrates the large number of partners that are working together with the Council on these shared priorities. Partners include the Chorley and South Ribble Home Improvement Agency, energy suppliers, Lancashire County Council, Chorley Civic Society, the North West Development Agency, the Chamber of Commerce, local businesses, Sustainability Northwest, the Environment Agency, local businesses and Lancashire Community Development Limited (LCDL). Both Ambition

Lancashire and Chorley’s Community Strategy are currently being reconsidered. Early indications are that climate change is increasingly moving up the local agenda and will feature more prominently in revised versions of these Community Strategies.

#### Other Relevant Strategies/Regulations

36. Normally, built developments require at least two types of approval - planning permission and Building Regulations consent. The latter is more concerned with ensuring that buildings are well built in terms of meeting construction standards and are safe to use. However, the scope of Building Regulations is expanding. Part L came into force in April 2006. This considerably increases the requirement for energy efficiency albeit not necessarily requiring the integration of renewable energy capture. This Development Plan Document is primarily concerned with planning requirements but while some of these will be backed up through the implementation of the Building Regulations developers will be encouraged to exceed these minimum standards.

### 5. Issues and Evidence Specific to Chorley Borough

37. There is national and international consensus that global warming is a fact and that one way to prevent the negative impacts of global warming is to reduce carbon emissions.
38. To do this and for Chorley to play its part in tackling climate change it is important to minimise resource demand, cut unnecessary use, increase efficiency and generate renewable energy. This includes the sustainable sourcing and reuse of construction materials and the recycling of

waste. Chorley Borough has the one of the highest rates of domestic waste recycling (including composting) in the country (over 40% of all such waste in 2007). The space demands on households to sort, and temporarily store, waste for recycling are large and the design of new housing should take account of this to ensure the high rates improve further. Other forms of development require to be designed to facilitate the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle.





## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 5. Issues and Evidence Specific to Chorley Borough

39. Initiatives such as energy reduction, water management and energy efficiency are important. These can be achieved effectively by planning policy implementation. It is unlikely that there will be any obvious negative impact on Chorley's environment from implementing these initiatives.
40. However, the generation of power from renewable sources is dependent on the physical environment. This is self-evidently specific to Chorley Borough. The environment of Chorley, including its climate and topography provides both opportunities and restrictions. The following describes the physical characteristics of the Borough.
41. In the east of the Borough are sparsely populated upland areas forming part of the West Pennine Moors. On the lower slopes are stone built villages. The central part of the Borough, between the M6 and M61 motorways, is more built up, with the principal market and former mill town of Chorley and to the south Adlington, which is an important engineering centre, and the former mining/textiles township of Coppull. To the north of Chorley town are the settlements of Clayton-le-Woods, Euxton and Whittle-le-Woods, which have expanded considerably through suburban developments since the 1960s. The west of the Borough is typically lowland countryside which becomes flatter further to the west as it becomes part of the Lancashire Plain. Here, red brick villages are characteristic, the largest being Eccleston and Croston, which experienced some suburban growth in the second half of the 20th century.
42. Around 70% of the Chorley Borough is within the Green Belt. There are no Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty but there are 9 designated Conservation Areas, 422 Listed Buildings (of architectural or historic interest), and 2 nature conservation Sites of Special Scientific Interest.
43. Chorley is a generally affluent Borough but there are pockets of deprivation with households living in fuel poverty. The local Home Improvement Agency is working with Chorley and South Ribble Councils to remove fuel poverty. The Borough also has a higher than average level of residents who describe their health as 'not good' and who are therefore more likely to have higher energy requirements.
44. In 2005 the Council published a report on 'Opportunities for Renewable Energy in Chorley'. This concluded work done by a working party made up of representatives from Renewables Northwest, Sustainability Northwest (sponsored by the GONW), the Council, the public and other stakeholders. This report is a significant part of the evidence base on which this Sustainable Resources Development Plan Document is based.
45. The Report referred to the following energy sources:
- Wind
  - Hydro
  - Landfill gas
  - Biomass
  - Solar
  - Anaerobic digestion
  - Ground source heat
46. The separate draft Sustainable Resources Supplementary Planning Document, includes maps that were taken from this Report. The maps were presented at the second of two workshops attended by the public, interested



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 5. Issues and Evidence Specific to Chorley Borough

amenity groups and developers. These maps show the various opportunities for capturing renewable energy within Chorley Borough. They do not define areas where there will be a presumption in favour of developing a particular form of energy capture nor do they preclude such installations being developed outside of these areas. In line with national advice it is considered more appropriate that these maps be contained within a Supplementary Planning Document but they will inform consideration of any planning applications for stand-alone renewable energy generation schemes.

47. This research work has been complemented by a study undertaken by the Lovejoy Consultancy in a report that sets out landscape sensitivity to wind turbine development in Lancashire. Excerpts from this will be included in the adopted version of the Supplementary Planning Guidance. However the report shows there are extensive areas of the Borough with a low landscape sensitivity to wind development.
48. In addition, it is important to note that the average rainfall at the nearest weather station to Chorley Borough is 871 mm per year, compared to the national average of 838 mm<sup>4</sup>. Therefore, this is significant in that there is the opportunity to utilise this on site in buildings and so save money and resources through not treating water. However high rainfall is also a threat in that surface water run-off needs to be managed effectively to reduce the risk of localised flooding.
49. The conclusions of the 'Opportunities for Renewable Energy in Chorley' report were

that given the specific natural resources of the Borough, in particular wind, there are many opportunities for renewable energy generation to be integrated into proposed and existing developments (micro-generation) and for viable stand-alone renewable energy schemes.

50. These locally distinctive characteristics of Chorley Borough, backed by the research evidence demonstrates the ample opportunities to utilise these natural resources and leads to the following spatial vision.

## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

4 [www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/averages/19712000](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/averages/19712000) sites





## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 6. Spatial Vision for Chorley for the use of Sustainable Resources

The following is a positive spatial vision for Chorley:

***“That by 2016, the principles of sustainable development and, in particular, a positive attitude to reducing carbon emissions, will run through all development activity, with Chorley Borough Council acknowledged as a leading authority enabling residents and businesses to reap economic, social and environmental benefits.”***

51. The following objectives are derived from this vision:

- Promote the reduction of energy requirements in new developments.
- Minimise waste production and encourage the recycling of waste products in new developments.
- Require the use of construction materials which have been re-used or come from sustainable sources.
- Manage water in a sustainable manner, reducing consumption and making greater use of recycled water in new developments.
- Impose clearly signalled year on year targets for the energy requirements of buildings to be met on site by renewable energy capture.
- Increase year on year installed renewable energy capacity in the Borough.

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## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

## 7. The Development Plan Policies

### Policy SR1: Incorporating Sustainable Resources into New Development

Subject to other planning policies, planning permission for development will only be granted on proposals of 5 or more dwellings or non-residential units of 500 sq metres or more floor space where all of the following criteria are satisfied;

- (a) Evidence is set out to demonstrate that the design and layout of the building minimises energy use, maximises energy efficiency and is flexible enough to withstand climate change and;
- (b) At least 20% of the building materials to be used will come from recycled sources which minimise the energy costs of production, with all other materials to be sustainably sourced and;
- (c) Appropriate renewable energy power generation equipment is to be installed and implemented to reduce the carbon emissions of predicted energy use by at least 10%. (This minimum figure is to increase to 15% for any applications received from 2010 and to 20% by 2015 onwards) and;
- (d) The use of non-grey water is to be minimised and the quality, quantity and amenity of surface water is to be managed through the implementation of sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate and;
- (e) Appropriate storage space is to be provided for recyclable waste materials and composting and;
- (f) If the proposed development lies within a nationally designated area, such as a Conservation Area or affects a Listed Building, it will still be expected to satisfy the criteria above through the sensitive integration of energy efficiency measures and micro-generation techniques such that there are no adverse impacts on the character of designated features of the historic and natural environment or their wider settings.

This will be formalised by dwellings being required to meet Level 3 of the Code for Sustainable Homes by 2010, Level 4 by 2013 and Level 6 by 2016. All other buildings should be rated "very good" under the BREEAM standards from 2010.

The Council will encourage other developments to integrate such principles into any building works that they may undertake.



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

# 7. The Development Plan Policies

### Reasoned Justification

52. Chorley is well placed to provide new development that can be designed in a sustainable way. It also currently produces relatively high levels of carbon emissions. The Borough is very rich in natural renewable resources and the way its towns and villages have developed mean that the problems experienced in heavily built up urban areas, such as issues of wind turbulence, and over-shadowing are for the most part avoided. Ground conditions are such that it is generally suitable for ground source heat. This allows the straight-forward integration of micro-generation technologies into building design. There is no shortage of land for development and the Council has made no secret of its proposed challenging requirements for new developments to be built sustainably. The requirements of this policy have been clearly sign-posted over a time period and would not impact on the economics of bringing forward sites for development. Consequently, the policy should be applicable throughout the Borough.
53. The requirement to design a building to be as carbon efficient as possible and to include renewable energy capture facilities should be integrated into the design process from the outset. This will result in financial savings to the developer compared to a situation where such technologies are only considered late on in the process of designing a building.
54. On the whole, areas of visual or historic sensitivity within Chorley Borough will be able to integrate appropriate renewable energy features to satisfy this policy. If it were considered that the special circumstances of the statutory protection would be compromised by the implementation of this policy then this requirement would not be insisted upon. However, the Council would need to be persuaded that a serious attempt had been made to integrate energy efficiency measures and renewable energy capacity in the building design. The fact that a building is Listed for its historic or architectural importance would not in itself be a reason not to implement the policy. The National Trust has been able to integrate such requirements in some of its properties without harm. Further advice is found on the website [www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk).
55. Detailed advice and links to useful organisations is set out in the Sustainable Resources Supplementary Planning Document. It covers topics such as energy use, waste recycling, materials, water, and renewable energy capture. This useful document is applicable to all developments irrespective of whether planning permission is required.
56. The sustainable management of construction waste is included within this policy to ensure that developers are aware of their responsibility set out in the Lancashire Minerals Waste Local Plan and Joint Lancashire Structure Plan and the existing and emerging Regional Spatial Strategies to minimise waste. It also has a significant impact on the carbon used in developments. A Supplementary Planning Document on Waste Minimisation has been produced by the Joint Lancashire Planning Authorities that gives greater guidance on this subject. This includes what information should be included in the Design and Access Statement (required to accompany any planning application) in relation to waste minimisation and the recycling of





## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### 7. The Development Plan Policies

construction materials. The figure of 20% of materials from renewable sources is considered reasonable and has not been objected to during any of the earlier preparatory work on this document.

57. The integration of renewable energy capture into developments is increasingly becoming the norm. As technologies improve, amendments are made to permitted development rights and the comparative costs of micro-generation technologies come down it will be less onerous for a fixed proportion of a development's energy requirements to be generated on site. Therefore to ensure that challenging targets set are met, the amount of carbon emissions to be saved through energy generated by developments, will be increased over time depending on when planning permission is granted. A result of this will be that fuel costs are less of a liability for businesses and residents alike. This is evidently important for the elderly and other vulnerable people.
58. Applicants are required to demonstrate in their Design and Access Statement (submitted to accompany a planning application) how the integration of renewable energy capture will be able to reduce carbon emissions. Details of how the developer is to submit information on carbon reduction will be integrated in to proposals will be included in the Sustainable Resources Supplementary Planning Document.
59. However, developers will be required to set out the overall energy consumption of the development expressed in kilowatt hours broken down into power source, ie gas and electricity. Then this will then be converted into carbon emissions. The developer would then have to reduce the applicable % carbon emissions by integrating renewable energy capture on site. Evidently a reduction in the energy required to support a development will result in a smaller amount of energy being required to be generated through the integration of renewable energy generation. If a developer does consider that they do not have access to a reasonable approximation of the future energy requirements of the property they will be able to use an accepted industry standard. However, if they have designed the building to be energy efficient in line with the policy the standard figures are likely to be higher than the actual energy requirement. This would result in the generation of more renewable energy than required by the standards and potentially more costs. Therefore it is in the applicant's interest to provide accurate information.
60. The introduction of a Local Area Network (a decentralised energy supply) would be encouraged on larger developments. This has the advantage of being efficient as the energy does not have far to travel from source to use and therefore less is lost in transit. It also has the advantage of not requiring separate renewable energy installations in individual buildings.
61. The responsible use of water resources such as low volume taps in toilets and bathrooms and water efficient appliances paired with simple methods such as including water butts in gardens can help save water. Developments should be designed to cope with extremes of weather, including flash flooding, through the avoidance of large areas of hard standing.
62. The integration of appropriate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) is an important way to deal with these challenges. However, in the past there have been issues regarding who is responsible for the



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maintenance of such systems. Therefore, when a SUDS is integrated into a development, planning permission will not be granted until a realistic management scheme has been negotiated. An interim Code of Practice for SUDS has been developed by the National SUDS Working Group and can be accessed at [www.ciria.org/suds/icop.htm](http://www.ciria.org/suds/icop.htm)

63. It is important that developments whether they are for residential or commercial use provide adequate space for refuse waste to be collected and stored otherwise it may be difficult to increase recycling rates in line with the targets set.
64. Conditions will be imposed on planning permissions to ensure that the reduction in carbon emissions is retained over the life of the development. All the above principles of good design and sustainable development should be considered even where planning permission is not required for a development or other works.
65. A good example of where planning permission may not be required but the policy has an influence is the improvement of energy efficiency of vulnerable people's homes. This has a direct impact on the reduction of fuel poverty. Chorley is working in partnership with South Ribble Borough Council and the local Home Improvement Agency to reduce fuel poverty.
66. The following indicators, targets and milestones will be monitored through the Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report. Higher targets will be pursued if monitoring shows the minimum provisions are being frequently exceeded.
67. Not all the measurements are restricted to
- development that can be controlled through planning permissions. This reflects the spatial planning and corporate activity of the Council and its partners and interested stakeholders.
68. Some of these targets may be shared.
69. Policy SR1 relates to the following spatial objectives:
- Promote the reduction of energy requirements in new developments.
  - Minimise waste production and encourage the recycling of waste products in new developments.
  - Require the use of construction materials that have been re-used or come from sustainable sources.
  - Manage water in a sustainable manner, reducing consumption and making greater use of recycled water in new developments.
  - Impose clearly signalled year on year targets for the energy requirements of buildings to be met on site by renewable energy capture.

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70. These can be monitored in the following way:

| Performance Indicator  | Baseline   | Interim Milestone                         | Target  | How Collected  |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| SAP (The Government's Standard Assessment Procedure for Energy Rating of a dwelling) for housing in the public sector. | 2004/05<br>69  | 2009/10<br>74                             | 2014/15<br>80                                       | Already collected as Best Value Performance Indicator – detailed information re housing ie construction and insulation etc analysed using standard software. |
| SAP ratings for housing in the private sector.   | 2004/05<br>49  | 2009/10<br>55                             | 2014/15<br>67                                       | Already collected as Best Value Performance Indicator – detailed information re housing ie construction and insulation analysed using standard software.     |
| Number of vulnerable households living in fuel poverty.  | 2004<br>7.2%   | -   | 2010<br>Zero  | To be measured using a calculation of household expenses, wages and fuel cost.   |
| Number of existing properties installing cavity wall insulation.   | 2005/06<br>524   | 2009/10<br>Increase by 15% above baseline | 2014/15<br>Increase by 30%                          | To be measured through Building Regulation notifications.  |
| Tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> per capita for domestic emissions.   | 2004<br>2.9 tonnes   | -   | 2020<br>To be in top three performers in Lancashire | To be measured through Government data <sup>5</sup> .  |
| Tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> per capita.  | 2004<br>10.24 MW (Current North West average per capita 9.04 MW) | -   | 2015<br>To be at or below North West Average        | To be measured through Government data <sup>6</sup> .  |



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5 [www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/globalatmos/download/regionalrpt](http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/globalatmos/download/regionalrpt)  
6 [ibid](#)





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| Performance Indicator  | Baseline         | Interim Milestone                 | Target  | How Collected   |
|--|------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Percentage of household waste recycled.  | 2006/07<br>23.6% | 2009/10<br>To be at least 25.5%   | 2015<br>Long term target for household waste to be recycled and composted | Detailed information re recycling and composting already collected as Best Value.         |
| Percentage of household waste composted.   | 2006/07<br>20%   | 2009/10<br>To be at least 24.5%   |   |   |
| Percentage of households served by kerbside collection for recyclables.                                | 2006/07<br>98%   | -                                 | 2010<br>100%  | Detailed information already collected as Best Value Performance Indicator.               |
| Percentage of developments over threshold reducing carbon emissions at requisite level.                | None             | 2009/10<br>To be 90% of approvals | 2015/16<br>100%   | To be measured through monitoring of planning applications and Building Regulations data. |
| Percentage of all developments over threshold hitting Code for Sustainable Homes and BREEAM standards. | None             | 2009/10<br>To be 90% of approvals | 2015/16<br>100%   | To be measured through monitoring of planning applications and Building Regulations data. |

71 To date it is difficult to measure the use of construction materials on site and the use of water. However, as soon as an easily verified method of monitoring is found this will be included within the Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report.

but wish to undertake high quality development. An example of which, would be the refurbishment of existing properties.

72. The policy will be implemented on the whole through the development control (planning application) function of the Council. Other Council departments are working together towards meeting these targets in concert with the Chorley Partnership (the Local Strategic Partnership). However the policy, together with the draft Supplementary Planning Document, should provide guidance for those who do not necessarily require planning permission for what they are proposing to do

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## SR2: Renewable Energy Schemes

Proposals for renewable energy schemes will be supported and planning permission granted where the following criteria are met:

- (a) The proposal would not have an unacceptable impact on the landscape character and visual appearance of the local area, including the urban environment.
- (b) The reason for the designation of a site with statutory protection would not be compromised by the development.
- (c) Any noise, odour, traffic or other impact of development is mitigated so as not to cause unacceptable detriment to local amenity.
- (d) No significant harm will be caused to local nature, ecology and biodiversity and any adverse impact will be appropriately mitigated and/or compensatory provisions are made.
- (e) Any significant adverse local affects of the proposal are outweighed by wider environmental, social and economic benefits.

73. Planning Policy Statement 22 - 'Renewable Energy' and the Government's commitment to increasing the amount of energy derived from renewable sources means that applications for stand-alone schemes are required to be considered positively. If in the future Chorley had already met its proportion for the targets for renewable energy generation set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy this would not have any influence in determining any application.
74. The joint study undertaken by Renewables North West and Sustainability Northwest, 'Opportunities for Renewable Energy in Chorley', makes clear that Chorley is well placed to contribute to regional and national targets for energy from renewable sources.
75. These areas of opportunity include urban industrial and employment sites, as well as the rural areas. Chorley is well placed to utilise the high winds from the south west. Much of the Borough is open and exposed to

these prevailing winds with the West Pennine Moors rising to the east. However, actual windspeeds or the commercial viability of developments cannot be taken into account when considering applications.

76. Other technologies such as anaerobic digestion, hydro-power and landfill gas could all be exploited within the Borough. Chorley has a large number of dairy farms as well a number of old water courses that could be possibly harnessed. It also includes a number of land fill tips. No technology should be discounted.
77. Any application for renewable energy generation will be required to be sensitively located and designed. Given the fast evolving nature of this relatively new sector it would be inappropriate to put much detail in the Development Plan Document but to set out broad tests of impact by which all technologies would be judged.





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78. The (draft) Supplementary Planning Document that accompanies this Development Plan Document gives detailed advice how differing technologies can be utilised and sets out in detail the impacts of the various technologies and means to mitigate any adverse effects. Additional information including links to a number of web sites such as [www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk) which provides advice relating to wind energy, climate change and historic buildings, is contained in the Supplementary Planning Document. This information will be updated quickly and regularly through the frequent review of the Supplementary Planning Document.
79. When considering development within a protected area that has a national or local designation it is important to understand what makes the area special, and in particular what impact any development would have on these characteristics whether they be visual, historic, or natural or ecological. Any development will be expected to minimise any impact, and compensatory or mitigation measures will be required. If the impact is unacceptable in relation to the objectives of the specific designation such as the setting of a Listed Building it will be refused. Developers will be expected to liaise with the relevant statutory bodies and amenity groups and organisations to ensure that ecological or other negative impacts are either avoided or mitigation measures are included. Environmental Impact Assessments may be required.
80. The Joint Lancashire Structure Plan authorities undertook research (the Lovejoy Study) on landscape sensitivity to wind development. An excerpt of the map setting out the sensitivity of the landscape to wind development is to be contained in the Supplementary Planning Document. This demonstrates a number of areas within Chorley in which there are perceived to be few visual constraints to wind development.
- 8.1 These levels of sensitivity will not be used to determine applications for wind turbines but can be used as a tool as to what types of development are likely to be appropriate in different areas of the Borough.
82. Developments incidental to energy generation will need to be sensitively implemented. For example, new means of vehicular access or connections to the national grid will be required to be well designed, and any impacts mitigated. Where appropriate the Council will ensure that planning obligations (legal agreements related to planning permissions) are used to ensure that once the development or infrastructure is no longer required it is removed and the site restored. Planning obligations will also be used for any other reason to ensure the development is acceptable.
83. Where appropriate noise impact assessments may be required as conditions to any planning permissions.
84. In line with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement, adopted in July 2006, developers are encouraged to consult with the local community prior to submitting any planning application that may prove controversial as well as major infrastructure proposals. Applicants should then provide the planning authority with a Record of Community Involvement setting out how any engagement took place, what came from it and how this affected the submitted application.



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- 85. The following indicators, targets and Local Development Framework milestones will be monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report. Higher targets will be pursued if monitoring shows that those set are being frequently exceeded.
- 86. Not all the measurements are restricted to development that can be controlled through planning permissions. This reflects the spatial planning and corporate activity of the

- Council and its partners and interested stakeholders.
- 87. Policy SR2 relates to the following spatial objective:
  - Increase year on year installed renewable energy capacity in the Borough.
- 88. This can be monitored in the following way:

| Performance Indicator   | Baseline   | Interim Milestone  | Target   | How Collected  |
|---|--|--------------------|--|--|
| Tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> per capita (all emission sources)   | 2004<br>10.24 MW<br>Current NW average per capita<br>9.04 MW | -                  | 2014/15<br>To be at or below North West England's average  | To be monitored through Government data <sup>7</sup> . |
| Mega watt of energy from renewable sources (excluding micro generation but includes energy from landfill) | As at 2005<br>4.3 MW   | 2009/10<br>13.2 MW | 2014/15<br>Greater than 16.9 MW to exceed pro rata by land mass<br>Chorley's contribution to Lancashire's sub regional targets set by the RSS. | To be measured through planning permissions.           |

- 89. This policy will be implemented through the development control function of the Council.

**Existing Policies within the Adopted Chorley Borough Local Plan Review 2003**

- 90. The two policies replace policies EP18-Surface Water Run Off; EP22-Energy Conservation; EP23-Energy from Renewables; EP24-Wind Farms.

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Sustainability Appraisal Testing of the Development Plan Policies

Sustainability Appraisal helps to promote sustainable development through the consideration of likely social environmental and economic effects of plan options, policies and proposals. The following tables outline the likely effects of implementing the policies in the Sustainable Resources Development Plan Document in relation to social, environmental and economic objectives.

Policy SR1: Incorporating Sustainable Resources into New Development

| Key to Sustainability Appraisal Effects |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| / No link                               | 0 Neutral         |
| + Minor Positive                        | - Minor Negative  |
| ++ Major Positive                       | -- Major Negative |

| Sustainability Objective   | Predicted Effects  |                      |             |           | Justification for assessment noting:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likelihood/certainty of effect occurring (high/med/low)</li> <li>Geographical scale of effect</li> <li>Temporary or permanent effect</li> <li>Assumptions made</li> <li>Recommendations for mitigation/improvement</li> </ul>  |
|--|--|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---|
|  | Nature of Effect on Baseline/Indicators  | Assessment of Effect |             |           |   |
|  |  | Short term           | Medium term | Long term |   |
| <b>Social Objectives</b>   |  |                      |             |           |   |
| 1. To reduce social exclusion  | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and reducing social exclusion.   |
| 2. To reduce the need to travel, improve choice and use of sustainable transport modes | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and reducing the need to travel, improving choice and the use of sustainable transport modes.  |
| 3. To improve physical health and mental health and reduce health inequalities         | Minor positive effect. Should have some positive health benefits in the long term in terms of increasing life expectancy and decreasing the number of residents describing their health as not good. | 0                    | 0           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to a reduction in demand for energy, greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause pollution.</li> <li>Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul> |
| 4. To improve access to good quality affordable and resource efficient housing         | Major positive effect. Will significantly increase the SAP energy ratings of homes.  | 0                    | 0           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>Assumptions made: None</li> <li>Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>   |
| 5. To reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime                                     | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and reducing crime, disorder and the fear of crime.  |





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| Sustainability Objective   | Predicted Effects  |                      |             |           | Justification for assessment noting:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likelihood/certainty of effect occurring (high/med/low)</li> <li>Geographical scale of effect</li> <li>Temporary or permanent effect</li> <li>Assumptions made</li> <li>Recommendations for mitigation/improvement</li> </ul>  |
|--|--|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---|
|  | Nature of Effect on Baseline/Indicators  | Assessment of Effect |             |           |   |
|  |  | Short term           | Medium term | Long term |   |
| 6. To enable groups and communities to contribute to decision making.  | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and enabling groups and communities to contribute to decision making.  |
| 7. To develop strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds and communities.               | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and developing strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds.  |
| 8. To improve access to an use of basic goods, services and amenities for all groups.                                    | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and improving access to and the use of basic goods, services and amenities for all groups.   |
| <b>Summary of appraisal against social objectives:</b>   |  | 0                    | 0           | +         | <b>This policy should help to improve health in the long-term and have a significant positive impact in terms of the provision of resource efficient housing, but will have a minimal impact on the other social objectives.</b>  |
| <b>Environmental Objectives</b>  |  |                      |             |           |   |
| 9. To protect, enhance and manage the diversity of cultural and built environment and archaeological assets.             | Neutral. The policy recognises that energy efficiency measures and micro generation equipment could potentially impact negatively on the appearance of designated areas or Listed Buildings. To prevent this occurring the policy requires that proposals have no adverse impact on the character of designated features of the historic environment or their wider settings. Will not affect the indicators.                        | 0                    | 0           | 0         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>Assumptions made: That the policy will prevent adverse impacts on designated areas and Listed Buildings.</li> <li>Mitigation/improvement: None. The policy provides greater protection for nationally designated areas and Listed Buildings than the options set out in the March 2007 Sustainable Resources Preferred Options document.</li> </ul>   |
| 10. To protect and enhance environmental quality, local character and accessibility of the landscape across the Borough. | Neutral. The policy recognises that energy efficiency measures and micro generation equipment could potentially impact negatively on the appearance of nationally designated areas or Listed Buildings. To prevent this occurring the policy requires that proposals have no adverse impact on the character of designated features of the historic and natural environment or their wider settings. Will not affect the indicators. | 0                    | 0           | 0         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likelihood/certainty: Uncertain as less development takes place in the countryside</li> <li>Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>Assumptions made: That the policy will prevent adverse impacts on designated areas and Listed Buildings.</li> <li>Mitigation/improvement: None. The policy provides greater protection for nationally designated areas and Listed Buildings than the options set out in the March 2007 Sustainable Resources Preferred Options document.</li> </ul> |



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| Sustainability Objective  | Predicted Effects  |                      |             |           | Justification for assessment noting:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty of effect occurring (high/med/low)</li> <li>• Geographical scale of effect</li> <li>• Temporary or permanent effect</li> <li>• Assumptions made</li> <li>• Recommendations for mitigation/improvement</li> </ul>  |
|---|--|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---|
|   | Nature of Effect on Baseline/Indicators  | Assessment of Effect |             |           |   |
|   |  | Short term           | Medium term | Long term |   |
| <b>17. To minimise the requirement for energy use, promote efficient use and increase the use of energy from renewable resources.</b> | Major positive effect. Should lead to an increase in the number of planning applications that include capacity for energy production from renewable sources, improve the SAP energy ratings of homes and increase the Borough's installed capacity for energy production from renewable sources. | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to a reduction in demand for energy, greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause pollution.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul> |
| <b>18. To minimise waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates.</b>   | Major positive effect. The policy should encourage more sustainable use of building materials and better waste management, impacting positively upon recycling rates and household waste levels.   | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will encourage more efficient use and re-use of building materials and encourage more sustainable waste management.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Summary of appraisal against environmental objectives:</b>   |  | 0                    | +           | ++        | <b>This policy should have many significant long-term positive impacts on the environment.</b>  |
| <b>Economic Objectives</b>  |  |                      |             |           |   |
| <b>19. To reduce disparities of the Borough's economic performance.</b>   | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and reducing disparities of the Borough's economic performance.  |
| <b>20. To exploit the growth potential of business sectors.</b>   | Minor positive effect. Over time this policy could lead to growth in the renewables, energy efficiency & sustainable waste management business sectors.  | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will help to provide greater business opportunities in the renewables, energy efficiency and waste management sectors.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>  |
| <b>21. To develop and market the Borough's image.</b>   | Minor positive effect. May increase the % of people satisfied with the Borough as place to live and help to improve the Borough's image.   | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That incorporating sustainable resources in new developments will be viewed positively by people.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>  |
| <b>22. To deliver urban renaissance.</b>  | Minor positive effect. Will not affect the indicators, but may help to improve environmental conditions in urban areas and boost the image of the Borough's settlements.   | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Uncertain</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide, in urban areas</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That incorporating sustainable resources in new developments in urban areas will be viewed positively by people.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>  |



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## Appendix 1

| Sustainability Objective   | Predicted Effects   |                      |             |           | Justification for assessment noting:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty of effect occurring (high/med/low)</li> <li>• Geographical scale of effect</li> <li>• Temporary or permanent effect</li> <li>• Assumptions made</li> <li>• Recommendations for mitigation/improvement</li> </ul>  |
|--|---|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---|
|  | Nature of Effect on Baseline/Indicators   | Assessment of Effect |             |           |   |
|  |   | Short term           | Medium term | Long term |   |
| <b>11. To protect and enhance biodiversity and the viability of endangered species, habitats and sites of geological importance.</b> | Major positive effect. Will not affect the indicators, but should help to improve biodiversity and habitats in the long term. | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to a reduction in demand for energy and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause pollution, which can negatively affect biodiversity and habitats.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul> |
| <b>12. To protect and improve the quality of inland waters.</b>  | Major positive effect. Over time should lead to more inland waters complying with river water quality standards.              | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to a reduction in demand for energy and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause pollution of inland waterways.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>                                    |
| <b>13. To protect and improve air quality.</b>   | Major positive effect. Over time should help to lead to a reduction in sulphur dioxide levels.                                | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to a reduction in demand for energy and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause air pollution.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>  |
| <b>14. To restore and protect land and soil.</b>   | Neutral.  | 0                    | 0           | 0         | This policy is unlikely to have any effects on restoring and protecting land and soil.  |
| <b>15. To mitigate and adapt to climate change.</b>  | Major positive effect. Over time this policy should help to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide.  | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to a reduction in demand for energy, greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause pollution.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>           |
| <b>16. To ensure the prudent use of natural resources and the sustainable management of existing resources.</b>                      | Major positive effect. Will not affect the indicators but should lead to the more prudent use of natural resources over time. | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to a reduction in demand for energy and a reduction in demand for raw materials used in energy production and as building materials.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>                                      |





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| Sustainability Objective                                    | Predicted Effects   |                      |             |           | Justification for assessment noting:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty of effect occurring (high/med/low)</li> <li>• Geographical scale of effect</li> <li>• Temporary or permanent effect</li> <li>• Assumptions made</li> <li>• Recommendations for mitigation/improvement</li> </ul>                  |
|---|---|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---|
|   | Nature of Effect on Baseline/Indicators   | Assessment of Effect |             |           |   |
|   |   | Short term           | Medium term | Long term |   |
| <b>23. To deliver rural renaissance.</b>                    | Neutral.  | 0                    | 0           | 0         | This policy is likely to have little effect on delivering a rural renaissance as relatively little development takes place in the rural areas, in comparison to the urban areas.  |
| <b>24. To secure economic inclusion.</b>                    | Minor positive effect. May not necessarily impact upon the indicators, but may result in job creation in the renewables/waste management sectors. | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will help to provide greater business opportunities, which will result in job creation.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul> |
| <b>25. To develop and maintain a healthy labour market.</b> | Minor positive effect. Will not affect the indicators, but may provide job opportunities in the renewables/waste management sectors.              | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will help to provide greater business opportunities, which will result in job creation.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul> |
| <b>Summary appraisal against economic objectives:</b>       |   | 0                    | +           | +         | <b>This policy should have a minor positive impact in the long-term in terms of most of the economic objectives. However, it is likely to have little impact in terms of reducing disparities of the Borough's economic performance or in delivering a rural renaissance.</b>   |



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Appendix 1

Policy SR2: Renewable Energy Schemes

| Key to Sustainability Appraisal Effects |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| / No link                               | 0 Neutral         |
| + Minor Positive                        | - Minor Negative  |
| ++ Major Positive                       | -- Major Negative |

| Sustainability Objective  | Predicted Effects  |                      |             |           | Justification for assessment noting:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty of effect occurring (high/med/low)</li> <li>• Geographical scale of effect</li> <li>• Temporary or permanent effect</li> <li>• Assumptions made</li> <li>• Recommendations for mitigation/improvement</li> </ul>  |
|---|--|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---|
|   | Nature of Effect on Baseline/Indicators  | Assessment of Effect |             |           |   |
|   |  | Short term           | Medium term | Long term |   |
| <b>Social Objectives</b>  |  |                      |             |           |   |
| 1. To reduce social exclusion.  | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and reducing social exclusion.   |
| 2. To reduce the need to travel, improve choice and use of sustainable transport modes.                   | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and reducing the need to travel, improving choice and the use of sustainable transport modes.  |
| 3. To improve physical health and mental health and reduce health inequalities.                           | Minor positive effect. Should have some positive health benefits in the long term in terms of increasing life expectancy and decreasing the number of residents describing their health as not good. | 0                    | 0           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause pollution.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul> |
| 4. To improve access to good quality affordable and resource efficient housing.                           | Significant positive effect. Will not affect the indicators, but should enable the provision of renewable energy schemes on housing sites resulting in more resource efficient housing.              | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: None</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>   |
| 5. To reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime.   | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and reducing crime, disorder and the fear of crime.  |
| 6. To enable groups and communities to contribute to decision making.                                     | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and enabling groups and communities to contribute to decision-making.  |
| 7. To develop strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds and communities | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and developing strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds.  |





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| Sustainability Objective  | Predicted Effects  |                      |             |           | Justification for assessment noting:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty of effect occurring (high/med/low)</li> <li>• Geographical scale of effect</li> <li>• Temporary or permanent effect</li> <li>• Assumptions made</li> <li>• Recommendations for mitigation/improvement</li> </ul>   |
|---|--|----------------------|-------------|-----------|--|
|   | Nature of Effect on Baseline/Indicators  | Assessment of Effect |             |           |  |
|   |  | Short term           | Medium term | Long term |  |
| 8. To improve access to an use of basic goods, services and amenities for all groups.   | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and improving access to and the use of basic goods, services and amenities for all groups.  |
| Summary of appraisal against social objectives:   |  | 0                    | 0           | +         | This policy should help to improve health in the long-term and have a significant positive impact in terms of the provision of resource efficient housing, but will have a minimal impact on the other social objectives.  |
| <b>Environmental Objectives</b>   |  |                      |             |           |  |
| 9. To protect, enhance and manage the diversity of cultural and built environment and archaeological assets.                  | Neutral. The policy includes criteria that aim to protect the visual appearance of the local area, including the urban environment and designated sites. Will not affect the indicators. | 0                    | 0           | 0         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That the policy criteria will prevent adverse impacts on the built environment.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None.</li> </ul>  |
| 10. To protect and enhance environmental quality, local character and accessibility of the landscape across the Borough       | Neutral. The policy includes criteria that aim to protect landscape character, the visual appearance of the local area and designated sites. Will not affect the indicators.             | 0                    | 0           | 0         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That the policy criteria will prevent adverse impacts on landscape character.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None.</li> </ul>  |
| 11. To protect and enhance biodiversity and the viability of endangered species, habitats and sites of geological importance. | Major positive effect. Will not affect the indicators, but should help to improve biodiversity and habitats in the long term.  | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause pollution, which can negatively affect biodiversity and habitats. That the policy criteria will prevent renewable energy schemes causing harm to designated sites and biodiversity.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul> |
| 12. To protect and improve the quality of inland waters.  | Major positive effect. Over time should lead to more inland waters complying with river water quality standards.   | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause pollution of inland waterways.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>  |



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| Sustainability Objective  | Predicted Effects   |                      |             |           | Justification for assessment noting:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty of effect occurring (high/med/low)</li> <li>• Geographical scale of effect</li> <li>• Temporary or permanent effect</li> <li>• Assumptions made</li> <li>• Recommendations for mitigation/improvement</li> </ul>   |
|---|---|----------------------|-------------|-----------|--|
|   | Nature of Effect on Baseline/Indicators   | Assessment of Effect |             |           |  |
|   |   | Short term           | Medium term | Long term |  |
| <b>13. To protect and improve air quality.</b>  | Major positive effect. Over time should help to lead to a reduction in sulphur dioxide levels.  | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause air pollution.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None.</li> </ul>                 |
| <b>14. To restore and protect land and soil.</b>  | Neutral.  | 0                    | 0           | 0         | This policy is unlikely to have any effects on restoring and protecting land and soil.   |
| <b>15. To mitigate and adapt to climate change.</b>   | Major positive effect. Over time this policy should help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.  | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from fossil fuels that cause pollution.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>                      |
| <b>16. To ensure the prudent use of natural resources and the sustainable management of existing resources.</b>                       | Major positive effect. Will not affect the indicators but should lead to the more prudent use of natural resources over time.   | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in demand for raw materials used in energy generation from non-renewable sources.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul> |
| <b>17. To minimise the requirement for energy use, promote efficient use and increase the use of energy from renewable resources.</b> | Major positive effect. Should lead to an increase in the number of planning applications that include capacity for energy production from renewable sources and increase the Borough's installed capacity for energy production from renewable sources. | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: High</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from non-renewable sources.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>                                  |
| <b>18. To minimise waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates.</b>   | Major positive effect. Will not affect the indicators but should lead to a reduction in waste by-products from non-renewable resources.   | 0                    | +           | ++        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in waste by-products from energy generation from non renewable sources.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>         |
| <b>Summary of appraisal against environmental objectives:</b>   |   | 0                    | +           | ++        | <b>This policy should have many significant long-term positive impacts on the environment, providing that it encourages greater levels of renewable energy production and a reduction in energy production from non-renewable sources.</b>   |



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| Sustainability Objective  | Predicted Effects  |                      |             |           | Justification for assessment noting:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty of effect occurring (high/med/low)</li> <li>• Geographical scale of effect</li> <li>• Temporary or permanent effect</li> <li>• Assumptions made</li> <li>• Recommendations for mitigation/improvement</li> </ul>                              |
|---|--|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---|
|   | Nature of Effect on Baseline/Indicators  | Assessment of Effect |             |           |   |
|   |  | Short term           | Medium term | Long term |   |
| <b>Economic Objectives</b>  |  |                      |             |           |   |
| <b>19. To reduce disparities of the Borough's economic performance.</b> | No link.   | /                    | /           | /         | There is no link between this policy and reducing disparities of the Borough's economic performance.  |
| <b>20. To exploit the growth potential of business sectors.</b>         | Minor positive effect. Over time this policy could lead to business growth in the renewables sector.                                       | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will help to provide greater business opportunities in the renewables sector.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>                       |
| <b>21. To develop and market the Borough's image.</b>                   | Minor positive effect. May increase the % of people satisfied with the Borough as a place to live and help to improve the Borough's image. | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will lead to greater levels of renewable energy production and will be viewed positively by people.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul> |
| <b>22. To deliver urban renaissance.</b>                                | Minor positive effect. Will not affect the indicators, but may provide job opportunities and investment in urban areas.                    | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide, in urban areas</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That some renewable energy generation schemes will take place in urban areas.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>                        |
| <b>23. To deliver rural renaissance.</b>                                | Minor positive effect. Will not affect the indicators but may provide job opportunities and investment in rural areas.                     | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide, in rural areas</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That some renewable energy generation schemes will take place in rural areas.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>                        |
| <b>24. To secure economic inclusion.</b>                                | Minor positive effect. May not necessarily impact upon the indicators, but may result in job creation in the renewables sector.            | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will help to provide greater business opportunities resulting in job creation.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>                      |
| <b>25. To develop and maintain a healthy labour market.</b>             | Minor positive effect. Will not affect the indicators, but may provide job opportunities in the renewables sector.                         | 0                    | +           | +         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likelihood/certainty: Medium</li> <li>• Scale: Borough-wide</li> <li>• Temporary/permanent: Permanent</li> <li>• Assumptions made: That this policy will help to provide greater business opportunities resulting in job creation.</li> <li>• Mitigation/improvement: None</li> </ul>                      |
| <b>Summary appraisal against economic objectives:</b>                   |  | <b>0</b>             | <b>+</b>    | <b>+</b>  | <b>This policy should have a minor positive impact in the long-term in terms of most of the economic objectives, but is likely to have little impact in terms of reducing disparities of the Borough's economic performance.</b>  |





## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### Appendix 2

#### Tests of Soundness (of a Development Plan Document - 'the Plan')

##### Procedural:

1. It has been prepared in accordance with the Local Development Scheme.
2. It has been prepared in compliance with the Statement of Community Involvement, or with the minimum requirements set out in the Regulations where no statement of community involvement exists.
3. The plan and its policies have been subjected to Sustainability Appraisal.

##### Conformity:

4. It is a spatial plan which is consistent with national planning policy and in general conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy for the region or, in London, the spatial development strategy and it has properly had regard to any other relevant plans, policies and strategies relating to the area or to adjoining areas.
5. It has had regard to the authority's Community Strategy.

##### Coherence, consistency and effectiveness:

6. The strategies/policies/allocations in the plan are coherent and consistent within and between Development Plan Documents prepared by the authority and by neighbouring authorities, where cross boundary issues are relevant.
7. The strategies/policies/allocations represent the most appropriate in all the circumstances, having considered the relevant alternatives, and they are founded on a robust and credible evidence base.
8. There are clear mechanisms for implementation and monitoring.
9. The plan is reasonably flexible to enable it to deal with changing circumstances.



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### Appendix 3

#### Relevant Strategic Policies

##### Regional Planning Guidance adopted March 2003

Relevant policies: DP1 - Economy in the use of Land and Buildings, DP3 - Quality in New Development, SD8 - Development in the Wider Countryside, EC5 - Regional Investment Sites; RU2 - Diversification of the Rural Economy; EQ5 - A Regional Approach to Waste Minimisation, ER1 - Management of the North West's Natural and Built and Historic Environment; ER2 - Landscape Character, ER5 - Biodiversity and Nature Conservation; ER7 - Water Resources; ER8 - Development and Flood Risk; ER11 - Secondary and Recycled Aggregates; ER13 - Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency.

##### Regional Spatial Strategy submitted January 2006

Policies that are relevant; DP1 - Core Development Principles; EM5 - Integrated Water Management; EM9 - Secondary and Recycled Aggregates; EM11 - Waste Management and New Development; EM16 - A Framework for Sustainable Energy in the NW; EM12 - Energy Conservation and Efficiency and Policy EM17: Renewable Energy. Including proposed amendments in Panel Report into Examination in Public.

##### Joint Lancashire Structure Plan adopted March 2005

Policy 20; Lancashire's Landscapes; Policy 21 - Lancashire's Natural and Man-Made Heritage; Policy 24 - Flood Risk; Policy 25 - Renewable Energy; Policy 27 - Development and Waste Minimisation.



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

## Chorley's Community Strategy 2005-2025 Action Plan Extracts

### Priority 2 - Reducing "Pockets of Inequality"

Goal 2 - To achieve a balanced housing market with good quality housing and more attractive neighbourhoods

|  |   |                       |      |   |   |
|--|---|-----------------------|------|---|---|
| Improve energy efficiency in the private sector (SAP rating) | Reductions in CO2 emissions and reductions in annual fuel costs | 420 tonnes<br>£28,000 | 2006 | Chorley Borough Council<br>General Fund, Supporting People Private Investment | Lead Partner<br>Chorley Borough Council<br>Other Partners<br>Home Improvement Agency/energy suppliers |
|--|---|-----------------------|------|---|---|

### Priority 5 - To develop the Character and Feel of Chorley as a Good Place to Live and Visit

Goal 1 - Improve our urban and rural surroundings and enhance the wildlife of the borough to provide an attractive environment for residents visitors and investors.

|   |  |  |      |                       |  |
|---|--|--|------|-----------------------|--|
| Promotional campaign to encourage local businesses to recycle waste | Recycled business waste as % of business waste arising | 10%  | 2008 | Landfill Tax Fund bid | Lead Partner<br>Chorley Borough Council<br>Other Partners<br>LLC.Env.Chorley Civic Society/NWDA/Chamber of Commerce/local businesses |
| To develop a sustainable energy strategy for the borough            | Production of the strategy                             | Development and completion of the strategy | 2008 | Existing resources    | Lead Partner<br>Chorley Borough Council<br>Other Partners<br>LLC./Renewables nw/ SNW   |
| Promote waste Minimisation in local businesses                      | Number of businesses adopting waste minimisation       | 50   | 2008 | Existing Resources    | Lead Partner<br>Chorley Borough Council<br>Other Partners<br>LLC/EA/local businesses/ LCDL   |



## Chorley Borough Local Development Framework

### Appendix 5

#### Glossary

- AMR – Annual Monitoring Report (*assesses the progress of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which Local Development Plan policies are being implemented*).
- BREEAM – Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (*Industry standard used to measure sustainability of buildings*).
- CS – Core Strategy (*set out the long- term spatial vision for the local planning authority and spatial objectives and strategic policies to deliver that vision*). GONW – Government Office for the North West (*local office of Central government in Manchester*).
- DPD – Development Plan Document (*Spatial planning documents that are subject to independent examination, together with the Regional Spatial Strategy make up the Development Plan.*)
- Issues and Options- (*produced during the early production stage of the preparation of Development Plan documents and may be issued for consultation to meet the requirements of Regulation 25.*)
- JLSP – Joint Lancashire Structure Plan (*development plan document that is part of the LDD – Local Development Document (collective name for Development Plan Documents, Supplementary Planning Documents and Statement of Community Involvement)*)
- LDF – Local Development Framework (*portfolio of Local Development Documents. It includes Development Plan Documents, Supplementary Planning Documents, Statement of Community Involvement, the Local Development Scheme and Annual Monitoring Reports*).
- LDS – Local Development Scheme (*sets out the programme for preparing Local Development Documents*)
- PINS – Planning Inspectorate (*Independent Inspectorate appointed by the Secretary of State to judge on documents and representations made. Write reports on whether the proposed policies are acceptable following on from the Examination in Public, which the Local Authority must accept.*)
- PPS – Planning Policy Statement (*Central Government planning policy document that is required to be followed when determining planning applications and producing policies*).
- Preferred Options- (*produced as part of the preparation of Development Plan Documents, and is issued for formal public consultation as required by Regulation 26.*)
- Public Examination - (*hearing in which the development plan is tested for soundness. Non-adversarial way of testing soundness of plan. Led by Planning Inspector who will make report that the Council will have to accept*).
- RSS- Regional Spatial Strategy (*sets out the region's policies in relation to the development and use of land. Makes up part of the development plan*).
- SA – Sustainability Appraisal (*required for all local development documents to ensure that their social, economic and environmental impacts are tested*).
- SCI – Statement of Community Involvement (*sets out the standards which authorities will achieve when including communities in the preparation of local development documents and development control decisions*).
- SEA – Strategic Environmental Assessment (*environmental assessment of plans, policies and programmes*).
- Soundness - (*nine tests that a plan should satisfy – it includes the following categories, “procedural”, “conformity”, “coherence, consistency and effectiveness”*)
- Submission Stage - (*Local Development Plan document which is submitted to the Secretary of state prior to the Examination, at the same time there will be public consultation for six weeks*).
- SPD – Supplementary Planning Document (*Provides supplementary information in respect of policies in Development Plan Documents.*)



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**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE CABINET****GENERAL REPORT FROM MEETING HELD ON 9 AUGUST 2007**

1. The Executive Cabinet has met twice on 9 August and 6 September 2007 since the last ordinary Council meeting and this report summarises briefly the principal matters considered at the first meeting. Separate reports appear on the Council's agenda in respect of both the principal items considered at the 6 September meeting and the one matter that requires a specific Council decision.

**Proposed new Chorley Register Officer**

2. The Superintendent Registrar for Lancashire County Council, Ms G Greeson, attended our meeting to advise us of the Lancashire County Council's proposals to construct a new Chorley Register Office on part of the West Street Car Park Area. Sketch plans of the Office layout were displayed, showing separate entrances and waiting areas for wedding parties and persons registering births and deaths. We have been assured that the new facility will be fully accessible by disabled persons.
3. We were told that there will be a limited number of disabled car parking spaces for persons visiting the Register Officer to compensate for the spaces that will have to be lost to accommodate the building. The provision of car parking spaces in the town centre generally was reviewed by the Executive Cabinet at its subsequent meeting on 6 September with its decisions being recorded in the report of that meeting.
4. Without prejudicing any right to comment on the detailed construction plans when the Borough Council is eventually consulted by the Lancashire County Council on the application for planning permission for the new Register Officer, the Councillors present generally welcomed and supported the principle of the plans to develop a new Register Office in line with one of the objectives of the Council's Corporate Strategy.

**First Quarter Performance Monitoring Report for 2007/08**

5. The Executive Cabinet received a report from the Director of Policy and Performance (Assistant Chief Executive) setting out and reviewing the Authority's performance on the delivery of key projects in the Corporate Strategy and against national Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI) during the first quarter of 2007/08.
6. The report reveals an overall commendable performance on the delivery of the Corporate Strategy's key projects 66% of which have been completed and a further 25% are progressing on course. Only four projects are currently behind schedule for completion, owing to varying degrees of over-run on time, but we are optimistic that the projects will be delivered ultimately.
7. The Council's performance against the Best Value Performance Indicators also continues to improve, with only limited instances of deteriorating performance which are being carefully monitored. 66% of the indicators have shown consistent or improved performance, and action plans have been developed to bring back on target the four BVPIs where performance is 5% or more below target.
8. We were also assured by the Executive Member for Corporate Policy and Performance that mechanisms have been put in place to ensure that regular reports monitoring the performance of the Chorley Local Strategic Partnership in its delivery of identified key projects will be presented to future Executive Cabinet meetings.

**Planning for a Sustainable Future - White Paper**

9. The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Development and Regeneration on the principal features of the Government's White Paper entitled 'Planning for a Sustainable Future', which outlined the likely implications of the proposals for the Council.
10. Amongst other proposals and provisions, the White Paper contains plans for:
  - a new policy framework for encouraging sustainable economic development;
  - an independent Infrastructure Planning Commission to decide major infrastructure schemes and mechanisms to allow more opportunities for public engagement and Parliamentary scrutiny of the process;
  - greater freedoms and flexibilities for minor extensions to homes, businesses and micro generation projects.
  - the streamlining of the planning application process;
  - the possible discretion for Councils to set planning application fee rates.
11. Whilst much of the White Paper concentrates on the streamlining of the processes required to deliver major physical infrastructure projects, few, if any, such schemes are likely to be undertaken in the Borough. The extension of permitted development rights will reduce the processing workload, but the need to respond to an increased number of enquiries into the types of development that would require permission, and more applications for lawful development certificates, is likely to necessitate fees being charged to cover the advisory service. The possible discretion to allow local planning authorities to fix their own scale of fees for planning applications is also welcomed, provided that the current income source is not jeopardized.
12. The Director's observations on the White Paper proposals outlined in the submitted report, which were generally supportive with a few cautionary concerns, were accepted by the Executive Cabinet as the Council's response to the White Paper.

**North West Regional Spatial Strategy - Examination in Ribble Panel's Report**

13. The Director of Development and Regeneration presented a report on the key recommendations of the Panel appointed to hear and consider evidence on topics contained in the draft Regional Spatial Strategy for North West England produced by the North West Regional Assembly, in so far as the recommendations related to the joint representations of Chorley, Preston and South Ribble Councils on the draft Strategy. The new Regional Strategy will replace the current North West Regional Planning Guidance and will set out the strategic planning policies and issues for the region.
14. A number of the suggestions contained in the three authorities joint representations have been accepted the Panel, whilst others have been rejected.
15. The Panel has identified a number of weaknesses in the draft Strategy which it considers can only be rectified through a further partial review.
16. There is no formal opportunity for representations to be made on the Panel's findings, which will be considered by the Secretary of State prior to his publication of Proposed Changes to the Regional Spatial Strategy, expected in October 2007.
17. The Local Development Framework (LDF) is required to conform generally to, and derive much of its strategic content from, the Regional Strategy. Therefore, as the deficiencies on the draft Regional Strategy are likely to delay the production of the LDF if a further review of the Regional Strategy is required, we have authorised immediate representations to the Government Office for the North West. We shall express concern at the Panel's findings of

deficiencies in the draft Regional Spatial Strategy and its recommendations concerning a partial review of the Strategy, urging the Secretary of State to find ways to bridge the deficiencies so that the LDF production can progress on schedule on a firm strategic policy foundation.

**A Customer Focused Council - Implementing the Outcomes of Chorley's Business Process Architecture Project**

18. The Executive Cabined was presented with a confidential report of the Chief Executive on the outcome of a recent major exercise to review the whole of the Council's business processes.
19. We accepted the findings and have agreed the adoption of a revised to top level management and organisational structure, which will entail the disestablishment of one top post and the pursuance of shared financial services with South Ribble Borough Council. The new structure will assist the Authority's efforts to achieve 'excellent' status by ensuring that our priorities are focused on tailoring services to the needs of customers.

**Recommendation**

20. The Council is recommended to note this report.

COUNCILLOR P GOLDSWORTHY  
Executive Leader

There are no background papers to this report.

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## REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

## GENERAL REPORT

1. Since the last Council the Development Control Committee met on 17 July 2007 and 14 August 2007. This report refers briefly to the more significant planning proposals that were considered at these meetings.

17 July 2007Planning Application 07/00453/COU

2. We considered the above retrospective planning application for the change of use of residential curtilage and a further parcel of land to enable the storage of 35 additional caravans at Park View, Runshaw Lane, Euxton, Chorley
3. The application increased the number of caravans from the presently lawful 10 that could be stored within the residential curtilage to 35 caravans comprising of an additional 20 within the residential curtilage and a further 5 on adjoining land.
4. The Committee received representations from the applicant, an objector and a supporter of the application.
5. The storage of caravans is not expressly in any of the categories of appropriate development in the Green Belt given in Policy DC1 or in PPG2
7. The storage of the caravans on the land would be a prominent feature in this rural area, even more so than the concentration of an additional 30 caravans within the applicant's residential curtilage proposed by the 2005 application, as the caravans would be spread over a larger area of the site.
8. The volume of representations that had been made in support of the application expressed concerns at the loss of the site. It was not disputed that there was limited facilities for caravan storage but it was considered that this not carry sufficient weight to override the presumption against caravan storage in the Green Belt.
8. It was considered that the caravan storage was inappropriate development in the Green Belt and that there were no "very special circumstances" to justify granting planning permission, whilst the use also resulted in detrimental harm to highway safety.
9. After listening to the representations and considering the information in the officer's report we refused planning permission for the reasons set out in the officers report.



Planning Application 07/00469/FULMAJ

10. We considered the above planning application that proposed the erection of a two-storey office building, which represented Phase 3 of the Clayton Park Business Park. The scheme consisted of 151sq m of office space with 36 car parking spaces on a 0.28 ha site.
11. The building had been designed as a two-storey office with 1m wide by 300mm deep terracotta panels and extensive use of glazing and a flat roof. The site had an open aspect to Preston Road as the building had been positioned with the car parking and landscape orientated towards it. The design was a significant modern addition to the Business Park, which it was considered, would make a positive contribution to the local area.
12. The site would be accessed through the existing states by vehicles, however pedestrians could access the building from the bus stop on Preston Road. The site was within a few hundred metres of the facilities at Clayton Green with a leisure complex and Library and beyond that is a large supermarket and pub/diner.
13. There were two residential properties to the north and south of the development but it was not considered that the office would affect the amenity of the houses.
14. After considering all the information in the officer's report we decide to grant full planning permission subject to the conditions set out in the report.

14 August 2007

Planning Application 07/00346/OUT

15. We considered the above planning application for the erection of 5 detached dormer bungalows on land 40m South of 48 Lancaster Lane, Clayton-Le-Woods, to include an amended access of the highway between no's 46 and 48 Lancaster Lane, Clayton-Le-Woods.
16. During the application process the scheme had been amended to alleviate concerns raised in respect of the originally submitted proposal, mainly the impact on the amenities of the neighbouring residents, the impact on the amenities of future residents and Members felt the proposal would constitute over development of the site and that there would be a loss of private amenity space.
17. Concerns had also been raised in respect to highway safety and the increase in traffic to the site. The maximum number of dwellings usually permitted on a private access road is three and this development clearly exceeded this number.

18. It was also noted that a previous application was recently refused at 54 Lancaster Lane for residential development. One of the reasons for refusal had been the potential to an influx of sporadic similar developments within the area that had the potential to impact on highway safety and the character of the area.
19. The Committee received representations from an objector and the ward representative and after considering all the information we refused to grant planning permission.

#### Planning Application 07/00489/FULMAJ

20. We considered the above planning application for the proposed livestock building and associated access track at Bradley Hall, Parr Lane, Ecclestone.
21. The proposed building would be a portal framed structure with the gable walls and the roof clad in grey profile metal sheeting with the side elevations comprising of Yorkshire boardings. All the walls would be set on 1.2m high concrete blockwork walls. The building would be sited in separate field, 120m to the north east of the main farm with access available via an existing track.
22. Bradley Hall Farmhouse is a Grade II Listed Building that also includes a moat that is a Scheduled Ancient Monument hence the applicants reasoning behind proposing the building in the separate field.
23. Whilst it was considered that the building was of a substantial size, the proposed location would benefit from existing screening and additional planting could be secured through a condition.
24. The building itself was of a typical design commonly found in rural areas so it was considered that the building would not have a detrimental impact on the character and openness of the Green Belt.
25. After considering the information in the officer's report we decided to grant full planning permission subject to the conditions set out in the report.

#### Recommendation

26. That the report be noted.

COUNCILLOR HAROLD HEATON  
Chair of the Development Control Committee

DS

There are no background papers to this report.

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## **REPORT OF LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

### **GENERAL REPORT**

1. This report is a brief summary of the main items considered at a meeting of the Licensing and Safety Committee held on 11 July 2007.

### **Smoke Free Legislation**

2. The Committee received a presentation from the Council's Environmental Health Manager outlining the health aspect, the Council's enforcement position and the offences and penalties under the new smoking legislation that came into force on the 1 July 2007.
3. The Council had employed a Public Health Technical Officer whose job it was to deal with complaints and to give advice and assistance. The officer would not be uniformed, but carry necessary authorities. Where several complaints about premises were received a visit would be made and if no changes occurred then enforcement action would be taken.
4. At present complaints had been received regarding litter and noise nuisance outside licensed premises with approaches made to the licensee regarding these issues, but most establishments are complying with the legislation.

### **Application for Licence to Drive Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles**

5. Previous meetings of the Committee had adjourned consideration of this application to drive Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles within the Borough of Chorley as the applicant and his legal representative had failed to attend the meetings.
6. The applicant as well as his legal representative had been invited to attend the meeting but again neither attended.
7. It had been agreed by the Committee at its meeting held on 23 May 2007 that the applicant be informed in writing that another opportunity would be given to him to attend to put forward representations in support of his application and if he did not attend on this occasion the application would be considered in his absence.
8. We were informed that a letter informing the applicant and his legal representative of this course of action had been delivered by hand on 24 May 2007 and a reminder sent on 22 June 2007.
9. Having had no response to these letters we agreed to consider the application in the absence of the applicant.
10. Following careful consideration of the application we agreed that it be refused on the basis that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold a private hire/hackney carriage drivers licence and we agreed the grounds for the decision.

**Recommendation**

11. The Council is recommended to note the report.

COUNCILLOR MRS I SMITH  
Chairman of the Licensing and Safety Committee

GKB

There are no background papers to this report.



## **REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND PANELS**

### **GENERAL REPORT**

1. This report summarises the business transacted at meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 2 August and 3 September 2007, as well as a brief summary of the recent activities and matters discussed at meetings of the Environment and Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel and Corporate and Customer Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

#### **Lancashire County Council Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny – Partnership Working**

2. We received a request from Lancashire County Council inviting the authority to take part in a piece of work with the County Council Overview and Scrutiny on an undertaking regarding Every Child Matters.
3. The intention is to look at how partnership working could help to deliver the outcomes of Every Child Matters and examine partnership working between the County Council and District Council.
4. We were notified that a two-tier Overview and Scrutiny session was to take place on the morning of the 28 August in which the Executive Member for Health, Leisure and Well-Being and the Director of Finance and Cultural Services would be attending.
5. We requested that they report the outcome of the Lancashire Overview and Scrutiny session to the next meeting of the Committee.

#### **Business Plan Monitoring Statement – Policy and Performance Directorate**

6. We received a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) on the Business Plan Monitoring Statement, identifying the progress made against key actions and performance indicators for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2007/08 (1 April to 30 June 2007).
7. The report indicated the activities of her area of responsibility, in particular the significant progress that had been made on developing and strengthening our approach to data quality to business planning, project management and equality diversity, all areas, which will have a positive impact on any future CPA re-assessment.
8. Large key pieces of work that were of high quality and delivered by their end of deadline were the production of the Annual Report (Best Value Performance Plan) and the development of the Beacon Bid for “Transforming Services, Citizens Engagement and Empowerment”.
9. There was now a full complement of staff covering Policy and Performance and Communication functions.
10. Some Members were concerned that they were not involved in discussions regarding the new action plan and targets being developed to ensure delivery of the refresh Council Strategy and we asked if this could be addressed.
11. Some Members expressed concern that they were not receiving a full and complete picture of the outcomes of consultation exercises with the Public, with particular reference made to the Council’s ‘Listening Day’ event, which took place on Sunday, 14 July.

12. Under Equality and Diversity, we were notified of the update on the Council's complaints system, which reviewed the recording of complaints, allowing the Council to analyse complaints, by race, gender and disability. A new recording procedure would be introduced over the Summer of 2007 and we requested that 6 monthly reports on the complaints be submitted to the Committee.

### **Corporate Fourth Quarter Performance – Receipt of Information Requested**

13. At the meeting of the Committee held on 21 May 2007 we requested the Director of Development and Regeneration to submit information relating to the undermentioned issues and queries that arose from the Corporate Fourth Quarter Performance Monitoring Report.

- Number of affordable housing units completed

An Action Plan was submitted explaining the reason why the performance measure had not reached target and the corrective action being undertaken to improve performance in the next financial year including the timetables for implementation. We noted that the Director would be submitting reports on strategic housing and affordable housing to a future meeting of the Executive Cabinet and we requested that it also be submitted to this Committee.

- Vacant Town Centre Floor Space in various areas of the Town Centre on the action to drive up performance

We received notification of the strategic objectives for improving the Town Centre. The Strategy had been prepared to enable improvements to be made to the viability and vitality of the Town Centre and to attract the right combination of activities to the town. We noted that vacancy levels for Chorley Town Centre tended to fluctuate with rate at 8% in April 2007 and between April to June 2007, 7%, but generally it had been between 8% to 9% over the last 5 years.

- Local Plan Milestones

An Action Plan was received setting out the reasons why the performance measures had not reached target and the corrective action being undertaken to improve performance in the next financial year, including details of timescales for implementation.

### **Equality and Diversity Overview and Scrutiny Inquiry – Feedback of Executive Responses**

14. We received the Executive Cabinet's response on the recommendations of the Equality and Diversity Sub-Group of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee following the review of the Council's approach to the embodiment of equality and diversity in the culture of the Authority.
15. The recommendations contained a series of measures aimed at ensuring that the Council's services were delivered against equality and diversity objectives that all communities were afforded equality of access, outcome and opportunity.
16. Those measures and actions likely to incur additional costs would be implemented by virement or alternative measures.

### **Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme**

17. We received the current Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for this Municipal Year, which included the envisaged timescale for the ongoing scrutiny inquiries and the planned details of the respective scrutiny of past inquiries.

18. We received notification that the Environment and Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel had requested the Committee to include the following issues in the Panel's Work Programme.
- To investigate the Council's environmental footprint and what the Council is currently doing to reduce its carbon emissions.
  - To examine the poor public attendance at the Chorley Community Forums providing an analysis of the attendance across each Forum.
  - Town Centre issues and management.
19. Action was already in progress on all these issues and duplication of effort should be avoided. The Panel would only provide an overview of those issues, assisting and developing ideas with the responsible Officers and seeking views on the way forward.

## **ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL – 16 JULY 2007**

### **Business Plan Monitoring**

20. The Panel at its last meeting held on 7 June 2007 requested further information relating to the undermentioned issues and queries that arose from the Business Plan Monitoring Statements for the period 1 January to 31 March 2007.

### **Management of Sickness Absence**

- i) The Panel received a short presentation from the Director of Human Resources on the management of sickness absence across the authority, specifically the Panel's request on how the figures are arrived at and the split between short-term and long-term sickness.
- ii) The presentation included the cost of sickness absence to the authority and the number of people currently on long-term sick.
- iii) Action taken for 2007/08 included improved monitoring of absences, targeting the main reasons for absence and the monitoring of return to work interviews.

### **Processing of Invoices within the 30 working days**

- iv) The Panel received a briefing note from the Director of Finance setting out an analysis of where and the reasons for the delay that were causing the fall in the performance targets for the processing of invoices within the 30 working days.
- v) The Panel welcomed the information provided but requested that further information on what had been the process changes made and their effects on the performance figures. Members questioned whether the right monitoring techniques were being used as the latest quarterly information for 30 June 2007 relating to Leisure and Culture had shown that they were still not achieving the Council's corporate target of 96%.
- vi) The Director of Finance would be invited to attend the next Panel meeting on 13 September 2007 to answer Members' questions and queries.

### **Neighbourhood Working Inquiry**

21. The Panel received from the Director of Streetscene, Neighbourhoods and Environment on the Neighbourhood Working inquiry providing an overview of the evidence heard by the inquiry, methods of neighbourhood working including three models of Neighbourhood

Management which might be appropriate for Chorley, which had been drawn from the evidence. The options were not mutually exclusive and the Panel would need to work out what recommendations it would take to the Executive Cabinet.

22. A final witness hearing was due to take place towards the end of August, beginning of September with the Chief Executive and Director of Finance invited to the meeting to answer Members questions and queries they may have on the inquiry and outcomes, with a need for a realistic view and proposals.

### **Work Programme**

23. The Panel accepted as urgent consideration of this item, not included on the agenda in order to bring to the Panel's attention the need for the Panel to commence consideration of future items on the Panels work programme. The recent Overview and Scrutiny Member Training Session had identified a need to consider further topics once the Neighbourhood Working Inquiry had been completed.
24. The Panel agreed to request the Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider including the following topics into the Panel's Work Programme for the 2007/08 Municipal Year.
  - To investigate the Council's environmental carbon footprint and what the Council was currently doing to reduce its carbon emissions.
  - To examine the poor public attendance at the Community Forums providing an analysis of the attendances across each Forum.
  - Town Centre issues and management.

### **ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (SPECIAL MEETING) – 23 AUGUST 2007**

#### **Neighbourhood Working – Inquiry**

26. This special meeting of the Panel was arranged in order to finalise the Neighbourhood Working Inquiry.
27. The Panel received a presentation from the consultant appointed to guide and advise on the Neighbourhood Working Inquiry with Members receiving a copy of the initial report entitled "The Scope and Prospects of Neighbourhood Working in Chorley" and the Position Statement which had been submitted to the Panel by the Director of Streetscene, Neighbourhoods and Environment at the last meeting of the Panel.
28. The Consultants presentation pulled together all the evidence that had been collected during the Inquiry, with members noting the key factors which had been identified for making Neighbourhood Working a success and those to be avoided.
29. The Director of Streetscene, Neighbourhoods and Environment highlighted the key areas within his report and outlined three identified options. Option One (the Pathfinder model), Option Two (Neighbourhood Teams) and Option Three (Neighbourhood Team Plan). The Council is already working in a way that supports neighbourhoods, including Community Forums and work in the customer facing Directorates.
30. The Chief Executive and Director of Finance were invited to the meeting to discuss with Members the options available to the Council. It was agreed that Option One was not achievable for Chorley; and the Panel agreed to build on the Neighbourhood Working arrangements already in place, such as those with Parish Councils, Community Groups, the Local Strategic Partnership, Lancashire County Council and the Police.

31. Reference was also made regarding the impact of the new Local Government White Paper and noted there were references to Parish Councils and Community Call for Action that linked into Neighbourhood Working.
32. The Panel agreed that flexibility would be important, as each neighbourhood would have different needs and the take-up would vary in each area. There was a need to focus on intelligence led allocation of resources.
33. A report outlining the recommendations of the Inquiry would be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in October and the Executive Cabinet in November.

#### **CORPORATE AND CUSTOMER OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL - 24 JULY 2007**

34. This report sets out a brief summary of the main items considered at the meeting of the Corporate and Customer Overview and Scrutiny Panel held on 24 July 2007.

#### **Scrutiny Inquiries - Efficiency and Absence Management**

35. We agreed that Councillor Mike Devaney would be the Chair of the Absence Management Sub-Group and that Councillor Stella Walsh would be the Chair of the Efficiency Sub-Group.
36. The two Sub-Groups broke off into different rooms to draft the scoping documents. The date of the first meeting of the Sub-Groups would be confirmed with the relevant members.

#### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 3 SEPTEMBER 2007**

#### **Lancashire County Council Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny – Partnership Working**

37. The Executive Member for Health, Leisure and Well-Being (Councillor M Perks) and the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services attended the meeting to report on the two-tier meeting they had attended on 28 August 2007 to discuss Lancashire County Council's Overview and Scrutiny project to examine how partnership working could assist the delivery of the 'Every Child Matters' (ECM) outcomes and targets within the Children and Young People's block of the Lancashire Local Agreement. The Executive Member and the Director had made a joint presentation on Chorley Council's approach to the ECM agenda and the LAA targets, highlighting both the initiatives and projects currently being pursued by the Council and the plans and opportunities to be examined in the future.
38. The Council's programme and initiatives have been recognised nationally for their progressive and positive nature. These initiatives include the Council's successful 'Get Up and Go' programme of activities and the projects being pursued by a number of Chorley Partnership's Thematic Groups (eg the initiative to reduce the number of unwanted teenage pregnancies). The Committee, in particular, commented on the initiatives being pursued with the Police and the County Council's Youth and Community Service to allow the free use of the All Seasons Leisure Centre during certain weekend hours and the introduction of a young people's club in town centre premises. The Members asked the Officers to examine both the feasibility of the provision of transport to and from these venues for young people and the best means of promoting the new facilities to young people throughout the Borough.
39. The Director also advised the Committee of the plans agreed to establish by 2008 a network of 12 Children's Trusts to cover respective Lancashire District areas, with an overarching Trust for the whole of Lancashire.
40. The minutes of the Lancashire County Council overview and scrutiny session on 28 August will be submitted to the next Committee meeting on 1 October when we can determine

whether the Council should be recommended to take any action to enhance delivery of the ECM project outcomes.

### **Strategic Housing Priorities**

41. The Committee received and considered a report of the Director of Development and Regeneration on the strategic key priorities to be addressed either over the next 12 months or on a long term basis by the Strategic Housing Team established in the wake of the transfer of the housing stock to Chorley Community Housing in March 2007. The report identified and commented on each of the priority areas and objectives. Detailed action plans for each work area are currently being compiled to take account of collected data on the local and sub-regional housing market and the report emphasised the reliance of the delivery of the programme on effective project management, budgetary control and partnership working.

42. The Committee's comprehensive debate covered the majority of the priority areas, with particular attention being focused on the following areas:

- Homelessness and Housing Options

The Housing Options service for customers, incorporating advice on homelessness and housing issues, has been contracted out to Chorley Community Housing with the Council remaining accountable for decisions on homeless presentations and responsibility for the reporting on performance and prevention of homelessness. A Housing Options Partnership Steering Group comprising Officers from the Strategic Housing Team and Chorley Community Housing has been formed to address the current issues.

The Committee Members, in particular, expressed concern at the increasing use of bed and breakfast accommodation and the frequency of judicial challenges being made to the Council on decisions on applications from homeless applicants.

We have requested the Executive Cabinet to sanction the preparation and submission to our next meeting a further report analysing homelessness statistics, explaining the principal causes of applications for accommodation and containing general data on applicants (eg gender, age, ethnicity, employment status, former address, etc).

- Affordable Housing

The report commented on the factors influencing the difficulties in providing sufficient numbers of affordable housing units to meet increasing demand. While the Corporate Strategy calls for the provision of 250 affordable dwellings by March 2009, only 8 dwellings have been built since April 2006, with a further potential 104 dwellings in the pipeline.

The Director of Development and Regeneration confirmed the Strategic Housing Manager has been tasked with examining creative and innovative ways of expanding the development of affordable housing in the Borough, including partnership schemes with Registered Social Landlords to bring empty private sector houses back into residential use.

The Committee has also requested a further report from the Director on the definition and current situation in relation to the provision of affordable housing units and the means by which the number of available units can be increased.



**Overview and Scrutiny Workshop Sessions – Key Issues**

43. The Committee received a report of the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services which set out the key issues identified at the Overview and Scrutiny Workshop sessions held in June 2007. The sessions were facilitated by the Improvement and Development Agency to focus on means of achieving effective scrutiny, financial scrutiny and Chairing Scrutiny bodies.
44. In addition to identifying numerous suggestions for the improvement of the delivery and effectiveness of the overview and scrutiny function, several potential scrutiny topics had been put forward.
45. We noted the contents of the report which we have agreed to form the basis of a discussion document for submission to an early meeting of the Executive Leader, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny bodies and the Chief Executive to consider the current overview and scrutiny structure and means of improving the delivery of the function.

**A Customer Focused Council – Implementing the outcomes of Chorley’s Business Process Review**

46. I drew attention to the fact that, under the top level management and organisational restructure agreed by the Executive Cabinet at its meeting on 9 August 2007, the role of Section 151 Officer would be undertaken by the new post of Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) and that the proposals included an exploration of Chorley and South Ribble Councils sharing financial services.
47. The Committee supported my request to seek a report for submission to our next meeting on (i) the clarification of the robustness of the projected financial arrangements; (ii) an explanation of how the proposed joint working arrangements will be delivered; and (iii) the contingency plans in the event of the joint working arrangements not being realised.

**Recommendation**

48. The Council is recommended to note this report.

COUNCILLOR D EDGERLEY  
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

GKB/RH/AU

There are no background papers to this report.

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**REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE****GENERAL REPORT**

1. This report sets out a brief summary of the main items considered at the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 3 September 2007.

**REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION FROM MEMBERS OF CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

2. We considered a request for a dispensation from Members of Chorley Borough Council allowing participation in Council meetings at which matters relating to the concessionary travel scheme are discussed.
3. The Monitoring Officer reported that at a recent Council meeting a notice of motion had been considered relating to the concessionary travel scheme. As over half of the Councillors would have a personal and potentially a prejudicial interest the item was adjourned.
4. We noted that there was a need to have regard to the request for the dispensation, the reasons for the request and the fact that, in the absence of a dispensation, Council business would be impeded.
5. We agreed that a dispensation be granted to the 24 Members of the Council who had applied for a dispensation allowing participation in Council meetings at which matters relating to the concessionary travel scheme are to be discussed.

**UPDATE ON ADOPTION OF THE REVISED CODE OF CONDUCT BY PARISH COUNCILS**

6. The Monitoring Officer advised that seventeen of the twenty-three Parish Councils within the Borough had adopted the Revised Code of Conduct. This information would be published in the local press, as required by the Regulations surrounding the adoption of a Revised Code of Conduct.

**APPOINTMENT OF RESERVE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER**

7. We considered the appointment of Parish Council reserve member for the Standards Committee.
8. A Parish Council representative was required to be in attendance if the Committee were considering items relating to Parish Councils. In the event of the Parish Council member having a personal interest in an item it was desirable to have a reserve member to stand in their place.

9. The Regulations require consultation with the Parish Councils on the appointment of Parish Council representatives and a request had been made to the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils to nominate a reserve.
10. We noted that when the local filtering arrangements came into force there may be a need to increase the number of Committee Members, as it appears that there may then need to be three Sub-Committees, to filter, determine and appeal. The Committee will make recommendations to the Council on this issue in due course.
11. We agreed that Parish Councillor Alan Cornwell from Charnock Richard Parish Council be appointed as the Parish Council reserve member.

**RECOMMENDATION**

12. The Council is recommended to note the report.

MR RA ELLWOOD  
CHAIR OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE

RH

There are no background papers to this report.



| Report of                                     | Meeting | Date                               |
|---|---------|------------------------------------|
| Chief Executive<br>(Introduced by the Leader) | Council | 18 <sup>th</sup> September<br>2007 |

## PARISH COUNCIL BY ELECTION

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To enable a by election to take place for the election of Councillors to Ulnes Walton Parish Council

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

- That the council exercise its powers to direct that a by election be held to fill current vacancies on Ulnes Walton Parish Council.

### CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the central Lancashire sub region |   | Improved access to public services                                |  |
| Improving equality of opportunity and life chance  |   | Develop the character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live |  |
| Involving People in their Communities  | √ | Ensure Chorley is a performing Organisation                       |  |

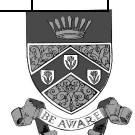
### BACKGROUND

- The Council has received a request from Ulnes Walton Parish Council to exercise its powers under section 39(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 to arrange a Parish Council by election. The Parish Council currently has two vacancies owing to having received insufficient nominations at the elections in May. The Parish Council had considered exercising its own powers to co-opt additional members and has received a number of expressions of interests from potential nominees. In the light of the interest that has been expressed, the Parish Council believes that fairness requires that an election should be held.

### IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

- This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

|                 |   |                        |  |
|-----------------|---|------------------------|--|
| Finance         | √ | Customer Services      |  |
| Human Resources |   | Equality and Diversity |  |
| Legal           | √ |                        |  |



**COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

- 6. The costs of holding an election will be charged to the Parish Council. A request has been received for the payments to be staged to enable the Parish to precept for those costs and this is acceptable.

**COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMER, DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL SERVICES**

- 7. The legal implications are described within the report

DONNA HALL  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

| <b>Background Papers</b>                            |                            |             |  |
|---|----------------------------|-------------|--|
| <b>Document</b>                                     | <b>Date</b>                | <b>File</b> | <b>Place of Inspection</b>                               |
| Letter from Clerk to Ulmes<br>Walton Parish Council | 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2007 | Elections   | Customer, Democratic<br>and Legal<br>Services, Town Hall |

| <b>Report Author</b> | <b>Ext</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Doc ID</b> |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| A. Docherty          | 5102       | ***         | ***           |