

Executive Cabinet

Agenda and Reports
for consideration on

Thursday, 26th March 2009

in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chorley

At 5.00 pm



PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS/SPEAKING AT EXECUTIVE CABINET MEETINGS

- Questions should be submitted to the Democratic Services Section by midday, two working days prior to each Executive Cabinet meeting to allow time to prepare appropriate responses and investigate the issue if necessary.
- A maximum period of 3 minutes will be allowed for a question from a member of the public on an item on the agenda. A maximum period of 30 minutes to be allocated for public questions if necessary at each meeting.
- The question to be answered by the Executive Member with responsibility for the service area or whoever is most appropriate.
- On receiving a reply the member of the public will be allowed to ask one supplementary question.
- Members of the public will be able to stay for the rest of the meeting should they so wish but will not be able to speak on any other agenda item upon using their allocated 3 minutes.

PROCEDURE FOR 'CALL-IN' OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

- Each of the executive decisions taken at the Executive Cabinet meeting are subject to the adopted 'call-in' procedure within 10 working days of the Executive Cabinet meeting at which the decision is made, unless the decision has been implemented as a matter of urgency.
- Guidance on the 'call-in' procedure can be accessed through the following internet link:
<http://www.chorley.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=1426>
- If you require clarification of the 'call-in' procedure or further information, please contact either:
Tony Uren (Tel: 01257 515122; E-Mail: tony.uren@chorley.gov.uk) or
Carol Russell (Tel: 01257 515196, E-Mail: carol.russell@chorley.gov.uk)
in the Democratic Services Section.

18 March 2009

Dear Councillor

EXECUTIVE CABINET - THURSDAY, 26TH MARCH 2009

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Executive Cabinet to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chorley on Thursday, 26th March 2009 at 5.00 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 of last meeting (Pages 1 - 6)**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Executive Cabinet held on 12 February 2009 (enclosed).

4. **Public Questions**

Members of the public who have requested the opportunity to ask a question(s) on an item(s) on the agenda will be asked to put their question(s) to the respective Executive Member(s). Each member of the public will be allowed to ask one supplementary question within his/her allocated 3 minutes.

ITEMS OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER (RESOURCES) (INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLOR ALAN CULLENS)

5. **Annual Audit and Inspection Letter for 2007/08 (Pages 7 - 22)**

To receive and consider the enclosed Annual Audit and Inspection Letter for 2007/08 from the Audit Commission.

6. **Developing Employees and Elected Members** (Pages 23 - 30)

To consider the enclosed report of the Corporate Director (Human Resources and Organisational Development).

ITEM OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER (BUSINESS) (INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLOR BY PETER MALPAS)

7. **Final Supplementary Planning Document on Sustainable Resources** (Pages 31 - 50)

To consider the enclosed report of the Corporate Director (Business).

The Supplementary Planning Document is a lengthy document comprising almost 50 pages. A copy of the Document has been placed in the Members' Room in the Town Hall and can be viewed on the Council's web-site through the following link:

<http://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/Published/StdDataDocs/8/2/2/0/SD00000228/SustainableResources.pdf>

ITEM OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER (NEIGHBOURHOODS) (INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLOR ERIC BELL)

8. **Neighbourhood Action Plans** (Pages 51 - 54)

To consider the attached report of the Corporate Director (Neighbourhoods).

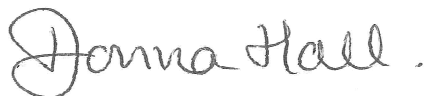
ITEM OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER (PEOPLE) (INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLOR JOHN WALKER)

9. **Approval of Core Funding grants for 2009/10** (Pages 55 - 64)

To consider the enclosed report of the Corporate Director (People).

10. **Any other item(s) that the Chair decides is/are urgent**

Yours sincerely



Donna Hall
Chief Executive

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Distribution

1. Agenda and reports to all Members of the Executive Cabinet, Lead Members and Chief Officers for attendance.

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Please telephone 01257 515118 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
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Executive Cabinet

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 12 February 2009

Present: Councillor Peter Goldsworthy (Executive Leader in the Chair), Councillor Pat Case (Deputy Leader of the Council) and Councillors Eric Bell, Alan Cullens, Peter Malpas and John Walker

Also in attendance:

Other Members: Councillors Dennis Edgerley, Anthony Gee, Harold Heaton, Roy Lees, Adrian Lowe, Debra Platt and Ralph Snape

09.EC.14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were recorded from Councillors Henry Caunce and Marie Gray.

09.EC.15 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest by any of the Executive Members in any of the meeting's agenda items.

09.EC.16 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 8 January 2009 were confirmed as a correct record for signature by the Executive Leader.

09.EC.17 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Executive Leader reported that there had been no requests from any member of the public to speak at the meeting.

09.EC.18 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT - THIRD QUARTER OF 2008/09

The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) which set out and reviewed the Authority's performance both in respect of the 36 key projects included in the refreshed 2008/09 Corporate Strategy and against the new National Indicators for which the Council was responsible, during the third quarter of 2008/09 ending on 31 December 2008.

The report revealed an overall commendable performance on the delivery of the Corporate Strategy key projects, with 26 schemes progressing on, or ahead of, plan and 9 schemes in their planning and initiation stage but expected to be delivered within budget. The reason for the one remaining project to continue improvement of the green corridor of Chorley being forecast to overrun the programme was that adverse weather conditions had affected completion of the Duxbury Park Golf Course element of the project.

The report also revealed a good performance in respect of the national indicators that could be measured, with 8 out of 12 being on target and an improved performance in relation to 7 indicators. Action plans had been compiled and adopted in respect of the three indicators where performance had been lower than anticipated.

Questions were raised by Members in respect of the Duxbury Park project and the performance against the national indicators relating to the percentage of major planning applications processed within the timescale and the time taken to process new and altered claims for Housing and Council Tax benefits.

Decision made:

That the report be noted.

09.EC.19 CHORLEY PARTNERSHIP'S PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THIRD QUARTER OF 2008/09

The Executive Cabinet considered an update report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) on the activities of the Chorley Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), particularly through its delivery of 11 strategic projects and its performance in relation to the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and targeted key performance indicators from the Sustainable Community Strategy over the third quarter of 2008/09.

The report revealed that delivery of the LSP's projects remained on track and good progress was being achieved in relation to the delivery of the LAA targets.

While both the overall level of crime and the serious acquisitive crime rate in Chorley had increased over the past quarter period, the statistics compared favourably with those for neighbouring authorities.

Particular reference was also made to the increase in the percentage of vacant town centre floor space, caused primarily by the recent closure of a major town centre retailers' premises. In response to a Member's query on this issue, the Executive Member (Business) highlighted the marketing campaign being undertaken by the Council and the Chorley LSP to attract new businesses to the Borough. In this context an appendix to the submitted report outlined the range of measures and advice available from Chorley Council and other agencies presently being offered to companies and individuals affected by the current economic downturn.

Decision made:

That the report be noted.

09.EC.20 CENTRAL LANCASHIRE AND BLACKPOOL GROWTH POINT PROPOSAL - UPDATE REPORT

The Corporate Director (Business) presented a report seeking the Executive Cabinet's instructions on the Authority's commitment or otherwise to the Central Lancashire and Blackpool Growth Point initiative.

Following the Council's support of the submission of the Programme of Development, the Government had offered to allocate £5.27m to the initiative over the next two years, split between capital and revenue.

Chorley Council's participation in the Growth Point bid had been on the expectation that the accelerated growth would result in the provision of more affordable housing units for the Borough. In order to ensure that development was restricted to the suitable identified sites with associated infrastructure, it was essential that any accelerated growth be managed through the Local Development Framework Core Strategy. The projected revenue funding was currently insufficient to deliver the accelerated Core Strategy and the report suggested pursuance of a request for the allocation of part of the capital funding to revenue towards the cost of the accelerated Core Strategy.

The Executive Cabinet were reminded of, and accepted the benefits to be derived from the accelerated developments likely to accrue from the Growth Point initiative, but reiterated the qualification that its support was dependent on the amount of new housing development specified in the Regional Spatial Strategy (approximately 417 units per year) not being exceeded and no Green Belt land being developed.

Decisions made:

1. That the Council commits to the Growth Point initiative, but reserves the right to withdraw if insufficient funds are available to help accelerate the development of the LDF Core Strategy.
2. That the Council commits to the Growth Point initiative, subject to a satisfactory negotiation on the memorandum of understanding, including confirmation that:
 - sufficient revenue funds will be available to help accelerate the development of the LDF Core Strategy;
 - any housing development in Chorley will not exceed the amount set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy (approximately 417 per annum);
 - the Green Belt will be safeguarded;
 - sufficient capital funds will be available to assist the funding of the programme of development as set out in the submitted report.

Reason for Decisions:

To ensure that the Council benefits from participation in the Central Lancashire and Blackpool Growth Point initiative in terms of the provision of more affordable housing units, subject to satisfactory safeguards being put in place.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

09.EC.21 HIGHER DENSITY HOUSING - ACHIEVING HIGH QUALITY

The Corporate Director (Business) submitted a report recommending the approval, for consultation purposes, of a Guidance Note on the design of higher density housing developments, which had been advocated by the Government as a more sustainable form of development.

The Guidance Note set out guidelines and advice on issues such as design standards, density, landscaping and car parking, together with other criteria against which development proposals would be assessed.

The guidance aimed to address relevant concerns and design issues connected with each potential development site to ensure that higher density housing schemes respected the characteristics of the surrounding areas.

Decision made:

That the Guidance Note entitled 'Higher Density Housing – Achieving High Quality Design', as now presented, be approved for consultation purposes, with a view to its ultimate use as a development control tool when judging the merits of higher density housing applications, including back garden developments.

Reasons for decision:

The Higher Density Housing Guidance Note directly supports the Corporate Strategy aims of developing the character and feel of Chorley as a great place to live, and strengthening Chorley's economic position in the Central Lancashire sub-region.

It updates previous guidance notes relating to this subject area and responds to Government Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development and

Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing. These require local authorities to create more sustainable residential environments.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

09.EC.22 ST. GEORGE'S STREET CONSERVATION AREA - APPRAISAL AND MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

The Corporate Director (Business) presented a report on the main findings of the St George's Street Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Proposals Document and seeking the Executive Cabinet's endorsement of its principal recommendations.

A detailed analysis of the St George's Street Conservation Area, whilst revealing the special, key characteristics of the area, had also identified a number of negative aspects and causes of concern. The analysis had led to the compilation of a number of management proposals which highlighted the opportunities for associated projects and actions aimed at enhancing the appearance of the Conservation Area. These proposals included:

- an updating of the Council's 'Shopfront Design Guide' and the introduction of an 'Area of special advertisement control';
- exploring the potential for grant aid to assist with improvements to shopfronts, the reversal of inappropriate alterations to buildings; and repairs and appropriate improvements, including the reinstatement of original features for buildings within the Conservation Area;
- the introduction of an Article 4(1) Direction to protect buildings not otherwise protected from inappropriate alteration;
- changes to the Conservation Area boundary to enhance and further protect its setting.

The Appraisal and Management Proposals document included a summary of the responses to the comprehensive consultation exercise that had been undertaken on the plans.

The Corporate Director also referred to the potential sources of external funding that could be attracted to fund conservation projects, which in turn was likely to enhance the vibrancy of the area.

Decisions made:

1. **That the St George's Street Conservation Area Appraisal, as now presented, be endorsed.**
2. **That the Management Proposals, as now presented, be adopted as the basis for future improvement and control in the area, subject to the availability of sufficient funding.**
3. **That the introduction of a Direction under Article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 to increase control over additions and alterations in the Conservation Area be supported.**
4. **That the necessary statutory procedures to introduce an area of Special Advertisement Control and to implement the proposed boundary changes to the Conservation Area be endorsed.**

Reasons for Recommendations:

Section 71 of the Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires the Council to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of their Conservation Areas.

The planned programme of actions evolving from the review instigated under the Council's Heritage and Conservation Strategy is expected to improve both the appearance of the Conservation Area and the vitality of business within the area.

09.EC.23 REVENUE BUDGET, 2008/09 - MONITORING REPORT

The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) monitoring the Council's financial performance during the third quarter of 2008/09 in comparison with the budgetary and efficiency savings targets for the current financial year.

The report confirmed that the Council was on course to achieve its overall savings target of £320,000 by the end of the financial year, and the projected budget deficit at the year end had been reduced over the past quarter period to £63,000.

The report indicated that close monitoring of a number of budget areas (ie major income streams; concessionary travel costs; benefits costs) would be necessary throughout the final quarter period.

The report also commented on the potential overspend on concessionary travel costs, with the current budget overspend forecast to be in the region of £143,000. Consequently, it would be necessary to identify non-committed expenditure to ensure that all feasible savings were made in order to reduce the impact on general balances. In this context, Members debated differing opinions on whether past and current Government grants had been made specifically to compensate for the Authority's proportion of concessionary travel costs, and the Executive Leader confirmed the intention for a delegation to meet the Government Minister to support action to ensure a more equitable distribution of costs throughout the County.

Decision made:

That the report be noted and that non-committed revenue expenditure budgets be identified and savings implemented, where possible, in order to reduce the impact of potential overspending on concessionary travel costs and to bring the budget to a more balanced position.

Reason for decision:

To ensure that the Council's budgetary targets are achieved.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

09.EC.24 GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2009/10 - FEEDBACK ON CONSULTATION EXERCISE

The Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) circulated at the meeting a report which summarised the responses received by the Borough Council to its consultation on the draft budget proposals for 2009/10.

A wide variety of consultation methods had been undertaken, with the majority of respondents being broadly in support of the budget proposals, considering that Council Tax rises should be contained, whilst protecting the delivery of core services.

The respondents also favoured the use of any possible additional investment in the improvement of the town centre and initiatives both to counteract the impact of the economic downturn and provide activities for young people.

Decision made:

That the report summarising the responses to the consultation on the draft budget proposals for 2009/10 be noted and taken into account in the compilation of the final draft budget proposals.

Reason for decision:

To ensure that the representations received in relation to the Council's draft budget proposals for 2009/10 are given due consideration in the compilation of the final budget plans.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

Executive Leader

Annual Audit and Inspection Letter

Chorley Borough Council

Audit 2007/08

March 2009



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Status of our reports

The Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies issued by the Audit Commission explains the respective responsibilities of auditors and of the audited body. Reports prepared by appointed auditors are addressed to non-executive directors/members or officers. They are prepared for the sole use of the audited body. Auditors accept no responsibility to:

- any director/member or officer in their individual capacity; or
 - any third party.
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Key messages

Key messages

- A Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) in June 2008 judged the Council to be excellent overall and performing well for achievement and improvement. Value for money continues to be strong and the Council has continued its good track record of improvement in terms of its published performance information.
- Recycling rates continue to increase and the quality of Chorley's services has been recognised by national awards and commendations for car parks, environmental quality and street cleansing.
- Access to services continues to improve. The Council has achieved Beacon status for Transforming Services through Citizen Engagement and Empowerment and for Better Outcomes for People and Places.
- The Council is making a positive contribution to wider community outcomes. Crime is below average and continuing to fall. The supply of affordable housing is steadily increasing. The Council is taking action to support local people through the economic downturn by providing support and advice to those out of work.
- Performance management effectively supports service improvement and capacity is good. The Council has low and falling levels of sickness absence.
- Reducing health inequalities represents a major challenge facing health and local government bodies together with their partners across Lancashire.
- The economic downturn will provide additional pressures for the Council in relation to its finances and the delivery of its stated priorities.

Action needed by the Council

- The Council should proactively manage its finances and other resources to deal with these pressures, particularly where costs and demands for services are increasing.
- The level of health inequalities across Lancashire remains a concern despite recent improvements to various organisational structures and partnership arrangements. The Council should ensure that it works closely with NHS trusts and other key partners across the borough in order to ensure that health initiatives are effectively co-ordinated and deliver outcomes.

Purpose, responsibilities and scope

- 1 This report provides an overall summary of the Audit Commission's assessment of the Council. It draws on the most recent Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA), the findings and conclusions from the audit of the Council for 2007/08 and from any inspections undertaken since the last Annual Audit and Inspection Letter.
- 2 We have addressed this letter to members as it is the responsibility of the Council to ensure that proper arrangements are in place for the conduct of its business and that it safeguards and properly accounts for public money. We have made recommendations to assist the Council in meeting its responsibilities.
- 3 This letter also communicates the significant issues to key external stakeholders, including members of the public. We will publish this letter on the Audit Commission website at www.audit-commission.gov.uk. In addition the Council is planning to publish it on its website.
- 4 Your appointed auditor is responsible for planning and carrying out an audit that meets the requirements of the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice (the Code). Under the Code, the auditor reviews and reports on:
 - the Council's accounts;
 - whether the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources (value for money conclusion); and
 - whether the Council's best value performance plan has been prepared and published in line with legislation and statutory guidance.
- 5 This letter includes the latest assessment on the Council's performance under the CPA framework, including our Direction of Travel report, and the results of any inspections carried out by the Audit Commission under section 10 of the Local Government Act 1999. It summarises the key issues arising from the CPA and any such inspections. Inspection reports are issued in accordance with the Audit Commission's duty under section 13 of the 1999 Act.
- 6 We have listed the reports issued to the Council relating to 2007/08 audit and inspection work at the end of this letter.

How is Chorley Borough Council performing?

How is Chorley Borough Council performing?

7 Chorley Borough Council was assessed as 'Excellent' in the Comprehensive Performance Assessment carried out in 2008. These assessments have been completed in all district councils and we are now updating these assessments, through an updated corporate assessment, in councils where there is evidence of change. The following chart is the latest position across all district councils.

Figure 1 Overall performance of district councils in CPA



Source: Audit Commission

Chorley Borough Council - Direction of Travel Report

What evidence is there of the Council improving outcomes?

- 8 The Council has continued to improve services and outcomes in areas that it has identified as priorities - Prosperity, Place, People and Performance - and the public say are important to their communities. A Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) in June 2008 judged the Council to be excellent overall and performing well for achievement and improvement.
- 9 In 2007/08 41 out of 50 national, best value service performance indicators improved or maintained high performance; 9 indicators did not improve or deteriorated, none of which led to significantly worse outcomes. Overall, 61 per cent of nationally-comparable indicators improved for Chorley during 2007/08, against a district council average of 57 per cent to 59 per cent. The percentage of indicators where Chorley performed in the top quartile was significantly above the national average at 41 per cent.

- 10 Progress on Prosperity has been demonstrated by business growth. The Council has taken positive action to support local people in the current economic climate by establishing a Redundancy Taskforce, the Connect to Work initiative to help residents on incapacity benefit to obtain jobs and the Count on us Campaign to provide advice and information.
- 11 Good outcomes for Place include improved street cleanliness and further increases in the amounts of household waste recycled and composted - which, with less waste collected, is reducing the amount sent to landfill. In addition, crime rates fell by 26 per cent between 2005 and 2008 and are lower than average. The quality of services has been recognised by awards and commendations for car parks, environmental quality and street cleansing. Interim data from the 2008 Place Survey shows that only 34 per cent of residents now feel that rubbish or litter lying around is a problem, compared to 45 per cent in 2006.
- 12 The Council has taken action to increase affordable housing in the borough. In 2006/07 and 2007/08 26 and 28 units were respectively delivered compared with a target of 125 units by March 2008. Progress has been made in 2008/09 towards providing 61 units - above the Local Area Agreement (LAA) target of 50 units - with projects and initiatives in place for more units in subsequent years.
- 13 Focus on People is shown by having Beacon status for Better Outcomes for People and Places. The assessment found the Council to be 'exemplary on citizen engagement and empowerment with strong political and strategic leadership'. It has a focus on achieving better outcomes for local people and a good understanding of what this means in reality. Recent developments include ensuring that older people who contact the Council, for example, about concessionary travel are referred to other public services for advice and assistance and - from April 2009 - free swimming for under 16s and over 60 year olds.
- 14 Improvements relating to Performance are reflected by increases in satisfaction with the Council overall and with other services such as sports and leisure facilities. It has Beacon status for Transforming Services through Citizen Engagement and Empowerment and a strong reputation within local government.
- 15 The Council is making a positive contribution to wider community outcomes by, for example:
 - strengthening Chorley's economic position in the Central Lancashire sub-region through support to local businesses and improvements to the town's markets;
 - contributing to sustainability with energy measures to reduce its carbon footprint;
 - improving community safety through Weeks of Action, tackling anti-social behaviour and funding Police Community Support Officers that are contributing to further reductions in crime in line with the LAA target;
 - promoting health issues with actions to address alcohol misuse and reducing the number of teenage pregnancies; and
 - demonstrating community leadership and civic pride through the Chorley Smile campaign and the Building a Chorley Community Network.

How is Chorley Borough Council performing?

- 16 Both access and the quality of services for citizens continue to improve. The Council focuses on those who have been 'hard to reach' or previously excluded. It is strengthening neighbourhood management and projects such as Circle of Need are ensuring that integrated services are provided for local people with more emphasis on rural areas. An Equality Forum has been established to provide a voice for target groups to influence service delivery. Interim data from the 2008 Place Survey shows that some 82 per cent of residents agree that the local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get along.
- 17 The Families First project - run by both the Chorley and South Ribble Local Strategic Partnerships - is a multi-agency family intervention project that provides intensive, 'joined up' support to problem families in each borough. The Choose Chorley Employment Charter is designed to help companies to recruit local people particularly those living in disadvantaged communities. The Council supports the independence of older people and the safety and well-being of children and young people by schemes such as Get up and Go and the Active Generation project.
- 18 The Council performs strongly in achieving and managing value for money which, alongside the quality of services, continues to improve. Further efficiency gains in 2007/08 meant that the Council exceeded its target over the three-year period.

How much progress is being made to implement improvement plans to sustain future improvement?

- 19 The Council is implementing a range of plans to sustain future improvement. They are linked to the Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2025 and are intended to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of the community. A revised Corporate Strategy sets out the Council's strategic objectives, long term outcomes, measures and targets and key projects for each priority. In particular it includes projects to support Chorley residents and businesses and tackle the effects of the economic recession. Other plans include:
 - providing seamless services for users at all access points such as a one stop housing advice centre and the Tell Us Once project;
 - increasing the provision of affordable housing in the borough;
 - a new waste management contract with more emphasis on customer service and pilot kitchen waste collections to divert such waste from landfill;
 - developing local solutions to climate change, for example, the One World Living project for local businesses and a Sustainable Resources Development Plan;
 - a range of projects with partners, such as environmental improvements in the more disadvantaged areas, supporting economic rural diversification and promoting awareness of mental health;
 - the Chorley Partnership's Community Cohesion Strategy; and
 - a Locality Plan with Lancashire County Council to further improve the co-ordination and impact of services within the borough.

- 20** Implementation of improvement planning is on track with most key objectives and milestones being achieved. The majority of key projects are ahead of or on schedule. The Council has allocated resources for projects which have stimulated private sector investment. Most of the short-term projects have been successfully completed with progress on longer-term projects.
- 21** Activities are being undertaken that are intended to achieve level 3 ('achieving') of the Equality Standard for Local Government in 2009 and better position the Council to assess progress against its People objectives.
- 22** Strong performance management arrangements ensure that action is taken to address services that are not meeting targets, including those delivered by partners. In the last year, for example, the Council re-assumed direct responsibility for the Homelessness function, resulting in service improvements, shorter stays in hostel accommodation and the almost elimination of bed and breakfast accommodation.
- 23** The Council has the capacity to deliver its plans with strong leadership by councillors and officers. A Workforce Development Plan sets out how the Council intends to recruit, develop and retain the staff that it needs. Training and development programmes help to sustain capacity. An e-learning package, for example, has been introduced to ensure that councillors and officers fully understand the importance of equality and diversity and its implications. The Council has an established culture that focuses on customers.
- 24** A robust approach has reduced sickness absences to an average of 7.8 days per employee which is amongst the best 25 per cent of councils. Work to improve the health and well-being of employees and human resource policies have been recognised by national awards.
- 25** The Overview and Scrutiny function has been strengthened. Task and finish groups identify opportunities to enhance service quality and governance arrangements in relation to, for example, Streetscene and Chorley Community Housing.
- 26** Capacity is enhanced through a range of effective partnerships, particularly through the Chorley Partnership where the Children and Young People's thematic group is now the Chorley Local Children's Trust. Joint working on community safety (supported by mainstream funding), with vulnerable families and on strategic housing are all having an impact. Shared financial services between Chorley and South Ribble Councils are being implemented and are intended to increase value for money and offer a high quality service to both councils.
- 27** External funding continues to support the achievement of priorities. An Enterprise Facilitator acts as an outreach worker in deprived communities to encourage business start-ups. A Sports and Physical Activity Alliance has enabled the Council to access funding of £170,000 for projects to increase participation in regular activity in the borough.
- 28** The Council is well placed to address the challenges that all councils face arising from the economic downturn. However, it will need to work carefully through the consequences of a number of financial pressures, including the cost of concessionary fares, the lack of receipt of subsidy on benefits and the 'at risk' investments in Icelandic banks.

How is Chorley Borough Council performing?

Tackling health inequalities in Lancashire

- 29** Over the past year we concluded a wide-ranging review of arrangements focusing on how partners work collaboratively to reduce health inequalities (HI) across Lancashire. Average life expectancies across the county are similar to those for England and Wales where the gap between the most affluent and most deprived areas is 6.8 years but parts of Lancashire show much greater variation.
- 30** Joint working is often challenging and health and local government bodies begin with different, sometimes competing, priorities. In addition, the need to develop healthier communities is closely linked to other priorities such as safer and stronger communities, sustainability and regeneration.
- 31** Our review found that despite progress in recent years, the county as a whole is not projected to achieve its Public Service Agreement (PSA) target to reduce HI, as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth. Partner organisations in Lancashire have a clear commitment to tackling HI and the development of plans for 2008/09 and beyond is encouraging. However, some organisations and partnerships still lack coherent longer term strategies. These weaknesses are hampering effective partnership working and performance management. Scrutiny is inconsistently applied to health issues across the bodies we reviewed in Lancashire.
- 32** Directors of Public Health (DPH) across Lancashire are not making full use of their key strategic position and engagement with local health service providers has been limited. Community groups and service users are not consistently involved in the development of HI strategies.
- 33** We have recently received a joint response from all the organisations involved in the review which refers to the significant progress made since our field work was undertaken. However performance data shows that inequalities in health remain a challenge in several areas across Lancashire. We will continue to monitor progress against this key priority for the county.

The audit of the accounts and value for money

34 We reported separately to the Audit Committee on the issues arising from our 2007/08 audit and in September 2008 issued:

- our Annual Governance Report (AGR);
- an unqualified opinion on your accounts and a conclusion on your value for money arrangements to say that these arrangements are adequate; and
- a report on the Best Value Performance Plan confirming that the Plan has been audited.

Use of Resources

35 The findings of the auditor are an important component of the CPA framework described above. In particular the Use of Resources score is derived from the assessments made by the auditor in the following areas.

- Financial reporting (including the preparation of the accounts of the Council and the way these are presented to the public).
- Financial management (including how the financial management is integrated with strategy to support council priorities).
- Financial standing (including the strength of the Council's financial position).
- Internal control (including how effectively the Council maintains proper stewardship and control of its finances).
- Value for money (including an assessment of how well the Council balances the costs and quality of its services).

The audit of the accounts and value for money

36 For the purposes of the CPA your auditor has assessed the Council's arrangements for use of resources in these five areas as follows.

Table 1

Element	Assessment 2007/08	Assessment 2006/07
Financial reporting	3 out of 4	3 out of 4
Financial management	3 out of 4	3 out of 4
Financial standing	3 out of 4	4 out of 4
Internal control	4 out of 4	3 out of 4
Value for money	4 out of 4	4 out of 4
Overall assessment of the Audit Commission	4 out of 4	4 out of 4

Note: 1 – lowest, 4 = highest

37 Table 1 shows that only the scores for Financial Standing and Internal Control varied from 2006/07. The reasons for these changes are as follows.

- **Financial Standing** was reduced in 2007/08 to level 3 because, whilst the Council continues to manage its spending well, no new and additional notable practice was identified, as required to maintain a level 4 marking.
- **Internal Control** was increased to level 4 because we noted there had been further significant improvements in internal control and probity arrangements together with associated notable practice.

The key issues arising from the audit

38 The key findings and issues arising from the audit, as reflected in the above judgements where appropriate, are as follows.

- The Council continues to perform strongly in terms of promoting external accountability and identified further examples of notable practice. These show how Chorley has built on its previous good practice for interacting with its citizens and stakeholders and outline the variety of ways that it promotes external accountability.
- The arrangements for the preparation of the accounts improved in 2007/08 and the accounts were supported by comprehensive working papers from the start of the audit. However, the accounts submitted for audit included two material misstatements together with a small number of other errors.

- The Council has strengthened its arrangements for asset management and its updated three-year capital programme links explicitly to the Council's priorities for affordable housing, the town centre and sustainability and investment in its infrastructure. Its revised Asset Management Strategy and Plan 2008-2010, reflects the new partnership arrangements with Liberata and sets out the vision, aims and actions for corporate property.
- The Council consistently maintains its spending within its overall budget and without significant unexpected overspends or under-spends. It sets challenging targets for a comprehensive set of financial health indicators, monitors performance and has a good track record of achieving these targets.
- Our 2008 review confirmed that the risk management arrangements continue to represent best practice. This year the Council developed a Framework for Partnership Working which set out corporate standards for partnership governance, including performance management and risk management.
- The Council continues to strengthen its processes to manage and improve value for money and demonstrate notable practices. The Council continues to achieve good value for money. Costs, although comparatively higher than other councils, are overall commensurate with service delivery, performance and the outcomes achieved.

39 There has been a marked economic downturn since we issued our AGR in September 2008. Chorley, in common with other councils, is facing stern ongoing financial challenges from such factors as falling income streams and increases in the demand for some of its services as the recession continues to bite. However, revenue monitoring reports continue to predict that the Council will achieve its 2008/09 planned budget outturn.

Data Quality

- 40** During the year we also undertook a review of the Council's data quality arrangements. Our review of the Council's arrangements focuses on a review using key lines of enquiry (KLOE) to determine whether proper corporate management arrangements for data quality are in place, and whether these are being applied in practice. The findings contribute to the auditor's conclusion under the Code of Audit Practice on the Council's arrangements to secure value for money (the VFM conclusion).
- 41** We concluded that the Council's overall management arrangements for ensuring data quality had improved since our last review.
- 42** In particular, the Council's overall management arrangements for ensuring data quality are consistently above minimum requirements. It has strengthened its arrangements for all five review themes. Responsibilities for data quality are more clearly defined at member and officer level. A corporate framework is in place, reflected in the Data Quality Strategy and Policy which is subject to regular reviews and updates.

The audit of the accounts and value for money

- 43** Policies and procedures are in place to secure the quality of data and are reviewed, where appropriate with partners, to ensure that they are up-to-date. Checks by Internal Audit and our own checks confirm that procedures are routinely followed. Systems and processes to secure the quality of data continue to be enhanced. Opportunities for further development are being explored, including linking the systems from different departments for reporting corporate performance information. The Council seeks assurances from partners that data complies with a third party protocol but arrangements for validating such data are less well developed.
- 44** The Council continues to ensure that staff have the knowledge, competences and capacity for their roles in relation to data quality linked to personal development reviews and training. It continues to make excellent use of performance data in managing and improving the delivery of services and, in 2007/08, can demonstrate a range of improved outcomes and enhanced capacity through a significant reduction in sickness absence.
- 45** Our review and spot checks found that the Performance Indicators reviewed were fairly stated.

Looking ahead

- 46** The public service inspectorates have developed a new performance assessment framework, the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). CAA will provide the first holistic independent assessment of the prospects for local areas and the quality of life for people living there. It will put the experience of citizens, people who use services and local tax payers at the centre of the new local assessment framework, with a particular focus on the needs of those whose circumstances make them vulnerable. It will recognise the importance of effective local partnership working, the enhanced role of Sustainable Communities Strategies and Local Area Agreements and the importance of councils in leading and shaping the communities they serve.
- 47** CAA will result in reduced levels of inspection and better coordination of inspection activity. The key components of CAA will be a joint inspectorate area assessment and reporting performance on the new national indicator set, together with an organisational assessment which will combine the external auditor's assessment of value for money in the use of resources with a joint inspectorate assessment of service performance.
- 48** From 2008/09, the auditors' assessment of use of resources will be based on new key lines of enquiry and will form part of CAA. Key lines of enquiry for use of resources were published in May 2008 following consultation. These reflect the needs of CAA and incorporate a number of improvements including: a clearer focus on value for money achievements and further emphasis on commissioning of services, outcomes for local people and partnership working.
- 49** The assessment is structured into three themes:
- managing finances: sound and strategic financial management;
 - governing the business: strategic commissioning and good governance; and
 - managing resources: effective management of natural resources, assets and people.
- 50** We hosted a workshop on 16 January for all bodies subject to Use of Resources 2009 in Lancashire to promote the new methodology which representatives from Chorley attended. We will continue to work with the Council to ensure that the new methodology is applied effectively and efficiently.
- 51** The first results of our work on CAA will be published in the autumn of 2009. This will include the performance data from 2008/09, the first year of the new National Indicator Set and key aspects of each area's Local Area Agreement.

Closing remarks

Closing remarks

- 52** This letter has been discussed and agreed with the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) and the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation). A copy of the letter will be presented at the Audit Committee on 19 March 2009. Copies need to be provided to all Council members by 31 March 2009.
- 53** Further detailed findings, conclusions and recommendations on the areas covered by audit and inspection work are included in the reports issued to the Council during the year as shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Reports issued

Report	Date of issue
Audit and inspection plan	June 2007
Annual Governance report	September 2008
Opinion on financial statements	September 2008
Value for money conclusion	September 2008
Health Inequalities report	October 2008
Use of Resources report	January 2009
Data Quality report	January 2009
Annual audit and inspection letter	March 2009

- 54** The Council has taken a positive and constructive approach to audit and inspection work, and we wish to thank the Council's staff for their support and cooperation during the audit.

Availability of this letter

- 55** This letter will be published on the Audit Commission's website at www.audit-commission.gov.uk, and also on the Council's website.

Tom Keena (Comprehensive Area Assessment Lead)

Tim Watkinson (District Auditor)

March 2009

The Audit Commission

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Report of	Meeting	Date
Corporate Director (Human Resources & Organisational Development) Introduced by Executive Member (Resources)	Executive Member (Resources)	26 th March 2009

DEVELOPING EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED MEMBERS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This report sets out performance against the Councils first Workforce Development Plan since it was produced and adopted in May 2008.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. That the report be noted.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

3. To facilitate the ongoing analysis and management of the Councils performance.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

4. None

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

5. 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

6. The Local Government Pay and Workforce Strategy identified a 10 year vision for Local Government that aimed to ensure that all Councils had 'high performing, citizen centred, skilled and motivated staff'. The Strategy required local authorities to produce a Workforce



Development Plan to clarify how they would anticipate and address both current and future key workforce challenges.

Staff and the Trade Union were consulted on the plan which contained details of the Authority's present workforce, speculated the requirements to meet future challenges and identified the methods that would be employed to meet the requirements.

The Workforce Development Plan is an essential part of the Council's improved planning by ensuring that the Authority possesses the skills, attitudes and commitment needed within the workforce to deliver the Council's vision.

The Plan is a key project within the Corporate Strategy to support the long-term outcome to provide and procure high quality, priority services.

REPORT OVERVIEW

7. The attached plan identifies the actions that have been completed in Year 1 since the adoption of the workforce development plan. In addition to those a number of planned actions have also taken place:

- Project Management Skills
- Climate Change Awareness
- Equality and Diversity Training
- NVQ2 Business Improvement Techniques

The plan will be updated to reflect the changing priorities from the Corporate Strategy, actions identified from each Directorate Business Improvement Plan and individual performance and development appraisals.

In January 2009 the Organisational Development programme was launched which is aimed at Managers and Officers who have a significant influence on the direction and outcome of the organisation, including those without management responsibility. The programme focuses on achieving people's own and their team's full potential, involving them in shaping the Council's response to its key challenges and developing their attitude, skills and knowledge.

The programme runs over a two year period, with a half-day session every six to eight weeks. Each session is evaluated to identify further development needs, which will be met outside the scope of the programme.

To meet the diverse and challenging objectives of the programme, each session is based on one of the following key themes:

1. Organisational Skills/Best Practise
2. Managing People
3. Personal Leadership

ELECTED MEMBER DEVELOPMENT : LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES 2008/09

8. There has been a comprehensive programme of Member development in the last Council year continuing the Council's commitment to improving elected member skills and knowledge both in their roles as ward members and decision makers. The programme has included a mix of both skills and initiative based training with a particular focus on supporting neighbourhood working and a review of individual Member training needs.

In summary, activities have included:

- A comprehensive induction programme for new Members in 2008
- 100% response to the Member training and development assessment process through either individual interviews or questionnaire responses and the production of personal development plans.
- Supporting the introduction of neighbourhood working with an introductory session to the seven neighbourhood areas; the carrying out of ward walks in all 20 wards in the Borough; and a neighbourhood bus tour to launch neighbourhood action plans.
- Skills based training for communications, chairing skills, licensing practice and planning practice, new ICT arrangements
- Initiative and knowledge based sessions including the LSP, Understanding MATAC, Families First project, new Waste and Recycling service, Accessing Ward Resources.
- Linking into a range of countywide training opportunities through Team Lancashire's Community Champions programme.

ATTAINING LEVEL 2 CHARTER STATUS

9. The Council is due to be reassessed for Level 1 of North West Employers Member Development Charter in 2009 and as agreed under the Corporate Strategy, will also be seeking attainment of the higher Level 2 Charter. This requires the Council to demonstrate the impact of Member training and development around one key initiative. The Member Support Working Group is leading on this project and is using Member development towards Neighbourhood Working as its main theme. There is also the need to show continued improvement and initiatives like intheknow and the Planning in Practice training for both District and Parish Councillors will be used to demonstrate this. The application will be submitted by the end of April and the assessment process will take place over the summer.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

10. 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 CORPORATE DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

11. Contained within the report.

LORRAINE CHARLESWORTH
CORPORATE DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Lorraine Charlesworth	5159	11 March 2009	***

Priority Area	Objective	Action	Progress
<p>1. Organisational Development</p>	<p>Building Capacity</p>	<p>Develop the skills and behaviours of managers and employees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update competency framework 	<p>Competency framework adopted and embedded within recruitment and selection, and performance and development appraisals</p>
	<p>Building better partnerships</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Agenda / Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise the skills for developing and sustaining partnerships and relationships in practice. • Explore the characteristics of an effective partnership • Collaborative working skills • Customer focus and empathy skills 	<p>All modules included within Organisational Development programme attended by 90+ Managers and Senior Officers</p>



	<p>Workforce that reflects the diversity of the Community</p>	<p>Achieve level 3 of the Equality Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liase with the Council's Equality Forum • Review of recruitment and selection policy • Liase with LCC WorkRight to • encourage applicants with Disabilities 	<p>IDEA Level 3 assessment scheduled for 1st or 2nd April 2009.</p> <p>Self assessment and evidence has been submitted.</p> <p>Recruitment on the Equality Forum's Forward Plan.</p> <p>Recruitment and Selection Policy revised</p> <p>All desk based employees have completed an online equality training package which has been tailored to the Councils needs.</p> <p>Non desk based staff will also receive equality and diversity training.</p> <p>Managers will receive training on equality and diversity as part of the Organisational Development programme.</p>
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<p>2. Leadership Development</p>	<p>Environmental Awareness</p>	<p>Educate and inform staff on the implications of environmental issues in relation to their work and personal life</p>	<p>Climate Change briefings delivered to Strategy group and all Middle Managers.</p>
	<p>Develop next generation of leaders</p>	<p>Leadership Development Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competency Model 	<p>Management behaviours identified within competency framework</p>
	<p>Promote Cultural Change</p>	<p>Developing productive working relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining communication and the importance of it • Influencing and negotiation skills to achieve results • Building productive working relationships • Communicating assertively • Understanding and influencing cultures • Impact of Leadership on Culture 	<p>All modules included within Organisational Development programme attended by 90+ Managers and Senior Officers</p>
	<p>Building Capacity</p>	<p>Update skills data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify any critical skills gaps • Actions to plug the gaps <p>Future workforce needs identified via PDPs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 95% Completion 	<p>Skills audit completed as part of annual performance and development appraisal</p> <p>81% PDPs completed</p>
<p>3. Skills Development</p>			

<p>4. Recruitment and Retention</p>	<p>Skills for Life</p>	<p>Identify those without minimum NVQ2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve Get On Award 	<p>Analysis of skills audit completed</p> <p>NVQ2s introduced</p> <p>Skills Pledge signed</p> <p>Commitment made to progress Skills for Life in NweO GO Award</p>
	<p>Eliminate critical skills gaps</p>	<p>Competency Framework</p>	<p>Completed and embedded in recruitment and selection and performance appraisals</p>
	<p>Attract more young people into Local Government</p>	<p>Increase modern apprenticeship opportunities in line with LAA targets</p>	<p>8 apprentices recruited in 08/09</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">5. Pay and Rewards</p>	<p>Workforce reflective of the community</p>	<p>Explore student placements, graduate projects and work experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forge better links with schools and college 	<p>1 graduate recruited as part of the National Graduate Scheme</p> <p>Expanded on work experience with local schools</p> <p>Pilot 2 placements from Future Horizons programme</p> <p>Attendance at local career events promoting employment within the Council.</p>
	<p>Modern Pay System to reflect new priorities and new ways of working</p>	<p>Maintenance of new pay structure</p>	<p>Maintained through the job evaluation of any new or changed job role.</p>
	<p>Workforce reflective of the community</p>	<p>Develop assessment based progression</p>	<p>Progression through career graded posts in Planning, Revenues and Benefits and Customer services determined at the annual appraisal by duties, size and complexity of the role to enable career development and succession planning.</p>



Report of	Meeting	Date
Corporate Director (Business)	Local Development Framework Working Group	11/03/09
	Executive Cabinet	26/03/09

SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To inform members of the responses received in relation to the public consultation carried out on the Draft Sustainable Resources Supplementary Planning Document in Appendix A and seek endorsement of the recommendation to adopt the document.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- That Executive Cabinet endorses adoption of the Sustainable Resources Supplementary Planning Document, with any minor textual amendments delegated to Corporate Director (Business).

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		Develop local solutions to climate change.	✓
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances		Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	✓
Involving people in their communities	✓	Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organization	

BACKGROUND

- The Sustainable Resources Development Plan Document (DPD) was adopted on 23 September 2008. This document contains two policies, the first (SR1) sets out requirements for incorporating sustainable resources into new developments and the second (SR2) sets out criteria for stand-alone renewable energy schemes.
- A draft Sustainable Resources Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was consulted on in March 2006 along with the Sustainable Resources Preferred Options Development Plan Document. This document supplemented the policies in the DPD through the provision of practical advice on how to incorporate the sustainable use of resources into new development.



6. Following the Examination in Public on the Sustainable Resources DPD, which took place in May 2008, the Inspector produced a report concluding that the document is sound subject to a number of minor amendments. Given these amendments the Supplementary Planning Document was updated and a second draft consulted on for 6 weeks from 7 January to 18 February 2009.

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED AND COUNCILS RESPONSE

7. During the 6-week consultation period, 43 formal representations were received from 15 respondents. Of these 18 supported the document, 8 objected and 17 did not state whether they supported or objected to the document. 4NW confirmed that the SPD is in general conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy.
8. Most of the representations generally seek minor changes and clarification. Textual changes are proposed in response to these representations along with changes to the maps. All representations and the Councils response are summarised in Appendix A. Those responses that result in a change to the SPD are shown in bold.
9. All amendments have been shown in bold and underlined within the revised Supplementary Planning Document. The main changes are:
 - The supporting text for criteria (b) has been amended to include reference to designated sites of local, county and regional importance such as Geological Heritage Sites, Biological Heritage Sites, Historic Parks or Gardens and Local Nature Reserves. They will therefore be protected in the same way as statutory sites.
 - Maps 3 and 6 in Appendix 7 have been amended to show all the above designations.
 - Additional text has been added to Appendix 7 to explain the maps in more detail.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

10. This report has no implications.

JANE MEEK
CORPORATE DIRECTOR (BUSINESS)

Background Papers			
Document	Date	File	Place of Inspection
Sustainable Resources Development Plan Document	September 2008		Civic Offices, Union Street
First Draft Sustainable Resources Supplementary Planning Document	March 2006		Civic Offices, Union Street

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Katherine Howarth	5295	25 February 2009	***

Draft SPD Representations - Feb 09

Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part rep relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR01	01	GONW	Not Stated	Whole document	No comments.	Noted.
SR02	01	Brindle and Houghton Parish Councils	Not Stated	Whole document	No comments.	Noted.
SR03	01	Tarleton Parish Council	Support	Whole document	The Parish Council, as lay persons, cannot necessarily comment on the technicalities of the measures recommended but would like to comment in a positive and supportive manner on the Council's efforts in applying measures that contribute to the reduction in global warming.	Support noted.
SR04	01	Horwich Town Council	Not Stated	Whole document	No comments.	Noted.
SR05	01	Natural England	Support	Whole document	We support the general aims of the SPD to reduce carbon emissions through reducing energy use and promotion of low carbon and renewable energy, the sustainable management of water resources and waste reduction, reuse and recycling. We are pleased that our previous comments on the Draft SPD have been taken on board, particularly in respect of protection of natural resources and consideration of impacts on the natural environment and particularly welcome the inclusion of Policies SR1 and SR2 which makes the document more robust in planning terms.	Support noted.



Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part rep relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SF05	02	Natural England	Support	Section 4	We particularly welcome the inclusion of this section and while we acknowledge that this is not required by the DPD, it nevertheless makes the document more appropriate for a wider audience including planners, statutory bodies, developers and the general public.	Support noted.
SF05	03	Natural England	Support	Habitats Regs Screening Report	We are pleased that our previous comments on the draft report have been taken on board. While we concur with the conclusions, we suggest that these be detailed in a separate section rather than tagged on the end of 'Brief Description of the Sustainable Resources DPD'. We also suggest that all the information on pages 1 and 3 would benefit being broken down into sections under separate headings e.g. 'Introduction' (including legislation), 'Description of European Sites' (including criteria for selection and reference to the tables and maps), 'Assessment' (including cumulative effects and references to the tables) and 'Conclusions' as a separate section as discussed above.	Comments noted. The Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report will be amended as suggested.

Council's Response

Comments

Objecting or Part rep Supporting? relates to

Organisation

Sub Ref

The purpose of the SPD is to provide practical advice and guidance to enable developers to achieve the sustainable resources policies set out in the Sustainable Resources DPD. Scientific terms are used to express requirements for the different technologies. These requirements are set out in national policy.

Appendix 5 provides examples of carbon savings from a range of low carbon technologies and the average cost per m2 of each technology. Appendix 6 sets out examples of suitable low carbon technologies for different building types. The purpose of these appendices is to help inform developers as to which technologies would be most suitable/cost effective for their development. However as stated under criteria (b) of Policy SR1 applicants are strongly advised to seek specialist advice to calculate and demonstrate the carbon reduction requirement.

Document does no more than present good intentions. There is very little that the SPD can be assessed by. It also contains scientific terms that are hard to interpret as a lay person e.g. how loud does a noise of 35 to 40 decibels sound in a quiet environment?

No attempt has been made to cost the various items or to make a value judgement as to which of the various approaches are most beneficial/cost effective.

Criteria (e) of Policy SR1 (page 4) takes an uncritical approach. The wider social, environmental and economic benefits are very vague. Does it imply more jobs, if so how many and are they skilled/unskilled?

In conclusion this is a well intentioned document but is lacking a critical approach and hence of limited value.

Criteria (e) sets out examples of what would be considered as wider environmental, social and economic benefits that would outweigh any adverse effects the development may cause. It is not possible to list every wider benefit as each development will be different and will be judged on its own merits. It is up to the applicant to demonstrate the wider benefits.

Support noted.

The Agency generally welcomes the production of the SPD which will provide developers with further guidance and advice on the requirements of the policies in the adopted Sustainable Resources Development Plan Document. We do not wish to comment on the detailed technical content.

The 'Landscape and Topography' section of para 3.6 discusses the use of trees as part of passive solar design. The Councils 'Planning Guidelines for Trees and Development' also sets out guidance for the use of trees in new developments.

Street lighting is dealt with by Lancashire County Council.

Whole document

Not Stated

Anderton Parish Council

SF06 01

Whole document

Support

North West Regional Development Agency

SF07 01

Para 3.6

Support

Whittle-le-Woods Parish Council

SF08 01

Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting? relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR09	01	GeoLancashire	Object	<p>No recognition that under PPS9 and the RSS policy EMT (A) there needs to be parity of protection for geodiversity features with wildlife conservation.</p> <p>Suggest 2 possible changes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the addition of a criteria (f) which sets out the requirement of the above, or less satisfactorily; 2) Policy SR2 criterion (d) altered to read 'Harm to local nature, ecology, geodiversity and biodiversity'. Also replace the phrase 'the presence and importance of species and habitats' with 'geological and wildlife conservation.' 	<p>The sustainable resources policies are set out in the Sustainable Resources DPD which has been adopted therefore no changes can be made to the policies. The purpose of the SPD is to provide practical advice and guidance to enable developers to achieve the policies.</p> <p>Criteria (b) of Policy SR2 sets out requirements for sites with statutory protection. As well as these statutory sites, a number of sites of local, county and regional importance are also designated in the Borough. It is agreed that these sites should be protected in the same way. An extra bullet point will be added under criteria (b) that reads:</p> <p>'A number of sites of local, county and regional importance are also designated in the Borough including Geological Heritage Sites, Biological Heritage Sites, Historic Parks or Gardens and Local Nature Reserves. These will be protected in the same way as statutory sites.'</p>
SR10	01	United Utilities	Object	<p>United Utilities recognises that there is a lot of interest in grey water recycling and/or rainwater harvesting. However, a lot of research studies have been undertaken which have demonstrated that they are currently expensive to install and maintain, often use significant amounts of energy (increasing carbon emissions) and have public health concerns. Therefore, before seeking to require developers to implement these systems you should be aware that acceptable and sustainable use of such systems has not been proved and so United Utilities cannot endorse their use at present.</p> <p>Comments should be restricted to rainwater recycling for garden, car washing and outdoor uses.</p>	<p>Section 4C sets out a variety of measures that can be included in new developments to reduce water consumption and improve the efficiency with which water is used including rainwater harvesting and greywater recycling. These measures include simple systems such as water butts as well as more sophisticated systems. Developers are required to take these measures into account and incorporate them into the development where appropriate. Whilst we acknowledge the findings of the research studies, reference to such systems will remain in the SPD however developers will not be forced to incorporate such systems where they are not considered appropriate.</p>

Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part rep relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR10	02	United Utilities	Object	Para 3.42	<p>United Utilities recognises that there is a lot of interest in grey water recycling and/or rainwater harvesting. However, a lot of research studies have been undertaken which have demonstrated that they are currently expensive to install and maintain, often use significant amounts of energy (increasing carbon emissions), and have public health concerns. Therefore, before seeking to require developers to implement these systems you should be aware that acceptable and sustainable use of such systems has not been proved and so United Utilities cannot endorse their use at present.</p> <p>Comments should be restricted to rainwater recycling for garden, car washing and outdoor uses.</p>	<p>Section 4C sets out a variety of measures that can be included in new developments to reduce water consumption and improve the efficiency with which water is used including rainwater harvesting and greywater recycling. These measures include simple systems such as water butts as well as more sophisticated systems. Developers are required to take these measures into account incorporate them into the development where appropriate. Whilst we acknowledge the findings of the research studies, reference to such systems will remain in the SPD however developers will not be forced to incorporate such systems where they are not considered appropriate.</p>
SR10	03	United Utilities	Support	Para 3.10	<p>United Utilities supports the principle of green roofs as they can reduce surface water run off rates, reduce flood risk and reduce river pollution in storm conditions.</p>	<p>Support noted.</p>
SR10	04	United Utilities	Support	Para 3.43	<p>United Utilities supports all these measures to reduce the use of drinking water.</p>	<p>Support noted.</p>
SR10	05	United Utilities	Support	Para's 3.44-3.45	<p>United Utilities supports the principle of SuDS as they reduce flood risk and river pollution by slowing the rate of surface water run off during storm events.</p>	<p>Support noted.</p>
SR11	01	The National Trust	Support	Whole document	<p>Overall the National Trust supports the approach being taken by the Council to provide more detailed guidance on the sustainable use of resources by developing further the approach set out in the Sustainable Resources DPD.</p>	<p>Support noted.</p>

Council's Response

Comments

Objecting or Part rep Supporting? relates to

Organisation

Ref Sub Ref

SR11	02	The National Trust	Object	Policy SR1 criteria (a) and (b)	<p>Whilst the overall approach is supported it is felt that greater consideration needs to be given to the interrelationship between these two criteria. If a 'normal' energy efficiency design is undertaken then it is reasonable that the requirements as set out in criteria (b) are then followed through in accordance with the draft document. However, there does not appear to be any significant incentive to maximise energy efficiency, for example by using more exacting insulating standards - whilst overall energy requirements may be considerably reduced there is still a requirement to install low carbon energy sources. Having regard to the Energy Hierarchy there should be greater encouragement to reduce energy demand, for example, by setting minimum standards for energy efficiency and then allowing any additional energy saving through more exacting insulation standards, air tightness etc to be counted as a direct contribution to the 10% (and later 15% and 20%) requirements set out in criteria (b) step 3.</p> <p>Whilst as stated in para 3.3 the overall requirement to provide low carbon energy sources will be reduced this is only a proportionate reduction being related to the 10% figure initially, rather than an absolute reduction as suggested above.</p>
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					<p>The sustainable resources policies are set out in the Sustainable Resources DPD which has been adopted therefore no changes can be made to the policies. The purpose of the SPD is to provide practical advice and guidance to enable developers to achieve the policies.</p> <p>As stated in para 3.3 all developments have to comply with Part L of the Building Regulations which set out minimum legal requirements for the conservation of fuel and power in buildings. Exceeding these minimum targets through the principles set out in section 3A is of benefit as it will further improve the energy efficiency of a development and therefore further reduce the predicted energy use of a development. The lower the predicted energy use, the lower the carbon emissions reduction target will be.</p>
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SR11	03	The National Trust	Object	Policy SR2 criteria (b)	<p>Planning policy guidance (PPG15 and PPG16) is clear that the wider settings of designated sites are also material considerations in the determination of planning applications and it is considered that this should be more explicitly stated. Indeed the settings of Listed Buildings are covered by statutory provisions. It is also likely in the not too distant future that the Heritage Protection Bill will be pursued and will move a single designation approach in which all designated features and their settings will have statutory protection.</p> <p>In particular it is suggested that the second bullet point should be amended to read: "Applications for renewable energy schemes in such locations will only be permitted where the applicant can demonstrate that the objectives of the site, its special characteristics and its wider setting will not be compromised by the development."</p>
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					<p>2nd bullet point of Policy SR2 criteria (b) will be amended to:</p> <p>'Applications for renewable energy schemes in such locations will only be permitted where the applicant can demonstrate that the objectives of the designation of the site, its special characteristics and its wider setting will not be compromised by the development.'</p>
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Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part rep relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR11	04	The National Trust	Object	Para 3.6 (Building Type)	<p>Research undertaken as part of the National Trust partnership with two volume house builders on its Stamford Brook housing development in Trafford has shown that, contrary to popular belief, the heat benefits for mid terraced properties from having other dwellings on either side are not usually significant. In practice with a traditional form of cavity construction the heat that enters the cavity between the two properties does not pass horizontally into the adjacent property but rises vertically and escapes from the top of the cavity. This can be addressed, as at Stamford Brook, by capping the top of the cavity to greatly reduce such heat escape.</p>	<p>The following text will be added to the 'Building Type' section:</p> <p>'In order to ensure that heat passes horizontally between properties, the cavity between the properties should be capped in order to prevent the heat rising vertically and escaping from the top of the cavity.'</p>

Accordingly the issue here is not simply one of having less external walls but the need to ally this with a form of construction that ensures that heat can transfer laterally and is not allowed to escape to the top of a cavity.

Council's Response

Comments

**Objecting or Part
Supporting? relates to**

Organisation

Sub Ref

SR11	05	The National Trust	Object	Para 3.17	LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACTS In respect of landscape impacts, the nature and characteristics of the landscape themselves that are affected will be a material consideration. It is considered that an analysis would need to be made of the character of the landscape, preferably related to more general landscape character assessment that has been undertaken across the Borough and that has had regard to its historic dimension. This should give some indication of the ability of the landscape type, depending upon its characteristics, to readily absorb the impact of large structures.	The following additional text will be added to the 'Issues to be Addressed in Wind Power Applications Table': Landscape and Visual Impacts: 'Landscape characterisation work should be undertaken by the applicant to assess the likely landscape and visual impacts of the proposal.' Cultural Heritage: 'Where relevant the impact of the development on the setting of a designated feature outside of the Borough also needs to be assessed.'
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It is suggested that the relevant text should be supplemented to make specific reference to the role of landscape characterisation work and the need for proposed schemes to assess the likely impacts in these terms (including a cross reference to the broad picture as shown by the final map in appendix 7). Arguably similar considerations will apply to other technologies, albeit to a lesser degree, in particular to hydro and landfill gas.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

It is noted that in some instances settings can be quite extensive and accordingly the impact of development within the Borough on the setting of a designated feature outside the Borough could be a material consideration - it is for example quite possible that such a situation could arise in respect of the wider setting of Rufford Old Hall which arguably includes part of Chorley Borough. It is suggested that an appropriate addition or footnote should be made to this section as map 3 only identifies such sites within the Borough rather than those beyond the boundary where their setting might impinge upon land within the Borough.

Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part rep relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR11	06	The National Trust	Object	Appendix 7	<p>It is considered that some additional clarification of the maps would assist, in particular:</p> <p>The key and the maps only include Ancient Monuments rather than all designated cultural features (Listed Buildings, Registered Historic Parks and Gardens and Conservation Areas) whereas the main text (e.g. para 2.4 under criterion (a)) suggests that the maps include all the physical characteristics that would influence the location of various renewable energy schemes. If only partial information is to be included on the maps then this needs to be clearly stated, and the limitations identified, at relevant places in the main text.</p> <p>Para 3.17 suggests that Appendix 7 (map 3) shows all cultural heritage features, rather than just ancient monuments (it should also be noted that it is also inaccurate in terms of the latter alone as it states that it shows archaeological interests - whereas other Sites and Monuments Records, which are part of the Borough's archaeological resource, are not included, only the Ancient Monuments).</p>	<p>The following designations will be added to maps 3 and 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geological Heritage Sites - Listed Buildings - Conservations Areas - Historic Park or Garden
SR12	01	Lancashire County Council	Support	Whole document	<p>Overall the SPD is welcomed and goes a long way to meeting the guidance in the PPS1 supplement and satisfying RSS policies EM17 and EM18. The process applicants will need to go through is onerous in terms of additional information especially for developments of 5 dwellings. Maybe a better approach would have been to raise the threshold and set higher targets e.g. 15-20% for decentralised renewables.</p>	<p>The thresholds were determined through the development of the policies within the Sustainable Resources DPD. The DPD has been adopted therefore no changes can be made to the policies. The purpose of the SPD is to provide practical advice and guidance to enable developers to achieve the policies.</p>

Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part rep relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR12	02	Lancashire County Council	Not Stated	Policy SR1	<p>The Growth Point is to be taken through the LDF process. The greatest opportunity is likely to come through the Growth Point and Buckshaw Village. It would be useful to refer to the larger strategic sites and what might be expected there e.g. in terms of SuDS, CHP, housing layouts. Presumably a lot more could be achieved on these sites relatively than on sites for 5 houses.</p>	<p>The Growth Point sites have not yet been made public therefore it is not possible to refer to them in the SPD.</p> <p>It is also difficult to state exactly what would be expected on specific sites. The type of technologies most suitable to a development will vary depending on the type, size and location of development. The criteria of Policy SR1 apply to all developments of over 5 dwellings or non-residential units of 500 sq metres or more and it is up to the developer to decide which technologies they think are most appropriate for their development with the assistance of the advice and guidance set out in the SPD.</p>

Council's Response

Comments

Objecting or Part rep Supporting? relates to

Organisation

Sub Ref

SR12	03	Lancashire County Council	Not Stated	Policy SR2	<p>PPS1 and RSS Policy EM17 advocates the use of a pro-active approach towards renewables and identifying appropriate areas for the various technologies. Ideally this would have been in the DPD itself but has been included in the SPD. The main point is that the maps in the appendix referred to in para 2.4 are not very clear. The content is comprehensive in terms of types of renewables and the various constraints but it is not clear where the preferred areas are. With regard to the housing buffer it is not clear why some towns/villages are included and others are not.</p>	<p>The following additional text will be added in Appendix 7 to explain the maps in more detail:</p> <p>Map 1: 'These start generating electricity at 4 m/s. This map shows average wind speeds greater than 4 m/s in the Borough.'</p> <p>Map 2: 'Larger turbines require higher average wind speeds of around 6.5 m/s. They should not be located closer than 500 metres to domestic dwellings. This map shows areas with average wind speeds above 5 m/s. 500 metre buffers are drawn around residential areas adjacent to these areas of wind speeds greater than 5 m/s. Statutory sites and sites of local, county and regional importance designated in the Borough are shown on the map as such developments could impact on these.'</p> <p>Map 3: 'Larger turbines require higher average wind speeds of around 6.5 m/s. They should not be located closer than 500 metres to domestic dwellings. This map shows areas with average wind speeds above 5 m/s. 500 metre buffers are drawn around residential areas adjacent to these areas of wind speeds greater than 5 m/s. Statutory sites and sites of local, county and regional importance designated in the Borough are shown on the map as such developments could impact on these.'</p> <p>Map 4: 'Identifies main rivers and canals in the Borough.'</p> <p>Map 5: 'Shows all landfill sites in the Borough.'</p> <p>Map 6: 'Identifies woodland within the Borough and new housing and employment sites that could utilise this technology.'</p> <p>Map 7: 'Identifies new housing and employment sites within the Borough that could utilise this technology.'</p> <p>Map 8: 'Identifies new housing and employment sites within the Borough that could utilise this technology.'</p>
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Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part rep relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR12	04	Lancashire County Council	Not Stated	Section 3D - Waste Recycling	<p>This section contains a sufficient amount of detail on household waste recycling and it also contains enough information to make people aware of the facilities that are available to them.</p> <p>The 'Waste Storage and Collection Guidance for New Developments' could be mentioned in para 3.51.</p> <p>There is no information on commercial recycling, it concentrates on household recycling although this SPD is for all types of new development. Section 4D of Appendix 2 does include a para on commercial waste that contains contacts for further information, a short para in section 3D could indicate there is information available in the appendix.</p>	<p>The majority of organisations within the Borough use private sector waste management companies, therefore the Council have little control over the amount of waste recycled by these organisations. Policy SR1 seeks to increase the amount of waste recycled by the commercial sector by requiring appropriate storage space to be provided for recyclable waste materials and composting and ensuring that waste management strategies are submitted as part of applications. Extra text will be added to the end of para 3.51 as follows:</p> <p>'Applicants are required to produce a waste management strategy as part of a planning application. The Council has produced 'Waste Storage and Collection Guidance for New Developments' which provides guidance on producing waste management strategies. Businesses in the Borough can get free of charge advice on waste management and minimisation from Envirowise.'</p>
SR12	05	Lancashire County Council	Not Stated	Policy SR2 criteria (b)	<p>This policy is not felt to be in compliance with Policy EM1 of RSS or to adequately translate PPS9 to the district level.</p> <p>This criteria should deal not only with statutory sites but also with non-statutory sites i.e. Biological Heritage Sites and Geological Heritage Sites. It needs to be recognised that whilst non-statutory sites are comprehensive, statutory sites are only representative. However, together they comprise the Priority Biodiversity and Geodiversity Resources of Lancashire.</p> <p>The national indicator on biodiversity within Local Area Agreements relates to Local Sites rather than statutory sites, hence elevation the significance of non-statutory sites.</p> <p>It should be recognised that European Annex 1 Habitats are not confined to Special Protection Areas, Chorley Borough has a significant resources of Annex 1 Habitat within the Biological Heritage Sites Register.</p>	<p>Representations from 4NW identify the SPD as being in general conformity with the RSS. Policy EM1 is not identified as being relevant to the SPD. This policy will be addressed by the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Criteria (b) of Policy SR2 sets out requirements for sites with statutory protection. As well as these statutory sites, a number of sites of local, county and regional importance are also designated in the Borough. It is agreed that these sites should be protected in the same way. An extra bullet point will be added under criteria (b) that reads:</p> <p>'A number of sites of local, county and regional importance are also designated in the Borough including Geological Heritage Sites, Biological Heritage Sites, Historic Parks or Gardens and Local Nature Reserves. These will be protected in the same way as statutory sites.'</p>

Ref	Sub Organisation Ref	Objecting or Supporting?	Part relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR12	06 Lancashire County Council	Support	Policy SR2 - criteria (b) 2nd bullet point	Supported as long as it covers all wildlife sites including Biological Heritage Sites and Geological Heritage Sites.	Criteria (b) of Policy SR2 sets out requirements for sites with statutory protection. As well as these statutory sites, a number of sites of local, county and regional importance are also designated in the Borough. It is agreed that these sites should be protected in the same way. An extra bullet point will be added under criteria (b) that reads:
SR12	07 Lancashire County Council	Not Stated	Policy SR2 - criteria (b) 3rd bullet point	It is stated that section 3B identifies possible ecological impacts, this it does not. The SPD needs to be supported by a full and comprehensive representation of Chorley's Ecological Framework as per Policy EM1 of RSS. As a minimum there needs to be a representation of the Borough's biodiversity resources to identify areas of highest biodiversity constraint, these are not necessarily represented by statutory sites. In addition RSS requires that: - ...mitigate any unavoidable damage and compensate for loss or damage through off-setting actions, with a foundation of no net loss in resources as a minimum requirement. - Plans, strategies, proposals and schemes should deliver a 'step-change' increase in the region's biodiversity resources.	'A number of sites of local, county and regional importance are also designated in the Borough including Geological Heritage Sites, Biological Heritage Sites, Historic Parks or Gardens and Local Nature Reserves. These will be protected in the same way as statutory sites.'

Section 3B identifies issues relating to ecological impacts, for technologies that may have an ecological impact, that will need to be addressed in any planning applications.

Representations from 4NW identify the SPD as being in general conformity with the RSS. Policy EM1 is not identified as being relevant to the SPD. This policy will be addressed by the Core Strategy.

Council's Response

Comments

Objecting or Part rep Supporting? relates to

Organisation

Sub Ref

The 4th bullet point under criteria (b) will be amended to read:

'Applicants should liaise with relevant statutory bodies, the Natural and Historic Environment Service at Lancashire County Council and relevant amenity groups/organisations to ensure negative impacts on the sites mentioned above are avoided or mitigated. Environmental Impact Assessments may be required for some proposals.'

The scope of the 4th bullet point needs expanding.

Liaison is needed with more than relevant statutory bodies. The Natural and Historic Environment Service at Lancashire County Council holds the main biological database in Lancashire and houses the emerging Natural Environment Records Centre/Network supported by English Nature, Environment Agency and Lancashire County Council. Liaison for ecological advice needs to be through pre-application consultation with local authorities in conjunction with their ecological advisers.

This criteria needs to deal with biodiversity harm on or off designated sites i.e. SAC/SPA, SSSI, BHS, GHS and Local Nature Reserves. It needs to deal with Ecological Networks and habitat connectivity, as well as habitat defragmentation.

Criteria (b) deals specifically with the protection of statutory sites and other designated sites. Criteria (d) aims to prevent harm to local nature, ecology and biodiversity on sites in all other locations throughout the Borough which do not have such protection.

There is also a need to check with Natural England over their new procedure relating to protected species off statutory sites.

The 1st bullet point under criteria (d) states that developers should consult with Natural England and other relevant organisations regarding the presence and importance of species and habitats in and around the proposed development site.

In terms of mitigation, appropriate measures are outlined in the Landscape and Heritage SPG to the former Joint Lancashire Structure Plan. This document would provide a useful strategy for mitigation and compensation until an updated document is produced as a sub-regional environmental framework.

Account was taken of the Landscape and Heritage SPG whilst developing the DPD and SPD however references to the document have been deleted as it is no longer part of the development plan.

Whilst SuDS may in certain circumstances 'provide biodiversity benefits' it should be recognised that this is incidental and that they cannot be used to mitigate biodiversity losses.

Comments noted.

Policy SR2 - criteria (b) 4th bullet point

Not Stated

Lancashire County Council

SR12 08

Policy SR1 - criteria (d)

Not Stated

Lancashire County Council

SR12 09

Para 3.45

Not Stated

Lancashire County Council

SR12 10

Ref	Sub Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part rep relates to	Council's Response
SR12	Lancashire County Council	Not Stated	Whole document	<p>Comments noted. The West Pennine Moors are designated as a Biological Heritage Site/Local Nature Reserve. In response to other representations criteria (b) is to be expanded to also protect sites of local, county and regional importance therefore the West Pennine Moors will be protected under criteria (b) of Policy SR2. This criteria states that applications for renewable energy schemes will only be permitted in such locations where the applicant can demonstrate that the objectives of the designation of the site and its special characteristics will not be compromised by the development. The blanket bog peat will be considered a special characteristic of this area. However, it is not possible to list all the special characteristics of each of the statutory/designated sites in the SPD.</p>
SR12	Lancashire County Council	Not Stated	Policy SR2 - criteria (b)	<p>Criteria (b) of Policy SR2 sets out requirements for sites with statutory protection. As well as these statutory sites, a number of sites of local, county and regional importance are also designated in the Borough. It is agreed that these sites should be protected in the same way. An extra bullet point will be added under criteria (b) that reads:</p> <p>'A number of sites of local, county and regional importance are also designated in the Borough including Geological Heritage Sites, Biological Heritage Sites, Historic Parks or Gardens and Local Nature Reserves. These will be protected in the same way as statutory sites.'</p>
				<p>Criteria (e) would only overrule any identified significant adverse effects if there are exceptional benefits to outweigh these effects. Criteria (e) provides examples of what the Council considers to be wider benefits, it is up to the developer to identify any wider environmental, social and economic benefits.</p>
				<p>Parts of the West Pennine Moors within Chorley District has an important resource of peat within its moorland blanket bog, our equivalent to tropical rain forest in terms of carbon stores. As a resource blanket bog peat is important in our portfolio of measures to deal with climate change. The blanket bogs store significant amounts of carbon and with positive management are capable of sequestering many times more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere than trees.</p> <p>The protection of this resource needs to be addressed by this document.</p>
				<p>This policy does not appear to provide proper protection for nationally designated sites, and does not consider non-designated sites at all. This does not appear to reflect Policy EM1 of RSS or PPG15 and PPG16.</p> <p>Whilst criteria (b) appears to protect statutory sites, the wide provisions of criteria (e) would appear to overrule the protection they are afforded, particularly that set out in the second bullet point. What is meant by 'a significant reduction in CO2 emissions in the Borough' and how would this be weighed against the loss, for instance of a Listed Building?</p>
				<p>It also needs to be recognised that sites with statutory protection comprise only a small proportion of the Borough's known heritage and that some types and dates of sites are woefully under represented in statutory schedules and lists. Sites which do not have statutory protection include features of local, county and regional importance, whose loss or damage will have significant and lasting impact. There is a specific criteria to protect local ecology and biodiversity yet no similar protection is granted to other forms of local heritage which may be less resilient to change. Some attempt has been made to address this in the way that the advice in section 3B is worded, but a formal criteria is sorely needed.</p>

Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part rep relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR12	13	Lancashire County Council	Support	Section 3B	The inclusion of cultural heritage into the discussion of these elements is welcomed.	Support noted.
SR12	14	Lancashire County Council	Support	Para's 4.3 and 4.4	Both of these sections are welcomed.	Support noted.
SR13	01	Environment Agency	Support	Whole document	We welcome this document and fully support its objectives. Our only specific comment relates to para 3.18 which refers to the need for impoundment licences and land drainage consent. Schemes may also require an abstraction licence.	Support noted. The final sentence of para 3.18 will be amended to read: 'An impoundment licence and/or abstraction licence may also be required under the same Act.'
SR14	01	4NW	Support	Whole document	It is considered that the Draft SPD is in general conformity with the RSS.	Support noted.
SR15	01	Adlington Town Council	Not Stated	Para 1.1	We regret that the spatial vision only mentions 'to reducing carbon emissions' and consider it would be more emphatic and specific if it referred to 'the wider use of sustainable resources together with reducing carbon emissions by a variety of means including better insulation to reduce energy use, improvements in public transport to reduce the use of cars and the use of alternative low carbon or renewable fuels.'	The spatial vision was developed as part of the DPD which is now adopted therefore no changes can be made to it.
SR15	02	Adlington Town Council	Support	Para's 1.5 and 1.6	We welcome all efforts to promote the better insulation of homes, offices, shops and factories in order to reduce energy consumption.	Support noted.

Ref	Sub Ref	Organisation	Objecting or Supporting?	Part relates to	Comments	Council's Response
SR15	03	Adlington Town Council	Not Stated	Policy SR1	<p>We are concerned at the emphasis placed on the use of passive solar design. Whilst this can be useful , solar energy is uncertain and highly variable in our Lancashire climate.</p> <p>We agree with steps 2, 3 and 4 of criteria (b). It is imperative that the use of low or nil carbon energy sources is encouraged and greatly increased.</p>	<p>Passive Solar Design is a simple and effective way of reducing the energy use of buildings and the principles should therefore be addressed in new developments.</p>
SR15	04	Adlington Town Council	Not Stated	Policy SR2	<p>In the past and present many renewable energy schemes have been held up or prevented by planning objections such as visual impact, harm to the landscape, noise levels, ecological impact and loss of amenity. The need for substantial renewable energy sources both locally and nationally must be considered an overriding requirement. The targets have little chance of being met unless there are radical changes in planning procedures. Nevertheless there must be a place for the recognition of local interests and objections.</p> <p>Wind energy - has limitations, only effective when wind speeds are above minimum levels. The jury is still out on whether the return is economically viable.</p> <p>Hydroelectric - the adoption of hydroelectric plants along the Yarrow and Douglas would bring significant benefits.</p> <p>Biomass - faces significant problems. If woodlands are planted on impoverished acid moorland then yields of timber are low. More fertile land is required but much of this land is currently in use for agricultural production.</p>	<p>Criteria (e) states that any significant adverse effects of a development will normally result in the refusal of a planning application unless there are wider social, environmental and economic benefits that outweigh these adverse effects.</p> <p>Comments relating to specific technologies are noted. The policies will ensure that schemes are only approved in suitable locations.</p>
SR15	05	Adlington Town Council	Support	Section 3C	<p>We fully support this section. Consideration should be given to the construction of more reservoirs to store our rainfall and water meters should be widely installed to encourage more careful use of water.</p>	<p>This is outside of the remit of the SPD. Water meters are installed in all new dwellings.</p>

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Report of	Meeting	Date
Corporate Director (Neighbourhoods) (Introduced by the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods)	Executive Cabinet	26 March 2009

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLANS

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 Further to the approval at Executive Cabinet on 14th February 2008 of the arrangements to progress Neighbourhood Working, this report proposes the route by which to adopt and monitor the subsequently produced Neighbourhood Action Plans for each of the 7 Neighbourhood Areas in Chorley.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2 To delegate approval of the Neighbourhood Action Plans to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods) in consultation with the Lead Member for Neighbourhoods and the relevant Ward Members.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- 3 The report outlines the process undertaken in developing specific action plans for each of the 7 Neighbourhood Areas and the subsequent process for approval and monitoring. Whilst the Neighbourhood Action Plans should be considered as flexible plans, the formal period of monitoring for those plans to be approved is from 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) (If the recommendations are accepted)

- 4 Neighbourhood working is an important area of development for Chorley. It is therefore important that an appropriate approval and monitoring process is agreed for the Neighbourhood Action Plans. It is essential to secure the support of the Executive Member, the Lead Member and the ward members and to ensure that actions are agreed and monitoring arrangements are in place. Delivery of the actions are the responsibility of a number of agencies, including specifically Chorley Council, and it is essential that an element of ownership of the actions, and financial spend, is established from the outset.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 5 None appropriate.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 6 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	X	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	X

BACKGROUND

7. Early in 2008, we began to focus on how Chorley Council could work together with partner agencies, other organisations, and most importantly residents, to make a really positive impact at a very local level. To focus attention, 7 Neighbourhood Areas, covering the whole Borough, were identified.
8. Profiles for these 7 Neighbourhood Areas have been developed using local intelligence information about the people and the place. They also show where and how facilities and services operate, how communities are represented, who our key partners are and they also identify opportunities for the future. Information contained within Parish Plans, community action plans, and a wide range of other data relating to each Neighbourhood Area, and importantly, each smaller neighbourhood, community or Parish, have also been included within the profiles.
9. Ward walks were undertaken across all 20 Wards in the Borough and which were led by the Councillors for each Ward. These walks provided for the collection and collation of issues prevalent within the ward areas and which required an immediate, medium or long term response. The walks also provided for the opportunity to celebrate and share success and these examples are being used as 'best practice' to support development across respective ward areas.
10. A number of consultation mechanisms were adopted to ensure representative issues were identified for inclusion. These included 'drop-in' sessions for local residents, at different community venues across the Neighbourhood Areas. We received views on Neighbourhood Area issues from residents involved in Locality Planning through the Chorley Smile Panel, from Chorley's Equality Forum, and children taking part in Chorley's Playday and Local Democracy Week activities.
11. Each of the 7 Neighbourhood Areas has a dedicated 'virtual' Neighbourhood Team, made up of people from all the key partner organisations – Council, Police, Health, Registered Social Landlords, Children's Centres and including voluntary, community and faith sector groups – that have something positive to offer to that neighbourhood.
12. Using all of the different kinds of information listed above, a Neighbourhood Action Plan has been developed for the forthcoming year for each Neighbourhood Area. These initial plans will help us all to find a way forward on a range of issues, from increasing the frequency of maintenance activities to tackling some complicated grass roots projects.
13. It is proposed that the Action Plans are approved as a delegation to the Executive Member and Lead Member in consultation with the ward members. The Action

Plans will be monitored as a review after the first six months of operation, in September 2009.

14. Growth contained within the 2008/09 budget included more resources being available for improving the local neighbourhoods in Chorley. The allocation of budget for 'pump-priming' the neighbourhood action plans has been carried forward to the 2009/10 budget and which is allocated against key actions within each of the Neighbourhood Action Plans. The approval process proposed ensures that discussion and agreement on this allocation is made with the relevant ward members.

**ISHBEL MURRAY
CORPORATE DIRECTOR (NEIGHBOURHOODS)**

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Ishbel Murray	5720	13 th March 2009	N'hoodActionPlans

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Report of	Meeting	Date
Corporate Director (People) (Introduced by the Executive Member for People, Councillor John Walker)	Executive Cabinet	26/03/2009

CORE FUNDING 2009/10

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To consider Core Funding applications for 2009/2010.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- That the recommendations in Appendix A to this report be approved, subject to the Corporate Director (People) agreeing, and signing off, a Core Funding Agreement with each organisation awarded a Core Funding grant.
 - A report be prepared for a future Executive Cabinet meeting which reviews the use of Core Funding and the potential to work with partners to better co-ordinate financial support to local organisations.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- Core Funding awards are provided to local groups whose activities contribute towards the Council's Corporate Strategy and the Sustainable Community Strategy. The report contains several recommendations to provide support for local groups.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

- To provide key local organisations with Core Funding for 2009/10 to enable them to continue with their work, which contributes towards the Council's strategic objectives and the strategic themes in the Borough's sustainable Community Strategy.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- Not to award Core Funding grants in 2009/10. A reduction in Core Funding was considered as part of the wider 2009/10 Budget Consultation, but not accepted.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- The effective allocation of awards ensures Chorley Council remains a performing organisation. The applicants, combined, contribute towards all other Corporate Priorities.

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region	3	Develop local solutions to climate change.	3
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances	3	Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	3
Involving people in their communities	3	Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organization	3

BACKGROUND

7. Core Funding is revenue grant aid to organisations that provide non-profit making services in the Borough that further the Council’s strategic objectives and the strategic themes in the Borough’s Sustainable Community Strategy.
8. A condition of grant aid to all organisations that receive Core Funding is that they agree and sign a Core Funding Agreement. The Agreement specifies the services to be provided, the beneficiaries, the times the service is to be provided, performance measures etc. Where appropriate, conditions regarding safeguarding policies for children and vulnerable adults are required.
9. A letter and an application form were sent to previous recipients of Core Funding, plus those organisations that have enquired about Core Funding during the past 12 months.
10. Chorley Council’s Core Funding is one of a number of grant sources for community and voluntary organisations. Similar funding streams are managed by Lancashire County Council and NHS Central Lancashire. It is recommended that a review of Core Funding be carried out, with LSP partners, to ensure funding is delivered against our shared objectives, providing maximum value for money and is ‘user friendly’ for groups to apply for.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

11. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Corporate Directors’ comments are included:

Finance	3	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		No significant implications in this area	

COMMENTS OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (TRANSFORMATION)

12. The awards, if approved, are within the agreed budget.

JAMIE CARSON
CORPORATE DIRECTOR (PEOPLE)

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Jamie Carson	5815	10 March 2008	Core funding in excess of £5000

APPENDIX A

Applicant	Background	Recommendation
Chorley & South Ribble Shopmobility	Chorley & South Ribble Shopmobility have requested £20,000 funding for 2009/10. This is a significant increase on their 2007/08 award. Expenditure has been greater than their income in the last few years and they have been using reserves to balance their annual accounts. The applicant contributes towards making Chorley a thriving town centre, reducing pockets of inequality and improving access to public services.	A Core Funding grant of £10,500 be awarded.
Victim Support	Victim Support have requested £4,942 Core Funding for 2009/10. Core Funding was initially provided for Victim Support Chorley. In recent years a decision has been made to provide funding for Victim Support Lancashire. They've recently restructured again to create a national Victim Support organisation. Members have previously questioned the local nature of the project when it moved to a Lancashire footprint. Moving to a national footprint will present similar questions. The applicant contributes towards making Chorley a safer place and, potentially, getting people involved in their communities through volunteering.	No Core Funding is awarded in 2009/10, subject to clarification about the local impact the scheme has in the borough.
Preston & West Lancashire REC	Preston & Western Lancashire Racial Equality Council have requested £2,500 Core Funding for 2009/10. This is an increase on their award for 2008/09 of £1,500. The applicant states that the increase more accurately reflects the value of their work in Chorley. The applicant contributes towards reducing pockets of inequality and improved access to and take up of public services.	A Core Funding grant of £1,500 be awarded.
Chorley Women's Centre	Chorley Women's Centre have requested £4,548 Core Funding for 2009/10, this is an inflationary increase on their award from 2008/09. The applicant contributes towards increasing volunteering opportunities, getting people involved in their communities and reducing pockets of inequality.	A Core Funding grant of £4,460 be awarded.

<p>Chorley & South Ribble CVS</p>	<p>Chorley & South Ribble Council for Voluntary Service have requested funding for 2009/10 to cover their rent of the Farmhouse to the rear of Astley Hall. The applicant supports the local voluntary and community sector who, in turn, contribute to all strategic objectives in the Sustainable Community Strategy.</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £4,165 be awarded; to be paid by internal transfer.</p>
<p>Chorley Lifestyle Centre 50+</p>	<p>Chorley Lifestyle Centre 50+ have requested £6,520 Core Funding for 2009/10. £2,250 of this is grant and £4,270 is paid by internal transfer to offset part of their rental costs. The applicant contributes towards the Council's long term outcomes for improving the quality of life for the borough's older people; and healthier communities. They provide support and development services similar to other groups, and a drop-in social facility that meets a specific demand. The Lifestyle Centre have also requested support during a period of transition in the coming months.</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £2,250 be awarded, plus £4,270 towards their accommodation costs, the latter to be paid by internal transfer. Plus, the Council will provide additional support during their period of transition in the coming months.</p>
<p>The Arts Partnership</p>	<p>The Arts Partnership have requested £8,000 funding for 2009/10. This is a £1,000 increase on their £7,000 grant for 2008/09. The request for additional funding is to support the increased workload the Partnership has become involved in, for example, providing positive activities for children and young people. The applicant contributes towards positive activities for children and young people, increasing volunteering opportunities, getting people involved in their communities and developing the character of the borough.</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £7,000 be awarded, subject to The Arts Partnership providing an analysis of activity across Chorley, South Ribble and West Lancashire Districts and funding from each district.</p>
<p>Help the Homeless (Chorley)</p>	<p>Help the Homeless (Chorley) have requested £2,000 Core Funding for 2009/10. This is a significant increase on their award in 2008/09 of £650. The applicant's main contribution towards the Sustainable Community Strategy is around reducing pockets of inequality and getting people involved in their communities, through volunteering.</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £650 be awarded.</p>
<p>Chorley, South Ribble & District CAB</p>	<p>The CAB has requested £71,340 Core Funding for 2009/10. This is an increase of £4,100 on their grant for 2008/09 of £67,240. In addition, the CAB have requested that the Council continue to meet their accommodation costs. This is estimated to be £18,200 during 2009/10. The request for an above inflation increase is to contribute towards increased</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £67,240 (to be paid in two six monthly payments, in advance) be awarded, plus £18,200 to cover accommodation costs; subject to CAB providing the same level of service during 2009/10 as they have in 2008/09, as a minimum, maintaining the Community Legal Service Quality Mark and agreeing a process for the referral</p>

of people for debt advice by the Council.

costs that the CAB have incurred, for example, salary and pension costs. In their application, the CAB point out that the Council's Core Funding allows them to attract other external funding to their service for the benefit of borough residents.

In recent years, South Ribble Borough Council have reduced their funding for the Leyland bureau, which has resulted in a reduction in the service in Leyland. In previous years we have received assurances from the CAB that this would not impact on the Chorley bureau as South Ribble residents presenting at Chorley would be referred back to Leyland. As part of the Core Funding agreement we would seek to ensure that similar arrangements are put in place for 2009/10.

The CAB currently offer, in Chorley, six drop-in sessions per week, which includes drop-in appointments, and six telephone sessions run in tandem with the drop-in sessions. The CAB, in their application, state that other services provided in the borough, such as home visits for people with disabilities, outreach services delivered at the point of access and specialist services are paid for by other funding sources, which the security of the Council's financial support allows them to access.

The applicant has provided significant evidence to show how they contribute towards all the Council's strategic objectives, most notably reducing pockets of inequality. The services provided by the CAB were reviewed 18 months ago and were found to be very well used with high levels of satisfaction. As a result of a request for information as part of last year's Core Funding awards, officers have completed an analysis of awards made to other CABs across Lancashire. This is shown in Appendix B to this report.

The introduction of various initiatives requires closer working between the Council and the CAB to help resolve issues around homelessness and those facing mortgage difficulties. In order for the Council to be as pro-active as possible in

	<p>these areas, it is essential that we have close co-operation from the CAB to provide timely debt advice on referral. It is therefore recommended that the grant recipient will provide information, advice and advocacy on matters relating to personal debt in accordance with the principles of the CAB and OFT Debt Management Guidelines. This will ensure that those who are homeless or threatened with homelessness as a result of debt are enabled to make informed decisions about their housing options. This includes both basic advice and case work relating to customers experiencing difficulties with debt. The process for referral by the Council will be set out in a protocol agreement to be mutually agreed by both parties as part of the Core Funding agreement. This will include agreed timescales, prioritisation of referrals (to ensure the delivery of money advice for people at risk of losing their homes to rent arrears or mortgage debt) and procedures.</p>	
<p>Chorley & District Sports Forum</p>	<p>Chorley & District Sports Forum have requested a Core Funding grant for 2009/10 of £5,600. This is an inflationary increase on their award for 2008/09. Within the amount they have applied for is £1,500 for the Talented Individuals grant scheme which the Forum administers on the Council's behalf. Since taking on the administration of the Talented Individuals grant scheme, awareness and, as a result, applications have risen. Any grant offer should be conditional upon the Forum continuing to operate robust methodology for appraising applications and a fixed budget for the year. The applicant contributes towards the delivery of positive activities for children and young people, reducing inequalities, involving people in their communities and improving health. With the introduction of the Chorley Sport and Physical Activity Alliance (SPAA), the Executive Member and officers have met with the Forum to develop their forward plan. This provides clarity around the respective organisations' roles and has seen the Sports Forum attract funding for the delivery of sports programmes in the borough.</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £5,435 be awarded; subject to robust methodology being in place and a cap placed on the grants to talented individuals.</p>

<p>Chorley Pensioners Association</p>	<p>Chorley Pensioners Association have requested £350 towards their general operating costs. Their main areas of expenditure include room hire, speakers expenses, newsletter and attending regional and national conferences. The Association address isolation amongst older people, thus involving people in their communities and improving quality of opportunity and life chances.</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £350 be awarded.</p>
<p>Lancashire Sport</p>	<p>Lancashire Sport have requested £5,125 Core Funding for 2009/10. Lancashire Sport has representation from all local authorities in Lancashire. Their main areas of contribution to the Corporate Strategy are about reducing pockets of inequality and getting people involved in their communities. Lancashire Sport are changing their governance arrangements at the moment and are becoming a company limited by guarantee. Our contribution to Lancashire Sport leads to grants way in excess of our funding to Lancashire Sport, for example, Lancashire Sport has been the route by which we have been able to access £170,000 of Sport England funding for delivery of the Sport and Physical Activity Alliance plan.</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £5,125 be awarded.</p>
<p>Home-Start Chorley & South Ribble</p>	<p>Home-Start have requested £5,125 Core Funding for 2009/10 towards the general cost of their service in the borough. The applicant contributes towards reducing pockets of inequality, getting people involved in their communities via volunteering and approving access to public services. The Core Funding will support their base services and give some security to the organisation which will allow them to seek other external funding.</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £5,125 be awarded.</p>
<p>Central Lancashire Dial A Ride</p>	<p>Central Lancashire Dial A Ride have requested £2,500 Core Funding for 2009/10. This is an increase of £420 on their 2008/09 award. The increase is due to increased costs incurred by the applicant. The applicant contributes towards reducing pockets of inequality and getting people involved in their communities.</p>	<p>An in-principle Core Funding grant of £2,080 be awarded, subject to clarification around other sources of external funding provided to the applicant.</p>
<p>Preston and Lancashire Survivors</p>	<p>The applicant has requested £800 Core Funding for 2009/10. This a £390 increase on their award of £410 for 2008/09. Preston and Lancashire Survivors provide structured therapy</p>	<p>A Core Funding Grant of £410 be awarded.</p>

	<p>for adult survivors of childhood/adolescent sexual abuse. Although Lancashire focused, 35% of their clients come from Chorley. The level of activity will be monitored thorough the Core Funding agreement.</p>	
<p>Saheliyaan Asian Women's Forum</p>	<p>Saheliyaan Asian Women's Forum have requested £9,000 Core Funding for 2009/10. This is a new application. The applicant states that the Core Funding would allow the organisation to support women who are victims of domestic violence, particularly women from ethnic minority communities. However, there is a lack of detail in the application.</p>	<p>The applicant be offered support to develop their business case to support this area of work and advice be given regarding making applications for funding.</p>
<p>Groundwork Lancashire West & Wigan</p>	<p>Groundwork Lancashire West & Wigan have applied for £27,000 Core Funding in 2009/10. This is the same level of funding that they received in 2008/09. The applicant provides support for numerous local voluntary, community and faith sector organisations to deliver projects within the borough. Although they have a focus on environmental schemes, increasingly Groundwork are involved in other areas of work, such as education and training and positive activities for young people. In addition, as part of this funding, they provide support for Chorley Council schemes which allow us to lever in external funds that the Council would not be able to access. The applicant contributes towards improving equality of opportunity and life chances, involving people in their communities, developing local solutions to climate change and developing the character and feel of Chorley as a great place to live.</p>	<p>A Core Funding grant of £22,000 be awarded.</p>
<p>Age Concern Lancashire</p>	<p>Age Concern Lancashire have requested £18,070 Core Funding for 2009/10, this is a new application. Funding is to continue to deliver advice and support for older people. Projects previously being funded through Big Lottery Funds which have now come to an end.</p>	<p>That no Core Funding be provided in 2009/10, at this stage. Officers meet with partners, for example, Lancashire County Council and the Community Legal Service, to discuss how gaps in advice provision within the borough can be funded.</p>

Local Authority	Funding provided to CAB in 2008/09
Wigan	£425,754
Bolton	£184,170
Lancaster	£182,800
Burnley	£155,285
Pendle	£116,000
Wyre BC	£100,000
Chorley	£85,090
Rosendale	£75,000
Preston	£65,100
Blackpool	£64,503
Hyndburn	£57,000
Fylde	£56,167
Ribble Valley	£53,000
West Lancs	£46,118
South Ribble	£40,000
Blackburn	£28,824

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