

# Council

Agenda and Reports

For consideration on

**Tuesday, 2nd December  
2008**

In the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chorley

At 6.30 pm



## **PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS/SPEAKING AT COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- Questions should be submitted to the Democratic Services Section by midday, two working days prior to each Council meeting to allow time to prepare appropriate responses and investigate the issue if necessary (12 Noon on the Friday prior to the meeting).
- 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 ordinary Council meeting, excluding the Annual 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.

21 November  
2008

Dear Councillor

## **COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 2ND DECEMBER 2008**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Chorley Borough Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chorley on Tuesday, 2nd December 2008 commencing at 6.30 pm for the following purposes.

### **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. **Mayoral Announcements**

4. **Public Questions**

Members of the public who have requested the opportunity to ask question(s) on any item(s) on the agenda will be asked to put their question(s) to the Council. Members of the public will be allowed to ask one supplementary question within their allocated 3 minutes.

5. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)**

To confirm the Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on the 4 November 2008 as a correct record for signature by the Mayor (copy enclosed)

6. **The Council's Corporate Strategy 008/09 to 2010/11 (Pages 5 - 8)**

Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) (enclosed)

7. **Executive Cabinet (Pages 9 - 28)**

a) **Capital Programme 2008/2009 – Monitoring**

To receive a report of the Executive Cabinet (enclosed)

b) **General Report from Executive Cabinet meetings held on 2 October 2008 and 13 November 2008**

To receive the General report of the Executive Cabinet (enclosed)

8. **Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Task and Finish Groups (Pages 29 - 32)**

General Report

9. **Standards Committee**

To advise the Council that the person appointed as an Independent member of the Standards committee at the last meeting is unable to take up the position and work is underway to appoint a suitable candidate.

The Vice-Chair will give a verbal update at the meeting.

10. **Planning Application 08/00957/CB3 (Pages 33 - 34)**

To receive a report of the Corporate Director (Business) (enclosed)

11. **Financial Shared Services Joint Committee**

To consider and approve the appointment of two Members to serve on the Financial Shared Services Joint Committee with South Ribble Council, the establishment of which was approved by the Council at its meeting on 15 July 2008.

12. **Local Government Pension Scheme and Redundancy Discretionary Payments (Pages 35 - 40)**

Report of Corporate Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development (enclosed).

13. **To consider the receipt of Petitions given in accordance with the Council's Procedure Rules**

a) To report the receipt of a petition received from a group of young people regarding improvements to the skate park at Tatton Recreation Park.

b) To report the receipt of a petition from the residents of Gillibrand South estate regarding the park behind Redwing Drive.

Residents are concerned about the way in which the park has been left which they believe is a danger to the children who use it. The MP submitted a letter enclosing the petition from the local residents and wanting to know what steps the Council can take to arrange for the work to be done.

In accordance with the Council's Procedure Rules, the Council is requested to acknowledge receipt of the petition and to consider whether the issues should be debated at a future time either in Council or by another body. Accordingly the only discussion that is permitted is in relation to a motion that the petition should be remitted to a future meeting of the Council, to the Executive, a Committee or a Sub Committee.

14. **Questions Asked under Council Procedure Rule 7 (if any)**
15. **To consider the Notices of Motion (if any) given in accordance with Council procedure Rule 8**
16. **Any other item(s) the Mayor decides is/are urgent**

Yours sincerely

*Donna Hall*

Donna Hall  
Chief Executive

Gordon Bankes  
Democratic Services Officer  
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**Distribution**

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

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

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**COUNCIL****Tuesday, 4 November 2008**

**Present:** Councillor Terry Brown (Mayor), Councillor Iris Smith (Deputy Mayor), Councillors Ken Ball, Julia Berry, Judith Boothman, Alan Cain, Pat Case, Henry Counce, Alan Cullens, Magda Cullens, Mike Devaney, David Dickinson, Doreen Dickinson, Dennis Edgerley, Anthony Gee, Peter Goldsworthy, Marie Gray, Pat Haughton, Harold Heaton, Catherine Hoyle, Keith Iddon, Kevin Joyce, Hasina Khan, Roy Lees, Laura Lennox, Adrian Lowe, Marion Lowe, Peter Malpas, Thomas McGowan, June Molyneaux, Greg Morgan, Simon Moulton, Mick Muncaster, Mark Perks, Debra Platt, Geoffrey Russell, Rosie Russell, Edward Smith, Joyce Snape, Ralph Snape, John Walker, Stella Walsh and Peter Wilson

**08.C.190 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Nora Ball, Eric Bell, Alistair Bradley and Shaun Smith.

**08.C.191 MINUTES**

It was moved by the Executive Leader, seconded by Councillor Pat Case (Deputy Leader of the Council) and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting on 23 September 2008 and the Extraordinary Meeting on 17 October 2008 be confirmed as a correct record for signature by the Mayor subject to the Leader providing a written response under Minute 08.C.181, question 3 under Council Procedure Rule 7.

**08.C.192 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS**

No Member declared an interest in relation to matters under consideration at the meeting.

**08.C.193 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**Remembrance Day – Sunday, 9 November

The Mayor invited all Members to accompany him in the main procession to St Laurence's Church for the Remembrance Sunday Service at 10.00am, followed by a wreath laying service at the Cenotaph in Astley Park.

Quiz Night – Friday, 14 November

The Mayor reported that he was holding a quiz night at Sacred Heart Social Centre on Worthy Street on Friday, 14 November at 8.00pm in aid of his Charity Appeal.

Soul Night – Friday, 21 November

The Mayor reported that he was holding a Soul Night in the Lancastrian Suite on Friday, 21 November.

**08.C.194 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There had been no requests from any member of the public to speak at the meeting on any of the agenda items.

**08.C.195 THE ANNUAL REFRESH OF THE CORPORATE STRATEGY FOR 2008/09-2010/11**

The Executive Member for Policy and Performance presented a proposed Corporate Strategy for 2008-9 to 2010-11.

The Corporate Strategy sets out the Council's long term vision, priorities and strategic outcomes and targets for the next three years. It is reviewed and refreshed on an annual basis with new key projects introduced to support achievements against outcomes and targets.

The Corporate Strategy is developed alongside the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement and is the key document in the Council's business planning process.

The report detailed changes to the wording of two of the Council's strategic objectives and a number of the long-term outcomes. The Strategy contained a number of new measures, many of which were due to the replacement nationally of the Best Value Performance Indicators with the National Indicators set. The Strategy set out 33 projects, 23 of which were new, the rest of which were carried forward from last year for completion in 2009.

In debating this item, the following amendments were put forward for consideration:

1. Column 1 (Strategic Objectives)

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Adrian Lowe to add to the strategic objective of strengthening Chorley's economic position in the Central Lancashire Sub-Region "and act as an engine for economic growth in the sub-region".

The amendment was put to the vote and LOST.

2. Column 1 (an additional key project)

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Adrian Lowe and seconded by Councillor Anthony Gee to add an additional key project.

"To develop and implement a free parking scheme for the first hour, on town centre car parks".

The amendment was put to the vote and LOST.

3. Column 4 (revised outcome 4.3)

Following a proposal by Councillor Roy Lees, the Leader agreed to investigate an amendment to the measure for outcome 4.3 to 'improve' rather than 'maintain' the current level of biodiversity as assessed in the Local Development Framework.

4. Column 5 (an additional key project)

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Laura Lennox and seconded by Councillor Dennis Edgerley to add an additional key project.

"To work with Redrow who have offered to transfer 200 houses to the social rented sector".

The Leader reported that Redrow had not made such an offer.

An amendment was put to the vote and LOST.



5. Column 5 (an additional key project)

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Laura Lennox and seconded by Councillor Dennis Edgerley to add an additional key project.

“That the Council will develop and implement a solution for temporary accommodation”.

The amendment was put to the vote and CARRIED.

6. Column 5 (an additional key project)

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Adrian Lowe to add an additional key project.

“That the Council investigate and pursue the provision of a sporting village”.

The amendment was put to the vote and LOST.

7. Column 4 (an additional key project)

Following a proposal by Councillor Edgerley, the Leader agreed that if the following key project wasn't already underway, then he would ensure there was provision for this project to be included in next year's budget.

“To establish an invest to save programme for the Council's use of energy”.

8. Column 5 (amendment to a proposed key project)

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Adrian Lowe to amend the wording of the proposed key project by adding the words “and implement” to the following key project.

“Develop (and implement) seven neighbourhood action plans working with Parish Councils, other partners and community groups”.

The amendment was put to the vote and LOST.

9. Column 5 (amendment to long-term outcome)

Following a proposal by Councillor Dennis Edgerley, the Leader agreed to investigate the inclusion of either a long-term outcome or project in relation to “the improvement and extension of the green corridor of Chorley”.

10. Column 6 (additional key project)

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Ken Ball to add an additional key project.

“To review expenditure on the corporate and democratic core with a view to reducing it and increasing expenditure on frontline services like streetscene”.

The amendment was put to the vote and LOST.

**RESOLVED – That the proposed Corporate Strategy for 2008/09 to 2010/11 be agreed subject to the following changes:**

- 1. An additional key project that “the Council will develop and implement a solution for temporary accommodation” be approved.**

2. **The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council:**
  - investigate the change of wording to the measure for outcome 4.3 to “improve” rather than maintain the current level of biodiversity as assessed in the Local Development Framework; and
  - investigate the inclusion of an additional long-term outcome or project under Column 5 to “improve and extend the green corridor of Chorley”.
  - agreed that if the project “to establish an invest to save programme for the Council’s use of energy” is not underway in the current year then there will be provision for the project included in the Corporate Strategy.

Mayor



Report of	Meeting	Date
Assistant Chief Executive (Policy & Performance)  introduced by the Executive Member (Corporate Policy and Performance)	<b>COUNCIL</b>	2 December 2008

## THE COUNCIL'S CORPORATE STRATEGY 2008/9 TO 2010/11

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To confirm the Council's Corporate Strategy for 2008/9 to 2010/11 following the inclusion of revisions agreed at the Special Council meeting on 4 November 2008.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- That the attached Corporate Strategy for 2008/09 to 2010/11 be confirmed.

### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- The decisions taken at the Special Council meeting on 4 November have been implemented and incorporated into a revised Corporate Strategy document which is attached for Members information.

### 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	/

### CHANGES TO THE CORPORATE STRATEGY

- Temporary Accommodation:** the Special Council meeting requested that an additional key project to develop and implement a solution for temporary accommodation be included in the Corporate Strategy and this has now been incorporated – see Column 5, fourth bullet point under key projects.
- Green Corridor:** the Special Council meeting asked the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to investigate the extension of the green corridor as well as its



improvement. Continuing to improve the green corridor of Chorley is an ongoing project and so a further project “to investigate the extension of the green corridor to Ellerbeck” has now been incorporated – see *Column 5, second bullet point under key projects*.

- 7. **Council’s use of energy:** the Special Council meeting asked the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader to agreed that an invest to save project be included on the Council’s use of energy. A project “to deliver an invest to save programme for the Council’s use of energy” has now been incorporated – see *Column 4, third bullet under key projects*.
  
- 8. **Biodiversity:** the Special Council meeting asked the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader to investigate a change of wording to the measure in outcome 4.3 to improve rather than just maintain, the current level of biodiversity as assessed in the Local Development Framework.

In order to include a more measurable and specific target, the previous target has been replaced by the following measure for the level of biodiversity in the borough:

“The % of appropriate Council owned sites under active conservation management. The target is 14%”.

This is a new indicator, and is based on NI 197. NI 197 is included in the Lancashire Local Area Agreement, and the target that has been set reflects the target set in the LAA. The term active conservation management refers to a having a full management plan in place. This document is complex, and sets out the steps that will be taken to undertake positive conservation management. The profiled target aims, in the first year, to establish the position of Council owned land, and develop active management plans for at least 5% of Council owned sites.

**LESLEY ANN FENTON**  
**ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (POLICY & PERFORMANCE)**

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Carol Russell	5196	19 November 2008	

# CORPORATE STRATEGY OVERVIEW 2008/09 – 2010/11

## OUR VISION

The Council's ambition is for Chorley to be recognised as the most attractive, caring and vibrant place in the North West to live, to work, to invest and to visit.

People can expect safe, clean, sustainable neighbourhoods with equal access to first class, co-ordinated public services which meet their diverse needs. They can expect high quality local job and training opportunities, a decent home and to be valued and respected by all. They will be able to have their say and influence local services in their areas and to insist on good value for public money. The character of our friendly, contemporary market town and its surrounding villages will be enhanced whilst ensuring Chorley plays a pivotal role in regional economic development.

PRIORITY	PROSPERITY	PEOPLE	PLACE	PERFORMANCE		
<b>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>1 STRENGTHEN CHORLEY'S ECONOMIC POSITION IN THE CENTRAL LANCASHIRE SUB-REGION</b>  Leads: Cllr P Malpas Jane Meek	<b>2 IMPROVING EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY AND LIFE CHANCES</b>  Leads: Cllr P Case Jamie Carson	<b>3 INVOLVING PEOPLE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES</b>  Leads: Cllr J Walker Donna Hall	<b>4 DEVELOP LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE</b>  Leads: Cllr P Malpas Jane Meek	<b>5 DEVELOP THE CHARACTER AND FEEL OF CHORLEY AS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE</b>  Leads: Cllr P Goldsworthy Ishbel Murray	<b>6 ENSURE CHORLEY COUNCIL IS A CONSISTENTLY TOP PERFORMING ORGANISATION</b>  Leads: Cllr P Goldsworthy Lesley-Ann Fenton
<b>LONG TERM OUTCOME</b>	1.1 A vibrant local economy 1.2 A thriving Chorley town centre and other service centres 1.3 Preserve jobs in the borough 1.4 Create and maintain Higher Added Value jobs	2.1 The number of SOA's in the worst 20% nationally will reduce 2.2 Improved life chances for young people and children 2.3 Improved quality of life for the borough's older people 2.4 Healthier communities and reduced health inequalities 2.5 Improved quality of life in rural communities	3.1 People will be involved in decision making and in improving the well being of their communities 3.2 Increase the level of volunteering in the borough	4.1 The Council's environmental footprint will be reduced 4.2 An improved local environment 4.3 Seek to protect the local natural environment and improve biodiversity	5.1 More people will be satisfied with Chorley as a place to live 5.2 There will be a range of housing tenures that address community requirements 5.3 There will be more affordable housing 5.4 Safer communities	6.1 Community aspirations are delivered through the efficient use of resources and effective performance management 6.2 An excellent community leader 6.3 A provider and procurer of high quality priority services 6.4 An excellent Council that is continually striving to improve 6.5 Improved access to public services
<b>MEASURES and TARGETS</b>	<b>Outcome 1.1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of new businesses established. Target 53 p.a.</li> <li>Number of new businesses established and sustained for 12 and 24 months. Target 83% and 76% by March 2011</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 1.2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Centre Visits. Target 40,469 by March 2011</li> <li>Vacant Town Centre Floor Space. Target 8% or below by March 2011</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 1.3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working age people on out of work benefits. Target 12.2% by March 2011 NI152 (LAA)</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 1.4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Median workplace earnings in the borough. Target: £482.50 by March 2011 NI166 (LAA)</li> </ul>	<b>Outcome 2.1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of neighbourhoods in the worst 20% nationally. Target 7 by 2011</li> <li>Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods. Target 26.6% by March 2011 NI153 (LAA)</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 2.2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under 18 conception rate Target 20.2 per 1000 by March 2011 NI112 (LAA)</li> <li>The number of visits young people make to leisure facilities. Target 361,327 p.a. by March 2011</li> <li>The % of 16-18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). Target 5.2% by March 2011 NI117 (LAA)</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 2.3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rate of regular physical activity among older people Target 20% by March 2011</li> <li>Rate of participation in regular volunteering among older people. Target 26.6% by March 2011</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 2.4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of visits to leisure facilities. Target 900,000 p.a. by March 2011</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 2.5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live from rural wards. Target 90% by March 2011 NI5</li> </ul>	<b>Outcome 3.1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality. Target 37% by March 2011 NI4 (LAA)</li> <li>The % of people who feel their communities are places where people from different backgrounds get on well together. Target 84% by March 2011 NI1 (LAA)</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 3.2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The % of people who regularly participate in volunteering. Target 20% by March 2011 NI6 (LAA)</li> </ul>	<b>Outcome 4.1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CO2 emissions from local authority operations. Target 10% reduction by March 2011 NI185</li> <li>The Council's score for 'Adapting to Climate Change'. Target: Achieve Level 3 by March 2011 NI188 (LAA)</li> <li>The % of municipal waste land filled. Target 50% by March 2011 NI193 (LAA)</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 4.2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycling and composting performance. Target 50.19% by March 2011 NI192 (LAA)</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 4.3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level of biodiversity in the borough. The % of appropriate Council owned sites under active conservation management. Target 14% by 2011 NI197 (LAA)</li> </ul>	<b>Outcome 5.1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The % of people satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live. Target 76% by March 2011</li> <li>The % of people satisfied with parks and open spaces. Target 74% by March 2011</li> <li>The number of parks receiving Green Flag status. Target 3 by March 2011</li> <li>Street and environmental cleanliness. Targets: Litter 4.5%, Detritus 4.5% by March 2011 NI195</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 5.2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of households in temporary accommodation. Target 13 by March 2011 NI156 (LAA)</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 5.3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The % of new housing completions which are affordable. Target 20% by March 2011</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 5.4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feelings of safety during the day. Target 90% by March 2011</li> <li>Feelings of safety during the night. Target 50% by March 2011</li> <li>Reduce crime in the borough. Target reduce by 3% by March 2011</li> </ul>	<b>Outcome 6.1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfaction with the way the Council runs things. Target 63% by March 2011</li> <li>Achieve efficiency savings of 3% per annum.</li> <li>Achieve Positive Direction of Travel. Target: positive Direction Of Travel by March 2009</li> <li>Achieve 4/4 Use of Resources and Value For Money. Target 4/4 per annum.</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 6.2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieve Level Three of the Equality Standard by April 2009</li> <li>Achieve a positive LSP Peer Review by November 2009</li> <li>Achieve Level Two of the Member Development Charter by October 2009</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 6.3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of National Indicators on target. Target 73% by 2011</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 6.4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of Corporate Strategy projects achieved or on track. Target 90% by 2011</li> <li>Staff satisfaction. Target achieve 80% by 2011</li> </ul> <b>Outcome 6.5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customer satisfaction with the service received from 'Contact Chorley'. Target 98% p.a.</li> <li>The number of self-service interactions through the Council's website. Target 10% year on year.</li> <li>The number of appropriate Council services available via 'self service'. Target 100% by March 2011</li> </ul>
<b>KEY PROJECTS</b> November 08 - October 09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a succession strategy to sustain businesses for the future (1.1, 1.4)</li> <li>Develop options for the next phase of the Town Centre development (1.1, 1.2)</li> <li>Develop and deliver a markets action plan (1.2)</li> <li>Identify and design key projects from the Town Centre Audit and Urban Design Strategy (1.2)</li> <li>Implement new decriminalised parking arrangements (1.2)</li> <li>Develop and deliver an action plan to support businesses through the economic downturn (1.1, 1.3)</li> <li>Deliver the redundancy support project (1.3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver the Families First project (2.1 &amp; 2.2, 2.4, 5.4)</li> <li>Involve young people in their communities and deliver Children's Trust priorities for year one (2.2, 3.1)</li> <li>Implement the Chorley elements of the Play Strategy (2.2)</li> <li>Implement the 50+ Active Generation project (2.3, 2.4, 3.2)</li> <li>Develop an action plan to reduce health inequalities in the borough (2.1, 2.4)</li> <li>Deliver the Ruralty Awareness Project (2.5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a framework for Buckshaw Village (3.1)</li> <li>Develop community governance options in response to the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (3.1)</li> <li>Develop an action plan for leisure and cultural provision for 2009 – 2012 (3.2, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4)</li> <li>Deliver the next phase of Chorley Smile (3.1, 3.2, 5.1)</li> <li>Deliver a major public event in summer 2009 (3.1, 5.1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a green travel plan for staff (4.1)</li> <li>Develop and deliver the first year of the Council's climate change action plan (4.1, 4.3)</li> <li>Deliver an invest to save programme for the Council's use of energy (4.1)</li> <li>Implement recycling and refuse contract mobilisation (4.2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to improve the green corridor of Chorley (5.1, 4.2)</li> <li>Investigate the extension of the green corridor to Ellerbeck (5.1, 4.2)</li> <li>Develop seven neighbourhood action plans working with parish councils, other partners and community groups (5.1, 2.1, 2.5, 3.1, 3.2)</li> <li>Develop and implement a solution for temporary accommodation (5.3)</li> <li>Work with partners to make sites available for the development of affordable housing (5.2, 5.3)</li> <li>Establish a choice based lettings scheme (5.2)</li> <li>Pilot and review the proposed Chorley/SRBC CDRP merger (5.4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and embed a new staff competency framework (6.1, 6.4)</li> <li>Achieve Level Three of the Equality Standard (6.2, 6.4, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5)</li> <li>Prepare for I&amp;DeA Peer Review of LSP (6.2)</li> <li>Achieve Level Two of the Member Development Charter (6.2)</li> <li>Implement shared Finance services with SRBC (6.3)</li> <li>Develop a customer service and insight action plan (6.4, 6.3, 6.5)</li> <li>Implement a new CRM solution (6.5)</li> </ul>

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## **REPORT OF EXECUTIVE CABINET**

### **CAPITAL PROGRAMMING, 2008/09 AND ONWARDS - MONITORING**

1. The Executive Cabinet considered at its meeting on 2 October 2008 a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) recommended changes to the 2008/09 Capital Programme and reviewing the availability of capital resources required to fund the programme.
2. The report proposed the reduction of the 2008/09 Capital Programme by £970,270 to £9,227,320 made up of the following amendments:
  - slippage of £949,000 to 2009/10 and other reductions of £20,870;
  - a net increase of £45,800 in respect of the Covered Market;
  - an increase in the externally financed Clayton Brook Play Area budget of £13,740;
  - deletion of the £80,410 allocation for the Astley Park Woodland Management project and its transfer to the revenue budget.
3. The Assistant Director (Business Transformation) explained that the majority of the slippage on the affordable housing budget related to the development of Council owned surplus sites, and the consequent dependence on partners' actions. The Council will endeavour to ensure the development of as many parcels of land as possible whenever appropriate funding sources became available.
4. A copy of the report presented to the Executive Cabinet is attached so that Councillors have the opportunity of assessing the detailed report before making a decision on the following recommendation.

### **Recommendations**

5. The Council is recommended to approve the revised Capital Programme for 2008/09 at a total cost of £9,227,320, as set out in this appendix to the attached report.

COUNCILLOR ALAN CULLENS  
Executive Member for resources

AU

There are no background papers to this report.

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Report of	Meeting	Date
Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) (Introduced by the Executive Member for Resources, Councillor A Cullens)	Executive Cabinet	2 October 2008

## CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2008/09 ONWARDS

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To report proposed changes to the 2008/09 capital programme and to review the availability of capital resources required for the financing of the programme.

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. That the revised Capital Programme for 2008/09, as set out in Appendix 1 at a total cost of £9,227,320, be approved.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

3. It is proposed that the 2008/09 capital programme be reduced by £970,270, made up of £949,400 slippage to 2009/10 and other reductions of £20,870. These other changes include a net increase of £45,800 in respect of the Covered Market, financed by revenue contribution (LABGI grant); an increase in the externally-financed Clayton Brook Play Area budget of £13,740; and the deletion of the £80,410 Astley Park Woodland Management Project, which will be included in the revenue budget instead. Further information about the slippage and other budget changes is presented in Appendix 2.
4. By slipping expenditure that would have been financed by borrowing and by using the VAT Shelter income expected this year to finance capital expenditure, the projected unbudgeted borrowing of £724,490 has been eliminated in 2008/09.
5. However, it is likely that the downturn in Preserved RTB receipts will continue for the foreseeable future. I suggest reducing the estimated receipts to £100,000 per year for 2009/10 and 2010/11, which contributes to projected unbudgeted borrowing over the current three-year programme of £1,074,210.
6. In order to avoid incurring such unbudgeted borrowing in this period, expenditure would have to slip to 2011/12 or later; or capital expenditure budgets would have to be reduced; or additional income to finance the programme, such as capital receipts, would have to be identified. I suggest that budget holders continue to review their budgets with a view to identifying whether savings or slippage to later years are achievable, and that this be reported at the earliest opportunity. Alternatively the programme may need to be reduced in future years and this will need to be considered as part of the 2009/10 budget cycle.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**(If the recommendations are accepted)**

- 7. To update the 2008/09 capital programme to take account of slippage to 2009/10 identified by project managers; and to adjust the budgets for the Covered Market, Clayton Brook Play Area and Astley Park Woodland Management Project.
- 8. To indicate the likely effect of external economic factors on the availability of capital resources, in particular leading to a potential increase in the level of borrowing required to finance the three-year capital programme for 2008/09 to 2010/11 unless corrective action is taken.

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

- 9. None.

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 10. 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**

- 11. The Capital Programme for 2008/09 was updated to a total of £10,197,590 at Executive Cabinet 14 August 2008. This report proposes that the programme be reduced by £970,270, taking account of slippage to 2009/10 and other budget adjustments. The detailed programme is presented as Appendix 1; and further information about slippage and the other budget changes is included in Appendix 2.

**SLIPPAGE TO 2009/10**

- 12. Project managers have identified slippage of expenditure in respect of the following schemes:

- Affordable Housing £599,400
- Climate Change Pot £60,000
- Matched Funding Pot £100,000
- Integrated HR System £50,000
- Duxbury Golf Course £30,000
- Astley Park HLF Scheme £50,000
- Village Hall Grants £60,000

The slippage of the Affordable Housing budget relates to the development of Council-owned surplus sites. It is intended that a number of parcels would be developed over a five to seven year period and that contributions would be required to the schemes. No schemes are close to fruition in 2008/09 hence the slippage of the budget to next year. It

is by no means certain that the full budget would be required in 2009/10 so it may be subject to further rephasing when specific developments are proposed.

13. This slippage of £949,400 is expected to enable borrowing to be reduced by £536,460 in 2008/09. However, unless additional capital resources become available next year, borrowing will increase by the same amount in 2009/10.

#### **OTHER CHANGES**

14. Now that a detailed design of the Covered Market improvements has been prepared, a budget increase of £75,800 is required, of which £30,000 could be vired from the 'planned maintenance' budget. The balance of £45,800 could be financed by use of LABGI grant, which is shown as revenue financing in Appendix 1.
15. As discussed in the 14 August 2008 report, a further externally-financed sum of £13,740 has been awarded to the Clayton Brook Play Area project. It is likely that some of the total budget of £96,780 will slip to next year, but the effect on the borrowing requirement will be neutral. Phasing of the expenditure will be confirmed in a later report.
16. The Astley Park Woodland Management Project budget of £80,410 in 2008/09 and £30,000 in 2009/10 may not meet the statutory definition of capital expenditure and inclusion in the revenue budget may be more appropriate. I suggest that the revenue budget provision be reviewed at the first opportunity and that the expenditure be financed by a share of VAT Shelter income. There may be other capital budgets which in whole or in part should be moved to the revenue budget. This will be discussed with project managers and budget adjustments proposed at the next opportunity.
17. Not yet reflected in the programme are the likely increase in cost of recycling bins required for the new refuse contract and an annual provision for replacement bins. In addition, it is likely that the total cost of statutory redundancy payments and associated pension fund contributions arising from restructuring of directorates during 2008/09 will exceed the DCLG's 'affordability benchmark'. This should mean that we could submit applications for permission to capitalise such expenditure, the total being likely to be in the region of £500,000. Approval is by no means automatic and will not be given until January 2009 in any case. If the capital programme is increased to include such capitalised revenue expenditure, it will be on the basis that it generates both immediate and continuing revenue budget savings.

#### **CHANGES TO FINANCING OF PROGRAMME**

18. The main change in 2008/09 is the proposed use of VAT Shelter income to finance capital expenditure. This income arises from the contract between Chorley Council and Chorley Community Housing (CCH) in respect of the transfer of Council dwellings in March 2007. The level of income depends on the rate at which CCH carry out improvements to the dwellings, so there is a degree of risk involved in budgeting to use income not yet received.
19. At present there is no reason to expect the current level of Preserved RTB receipts from CCH to pick up in 2009/10 and 2010/11. I suggest reducing the estimated total each year to the same figure as 2008/09, which is £100,000. The effect of this is to increase projected unbudgeted borrowing in 2009/10 and 2010/11 to £1,074,210. This borrowing could be avoided if use of other resources, such as further VAT Shelter income, LABGI grant or capital receipts, could be increased; or expenditure was reduced or slipped to 2011/12 or later.

**IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT**

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

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

GARY HALL  
 ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION)

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Michael L. Jackson	5490	16 September 2008	Capital Programme Monitoring Oct 2008.doc

**Capital Programme - 2008/09 to 2010/11**

Scheme	2008/09	Slippage to 2009/10	Other Changes	2008/09	2009/10	Slippage from 2008/09	Other Changes	2009/10	2010/11	Other Changes	2010/11	Total 2008/09 to 2010/11	Financing 2008/09		
	Current			Revised	Original			Revised	Original		Revised		External	CBC Funding	
	Estimate			Estimate	Estimate			Estimate	Estimate		Estimate		Funding	Funding	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)		
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Town Centre Investment</u></b>															
Markets Action Plan (Phase I)	250,000		75,800	325,800				0	0		0	325,800		325,800	
Town Centre Investment	125,000			125,000	1,025,000			1,025,000	0		0	1,150,000		125,000	
<b><u>Town Centre Investment Total</u></b>	<b>375,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>75,800</b>	<b>450,800</b>	<b>1,025,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,025,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,475,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>450,800</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Affordable Housing</u></b>															
Homelessness Prevention Central Lancs Sanctuary Scheme	28,500			28,500	28,500			28,500	0		0	57,000	28,500	0	
Affordable Housing Halliwell Street Project 2007-2010	79,000			79,000	0			0	0		0	79,000	79,000	0	
Affordable Housing HALS Project 2007/08 - 2008/09	880,000			880,000	0			0	0		0	880,000	880,000	0	
Choice Based Lettings	20,000			20,000	0			0	0		0	20,000	20,000	0	
Affordable Housing New Development Project 2008/09 - 2010/11	599,400	(599,400)		0	311,500	599,400		910,900	377,000		377,000	1,287,900	0	0	
<b><u>Affordable Housing Total</u></b>	<b>1,606,900</b>	<b>(599,400)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,007,500</b>	<b>340,000</b>	<b>599,400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>939,400</b>	<b>377,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>377,000</b>	<b>2,323,900</b>	<b>1,007,500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Sustainability &amp; Climate Change</u></b>															
Climate Change Pot	180,000	(60,000)		120,000	0	60,000		60,000	0		0	180,000		120,000	
<b><u>Sustainability &amp; Climate Change Total</u></b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>(60,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Matched Funding Pot</u></b>															
Matched Funding Pot	100,000	(100,000)		0	100,000	100,000		200,000	100,000		100,000	300,000		0	
<b><u>Matched Funding Pot Total</u></b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>(100,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Performing Organisation - Investment in Infrastructure</u></b>															
<b><u>Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation)</u></b>															
Planned Maintenance of Fixed Assets	329,990		(30,000)	299,990	200,000			200,000	200,000		200,000	699,990		299,990	
Investment in Council Assets	100,000			100,000	50,000			50,000	0		0	150,000		100,000	
<b><u>Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation)</u></b>	<b>429,990</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(30,000)</b>	<b>399,990</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>849,990</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>399,990</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Assistant Chief Executive (Policy &amp; Performance)</u></b>															
Project Management Support Capitalisation	40,000		0	40,000	40,000			40,000	40,000		40,000	120,000		40,000	
External Funding Pot	9,650			9,650	0			0	0		0	9,650		9,650	
Performance Management	10,000			10,000	0			0	0		0	10,000		10,000	
<b><u>Assistant Chief Executive (Policy &amp; Performance)</u></b>	<b>59,650</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>59,650</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>139,650</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>59,650</b>	<b>0</b>

**Capital Programme - 2008/09 to 2010/11**

Scheme	2008/09	Slippage to 2009/10	Other Changes	2008/09	2009/10	Slippage from 2008/09	Other Changes	2009/10	2010/11	Other Changes	2010/11	Total 2008/09 to 2010/11	Financing 2008/09	
	Current Estimate			Revised Estimate	Original Estimate			Revised Estimate	Original Estimate		Revised Estimate		External Funding	CBC Funding
	(1) £			(4) £	(5) £			(6) £	(7) £		(8) £		(9) £	(10) £
<b><u>Corporate Director (Business)</u></b>														
Disabled Facilities Grants	423,360			423,360	300,000			300,000	300,000		300,000	1,023,360	423,360	0
Housing Renewal	0			0	200,000			200,000	200,000		200,000	400,000	0	0
- Home Repair Grants	128,030			128,030	0			0	0		0	128,030	128,030	0
- Energy Grants	90,000			90,000	0			0	0		0	90,000	90,000	0
- Handyperson Scheme	10,000			10,000	0			0	0		0	10,000	10,000	0
EAGA Energy Efficiency	110,000			110,000	0			0	0		0	110,000	110,000	0
Regeneration Projects - Design Fees	86,940			86,940	70,000			70,000	70,000		70,000	226,940	86,940	86,940
Eaves Green Link Road - contribution to LCC scheme	699,450			699,450	0			0	0		0	699,450	647,000	52,450
Chorley Strategic Regional Site			576,530	576,530	0			0	0		0	576,530		576,530
<b>Corporate Director (Business)</b>	<b>1,547,780</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>576,530</b>	<b>2,124,310</b>	<b>570,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>570,000</b>	<b>570,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>570,000</b>	<b>3,264,310</b>	<b>1,408,390</b>	<b>715,920</b>
<b><u>Corporate Director (Governance)</u></b>														
Legal Case Management System	31,750			31,750	0			0	0		0	31,750	0	31,750
<b>Corporate Director (Governance)</b>	<b>31,750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31,750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31,750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31,750</b>
<b><u>Corporate Director (Human Resources &amp; Organisational Development)</u></b>														
e-Enabling HR systems - Training	30,000		(30,000)	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	0
HR Management System	65,260		(65,260)	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	0
Integrated HR, Payroll and Training System	0	(50,000)	95,260	45,260	50,000			50,000	50,000		50,000	95,260	45,260	45,260
<b>Corporate Director (Human Resources) Total</b>	<b>95,260</b>	<b>(50,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45,260</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>95,260</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45,260</b>
<b><u>Corporate Director (Neighbourhoods)</u></b>														
Replacement of recycling/litter bins & containers	87,710			87,710	50,000			50,000	50,000		50,000	187,710	87,710	87,710
Highway improvements - Gillibrand estate/Southlands	90,000			90,000	0			0	0		0	90,000	90,000	0
Intelligent Management Information	65,520			65,520	0			0	0		0	65,520	50,000	15,520
Alleygates	41,030			41,030	30,000			30,000	30,000		30,000	101,030	41,030	41,030
Refuse and Recycling Contract Revenue Mitigation	1,000,000			1,000,000	0			0	0		0	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
MATAC CCTV Infrastructure Upgrades	25,000			25,000	0			0	0		0	25,000	25,000	25,000
<b>Corporate Director (Neighbourhoods)</b>	<b>1,309,260</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,309,260</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>1,469,260</b>	<b>140,000</b>	<b>1,169,260</b>

**Capital Programme - 2008/09 to 2010/11**

Scheme	2008/09	Slippage to 2009/10	Other Changes	2008/09	2009/10	Slippage from 2008/09	Other Changes	2009/10	2010/11	Other Changes	2010/11	Total 2008/09 to 2010/11	Financing 2008/09	
	Current			Revised	Original			Revised	Original		Revised		External	CBC Funding
	Estimate			Estimate	Estimate			Estimate	Estimate		Estimate		Funding	Funding
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
<b>Corporate Director (ICT)</b>														
Website Development (incl. ICT salary capitalisation)	30,000		0	30,000	30,000			30,000	30,000		30,000	90,000		30,000
Thin Client/Citrix (started 2007/08)	196,980			196,980	44,850			44,850	159,350		159,350	401,180		196,980
Telephony	137,000			137,000	0			0	0		0	137,000		137,000
Data Storage Solution	67,350			67,350	0			0	0		0	67,350		67,350
OS Positional Accuracy Improvement	38,900			38,900	0			0	0		0	38,900		38,900
Server Virtualisation	101,000			101,000	51,200			51,200	0		0	152,200		101,000
Web Accessibility	20,000			20,000	0			0	0		0	20,000		20,000
<b>Corporate Director (ICT)</b>	<b>591,230</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>591,230</b>	<b>126,050</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>126,050</b>	<b>189,350</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>189,350</b>	<b>906,630</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>591,230</b>
<b>Corporate Director (People)</b>														
Leisure Centres/Swimming Pool Refurbishment	276,290			276,290	237,070			237,070	244,180		244,180	757,540		276,290
Duxbury Park Golf Course capital investment	500,090	(30,000)		470,090	0	30,000		30,000	0		0	500,090		470,090
Improvements to Sports Pitches	100,000			100,000	100,000			100,000	100,000		100,000	300,000	100,000	0
Astley Park Improvements - Construction	1,568,130	(50,000)		1,518,130	0	50,000		50,000	0		0	1,568,130	1,219,140	298,990
Astley Park Woodland Management (S106 funded)	80,410		(80,410)	0	30,000		(30,000)	0	0		0	0	0	0
Astley Hall/Park CCTV	34,000			34,000	0			0	0		0	34,000	24,000	10,000
Ulnes Walton Play/Leisure Schemes (S106 funded)	10,630			10,630	0			0	0		0	10,630	10,630	0
Corporate Play Development Plan	50,000			50,000	0			0	0		0	50,000	50,000	0
Coppull Playzone	25,000			25,000	0			0	0		0	25,000	25,000	0
Play/Recreation Facilities (S106 funded)	51,510			51,510	0			0	0		0	51,510	51,510	0
Clayton Brook Play Area (lottery funded)	83,040		13,740	96,780	0			0	0		0	96,780	96,780	0
Lighting at Coronation Recreation Ground	76,280			76,280	0			0	0		0	76,280	60,000	16,280
Village Hall & Community Centres Projects	120,000	(60,000)		60,000	0	60,000		60,000	0		0	120,000		60,000
Cemetery Development	13,280			13,280	0			0	0		0	13,280		13,280
Memorial Safety St Johns Churchyard	28,460			28,460	0			0	0		0	28,460		28,460
Memorial Safety	25,000			25,000	25,000			25,000	25,000		25,000	75,000		25,000
Common Bank - Big Wood Reservoir	118,250			118,250	0			0	0		0	118,250	118,250	0
Groundwork Projects	25,250			25,250	0			0	0		0	25,250		25,250
Chorley Strategic Regional Site	576,530		(576,530)	0	0			0	0		0	0		0
CRM Process Optimisation	108,620			108,620	35,000			35,000	0		0	143,620		108,620
<b>Corporate Director (People)</b>	<b>3,870,770</b>	<b>(140,000)</b>	<b>(643,200)</b>	<b>3,087,570</b>	<b>427,070</b>	<b>140,000</b>	<b>(30,000)</b>	<b>537,070</b>	<b>369,180</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>369,180</b>	<b>3,993,820</b>	<b>1,755,310</b>	<b>1,332,260</b>
<b>Performing Organisation - Investment in Infrastructure Total</b>	<b>7,935,690</b>	<b>(190,000)</b>	<b>(96,670)</b>	<b>7,649,020</b>	<b>1,493,120</b>	<b>190,000</b>	<b>(30,000)</b>	<b>1,653,120</b>	<b>1,448,530</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,448,530</b>	<b>10,750,670</b>	<b>3,303,700</b>	<b>4,345,320</b>
<b>Capital Programme Total</b>	<b>10,197,590</b>	<b>(949,400)</b>	<b>(20,870)</b>	<b>9,227,320</b>	<b>2,958,120</b>	<b>949,400</b>	<b>(30,000)</b>	<b>3,877,520</b>	<b>1,925,530</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,925,530</b>	<b>15,030,370</b>	<b>4,311,200</b>	<b>4,916,120</b>

**Capital Programme - 2008/09 to 2010/11**

Scheme	2008/09	Slippage to 2009/10	Other Changes	2008/09	2009/10	Slippage from 2008/09	Other Changes	2009/10	2010/11	Other Changes	2010/11	Total 2008/09 to 2010/11	Financing 2008/09	
	Current			Revised	Original			Revised	Original		Revised		External	CBC Funding
	Estimate			Estimate	Estimate			Estimate	Estimate		Estimate		Funding	Funding
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Financing the Capital Programme</b>														
Prudential Borrowing - budgeted	2,769,640	(482,380)		2,287,260	400,000	482,380		882,380	455,000		455,000	3,624,640		2,287,260
- unbudgeted	724,490	(54,080)	(670,410)	0		54,080	620,130	674,210		400,000	400,000	1,074,210		0
Unrestricted Capital Receipts	1,243,840			1,243,840	601,920			601,920	413,530		413,530	2,259,290		1,243,840
Capital Receipt earmarked for Strategic Regional Site	576,530			576,530	0			0	0		0	576,530		576,530
Preserved RTB Capital Receipts from CCH	100,000			100,000	750,000		(650,000)	100,000	500,000	(400,000)	100,000	300,000		100,000
Revenue Budget - Specific Revenue Reserves or Budgets	72,690		45,800	118,490	0			0	0		0	118,490		118,490
Revenue Budget - VAT Shelter income			590,000	590,000				0			0	590,000		590,000
<b>CBC Resources</b>	5,487,190	(536,460)	(34,610)	4,916,120	1,751,920	536,460	(29,870)	2,258,510	1,368,530	0	1,368,530	8,543,160	0	4,916,120
Ext. Contributions - Developers	2,346,720	(371,940)		1,974,780	714,700	371,940		1,086,640	0		0	3,061,420	1,974,780	
Ext. Contributions - Lottery Bodies	1,314,140	(41,000)		1,273,140	0	41,000	(130)	40,870	0		0	1,314,010	1,273,140	
Ext. Contributions - Other	188,190		13,740	201,930	0			0	0		0	201,930	201,930	
Government Grants - Disabled Facilities Grants	180,000			180,000	180,000			180,000	180,000		180,000	540,000	180,000	
Government Grants - Housing Capital Grant	681,350			681,350	311,500			311,500	377,000		377,000	1,369,850	681,350	
<b>External Funding</b>	4,710,400	(412,940)	13,740	4,311,200	1,206,200	412,940	(130)	1,619,010	557,000	0	557,000	6,487,210	4,311,200	0
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL FINANCING</b>	<b>10,197,590</b>	<b>(949,400)</b>	<b>(20,870)</b>	<b>9,227,320</b>	<b>2,958,120</b>	<b>949,400</b>	<b>(30,000)</b>	<b>3,877,520</b>	<b>1,925,530</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,925,530</b>	<b>15,030,370</b>	<b>4,311,200</b>	<b>4,916,120</b>



**Capital Programme 2008/09 - slippage/other changes**

Scheme	Slippage to 2009/10 £	Other Changes £	Comments
<b><u>Town Centre Investment</u></b>			
Markets Action Plan (Phase I)		75,800	Increase in specification of improvements
<b><u>Town Centre Investment Total</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>75,800</b>	
<b><u>Affordable Housing</u></b>			
Affordable Housing New Development Project 2008/09 - 2010/11	(599,400)		To be rephased to match availability of sites for development
<b><u>Affordable Housing Total</u></b>	<b>(599,400)</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>Sustainability &amp; Climate Change</u></b>			
Climate Change Pot	(60,000)		Retain proportion of budget for grants in 2009/10
<b><u>Sustainability &amp; Climate Change Total</u></b>	<b>(60,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>Matched Funding Pot</u></b>			
Matched Funding Pot	(100,000)		No bids for use of budget in 2008/09
<b><u>Matched Funding Pot Total</u></b>	<b>(100,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>Performing Organisation - Investment in Infrastructure</u></b>			
<b><u>Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation)</u></b>			
Planned Maintenance of Fixed Assets		(30,000)	Vired to Covered Market improvements scheme
<b><u>Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation)</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(30,000)</b>	

**Capital Programme 2008/09 - slippage/other changes**

Scheme	Slippage to 2009/10 £	Other Changes £	Comments
<b><u>Corporate Director (Business)</u></b>			
Chorley Strategic Regional Site		576,530	Transferred from People directorate
<b><u>Corporate Director (Business)</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>576,530</b>	
<b><u>Corporate Director (Human Resources &amp; Organisational Development)</u></b>			
e-Enabling HR systems - Training		(30,000)	)
HR Management System		(65,260)	) Budgets merged under new description
Integrated HR, Payroll and Training System	(50,000)	95,260	) Systems still being investigated
<b><u>Corporate Director (Human Resources) Total</u></b>	<b>(50,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>Corporate Director (People)</u></b>			
Duxbury Park Golf Course capital investment	(30,000)		Slipped at request of budget holder
Astley Park Improvements - Construction	(50,000)		Slipped at request of budget holder
Astley Park Woodland Management (S106 funded)		(80,410)	Budget deleted - to be included in revenue budget
Clayton Brook Play Area (lottery funded)		13,740	External funding increased to enhance scheme
Village Hall & Community Centres Projects	(60,000)		Slipped at request of budget holder
Chorley Strategic Regional Site		(576,530)	Transferred to Business directorate
<b><u>Corporate Director (People)</u></b>	<b>(140,000)</b>	<b>(643,200)</b>	
<b><u>Performing Organisation - Investment in Infrastructure Total</u></b>	<b>(190,000)</b>	<b>(96,670)</b>	
<b><u>Capital Programme Total</u></b>	<b>(949,400)</b>	<b>(20,870)</b>	

**Capital Programme 2008/09 - slippage/other changes**

Scheme	Slippage to 2009/10 £	Other Changes £	Comments
<b><u>Financing the Capital Programme</u></b>			
Prudential Borrowing - budgeted	(482,380)		) Net reduction of £1,206,870
- unbudgeted	(54,080)	(670,410)	)
Revenue Budget - Specific Revenue Reserves or Budgets		45,800	Use of LABGI grant re Covered Market improvements
Revenue Budget - VAT Shelter income		590,000	Use of VAT Shelter income to reduce borrowing
<b>CBC Resources</b>			
	(536,460)	(34,610)	
Ext. Contributions - Developers	(371,940)		Slippage re Affordable Housing scheme
Ext. Contributions - Lottery Bodies	(41,000)		Slippage re Astley Park HLF scheme
Ext. Contributions - Other		13,740	Increase re Clayton Brook Play Area
<b>External Funding</b>			
	(412,940)	13,740	
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL FINANCING</b>			
	<b>(949,400)</b>	<b>(20,870)</b>	

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## **REPORT OF EXECUTIVE CABINET**

### **GENERAL REPORT**

1. The Executive Cabinet have met twice on 21 October and 13 November 2008 since the last Council meeting and this report summarises briefly the decisions taken at those meetings.

#### **Meeting held on 21 October 2008**

#### **Climate Change Strategy – Progress on Implementation**

2. The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director (Business) on the progress on the implementation of the Council's Climate Change Strategy adopted in May 2008 which sought authority to use funds from the available budget allocation for climate change measures to progress specific schemes.
3. The report outlines measures instigated so far by the Council and proposes the release of £120,000 in 2008/09 and an additional £60,000 in 2009/10. It is envisaged that the available funding in the current financial year will be allocated as follows:
  - £60,000 for business grants;
  - £20,000 for grants for domestic solar panels;
  - £10,000 for Greening Chorley Markets;
  - £30,000 to bridge match funding gaps for individuals, the 'Third Sector' and Small/Medium Enterprises.
4. Following consideration of the report we agreed the release of the £120,000 within 2008/09 and an additional £60,000 in 2009/10. We have also recommended that the £20,000 allocation for grants towards domestic solar panels be widened to encourage more innovative ways of generating and/or sourcing energy in the domestic sector, and suggested an examination of the current restrictions placed on listed buildings.

#### **Growth Point – Programme of Development**

5. The Corporate Director (Business) presented us with a report on the current position in relation to the Central Lancashire and Blackpool Growth Point initiative, following the Government's approval of the submitted expression of interest.
6. The Government had subsequently requested the submission by 27 October 2008 of a Programme of Development which would identify proposed development sites, expected development timescales and associated infrastructure costs.
7. The Executive Cabinet was reminded that Chorley's expectations are that the initiative will accelerate the development of more affordable housing units and assist the funding of the Buckshaw Village Railway Station. Chorley's participation in the initiative will be dependent on the amount of new housing development specified in the Regional Spatial Strategy (ie 455 houses per annum) not being exceeded and no Greenfield sites in the Green Belt being developed.
8. The Council's ultimate commitment to the initiative cannot, therefore, be confirmed until the required assurances and information are given as part of the settlement details.
9. We authorised the Corporate Director (Business) to submit the Programme of Development on behalf of the Council, following consultation with the Executive Leader and Executive Member (Business) on the distinct understanding that the Council's involvement in the Growth Point initiative will be subject to the Cabinet's approval following the Government's

announcement on any settlement, up to which time the Council reserves the right to withdraw from the process.

### **Introduction of Free Swimming Programme**

10. The Executive Cabinet, at its last meeting on 4 September 2008 had confirmed its participation in the scheme to provide free swimming during public sessions for persons aged 60 years and over and had expressed an interest in the scheme to provide free swimming for persons aged 16 and under on the understanding that the financial implications and risks would need to be evaluated before a definite commitment was made to provide free swimming for younger persons.
11. The Corporate Director (People) reported to the October meeting that, while NHS Central Lancashire had confirmed its intention to contribute £25,000 per year in 2008/09 and 2009/10 towards the cost of the free swimming programme for persons aged 16 and under, confirmation of the Government's grant aid was still awaited.
12. As the Council needed to state its intentions in respect of the 16 and under programme before the Executive Cabinet meeting in November, we granted delegated power to the Executive Members for Resources and People to confirm, or otherwise, the Council's commitment to participate in the scheme to provide free swimming to persons aged 16 and under.

### **Management of Cotswold House and Other Homelessness Related Matters**

13. The Executive Cabinet considered a confidential report of the Corporate Director (Business) seeking Members instructions on the future management of Cotswold House, which provides temporary accommodation for homeless families, and on a number of other associated matters.
14. Following the recent transfer back to the Council of responsibility for the homelessness function, the Council had commissioned a report from a Housing Consultant on a review of the governance arrangements for the hostel, which had identified alternative options for its future management. The report recommended the transfer back to the Council of the management of the hostel from Chorley Community Housing (CCH) by CCH either surrendering the management agreement or being served with the required notice. This will allow the Council to implement improvements to both the building and the management systems.
15. After considering the implications of the report, the Executive Cabinet agreed:
  - (i) to request Chorley Community Housing to agree a date of termination of the agreement for the management of Cotswold House Homeless Hostel, but that, in the event of the failure to negotiate a termination date, Chorley Community Housing be served with notice to terminate the agreement;
  - (ii) to request the Strategic Housing Manager to undertake a review of the Independent Housing Advisor post currently funded through the Homelessness Grant and explore other options which may increase capacity;
  - (iii) to approve the use of the £5,000 allocated for measures to prevent homelessness in accordance with the policy approved by the Executive Member (Business);
  - (iv) to approve the implementation of the improvement and refurbishment works to Cotswold House at a sum of up to £50,000 as recommended in the report of the Housing Consultants commissioned to review options for the Hostel

**Future Contractual Arrangements for Civil Parking Enforcement in Chorley**

16. The Executive Cabinet considered a confidential report of the Corporate Director (Neighbourhoods) on the current negotiations with the Lancashire County Council and the other District Councils on the operational arrangements and financial structures to be applied to the civil parking enforcement regime upon the termination of the present arrangements in September 2009.
17. The Council will need to determine whether it wishes to continue working in partnership with the County Council in on-street enforcement; limit itself to enforcement of its own car parks; or undertake either of the options in partnership with one or more other authorities.
18. Following consideration of the report and its implications, we agreed:
  - (i) to agree in principle to the continuation of the Council's partnership with the Lancashire County Council in relation to the enforcement of on-street parking offences, subject to the negotiation of acceptable terms;
  - (ii) to authorise the Officers to examine the option of sharing services with other authorities in relation to off-street and on-street parking enforcement;
  - (iii) to authorise Officers to notify the County Council that Chorley Council considers its proposals to be unacceptable in their present form, but wishes to work toward an acceptable financial arrangement, including the sourcing of enforcement and back-office services from the County Council.

**Business Transformation – Restructure**

19. The Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) presented the Executive Cabinet with a confidential report on recommendations to amend the staffing structure, roles and responsibilities of the Council's support directorates to enhance their capability to support the Council's business and transformation agenda.
20. The amendments suggested in the report were designed principally to deliver the following efficiencies:
  - a need to refocus roles on helping to deliver efficiencies and service improvements for the benefit of Members, other staff and external customers;
  - the delivery of efficiencies in the region of £60,000 annually which will assist in meeting the expected budget gap in 2008/10.
21. The Executive Cabinet accepted the proposals outlined in the report for consultation purposes and we granted delegated authority to the Executive Member (Resources) to agree any revised changes to the restructure proposals at the conclusion of the consultation stage.

**Meeting held on 13 November 2008****Chorley Town Centre Audit and Urban Design Strategy**

22. The Corporate Director (Business) presented the Executive Cabinet with a report seeking endorsement of the Chorley Town Audit and Urban Design Strategy.
23. The Town Centre Audit was undertaken by Consultants in the winter/spring of 2007/08 to establish a snapshot survey of the town centre through a series of surveys, workshops and consultation events. The Audit identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the town centre and recommends ways in which the issues might be addressed. The Audit's

recommendations then formed the basis of the Urban Design Strategy which sets out ten objectives which, if implemented, will result in a much improved town centre.

24. The Strategy aims to co-ordinate a range of initiatives already underway in the town centre in order to realise the identified objectives over the coming five years through a suggested implementation timetable.
25. We endorsed the Town Centre Audit and Urban Design Strategy as a guide for future town centre interventions, including the 10 objectives and related projects set out in the Implementation Timetable, subject to a review of the medium term financial strategy and agreement of the budget for 2009/10.

### **Business Start-Up and Support Project**

26. The Corporate Director (Business) presented the Executive Cabinet with a report which outlined proposed new arrangements for the provision of support for new business start-ups to be delivered through a new contract with the North West Regional Development Agency with effect from April 2009.
27. The new contract aims to ensure the provision of specialist and intensive business start-up support to target groups and areas in order to meet local needs and achieve a more simplified structure in each locality.
28. The report also referred to the complex funding formula, with weighted factors, which determined local authorities' share of the project funding. We have expressed concern at the amount of funding allocated to Chorley under the formula as compared to other Lancashire districts, and the Corporate Director (Business) advised that negotiations are continuing with the NWDA with a view to the allocation formula being altered in Chorley's favour for future years.
29. Following assessment of the report, we noted the update on the existing provision of support to new business start-ups and agreed, in relation to the new Business Start-Up and Support Contract:
  - to support the adoption of local delivery 'Option B', which aims to ensure the provision of specialist and intensive business start-up support to target groups and areas by grouping Chorley with South Ribble and Preston (with support from the County Council) in the Central Lancashire group;
  - to endorse the nomination of Chorley Council to act as the Accountable Body within the Central Lancashire grouping;
  - to endorse the performance reward grant from the Economic Development Block of the Local Area Agreement as the preferred option for co-financing;
  - to endorse the concept of targeted support to persons in a worklessness situation or under threat of redundancy and ex-offenders.

### **Performance Monitoring Report – Second Quarter of 2008/09**

30. The Executive Cabinet received a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) which set out and reviewed the Authority's performance both in respect of the delivery of the 31 key projects included in the Corporate Strategy and against the new National Indicators for which the Council was responsible, during the second quarter of 2008/09 ending on 30 September 2008.
31. The report reveals an overall commendable performance on the delivery of the Corporate Strategy Key projects, with 87% of the projects either having been completed or progressing on or ahead of plan. Seven of the 11 uncompleted projects remain on track for completion and the Officers are optimistic that three of the remaining four projects will be brought back



on course shortly. The one remaining project to deliver Phase 2 of Market Walk has been adversely affected by both the failure to reach a financially viable agreement with the prospective developers and the economic downturn.

32. The report also reveals a good performance in respect of the national indicators that can currently be measured, with 10 out of 15 being on target and an improved performance in relation to 14 indicators. Action plans have been adopted in respect of the indicators where performance has been lower than expected.

#### **Chorley Partnership – Second Quarter report**

33. The Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) presented us with a report updating the Executive Cabinet 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 second quarter of 2008/09.
34. The report reveals that delivery of the LSP's projects remains largely on track and good progress is being achieved in relation to the delivery of the LAA targets. The scope of the 'Circle of Need' project has been re-designed and work has recently commenced on the Timebanks pilot volunteering project following the selection of Age Concern as the lead management agent.
35. Measurement of the relevant performance indicators show that the overall level of crime throughout the Borough has reduced by 3.1% since April 2008 and that the level of household recycling has increased to 51%.

#### **Trees at Black Croft, Clayton-le-Woods**

36. The Executive Cabinet received and noted a report of the Corporate Director (Neighbourhoods) on the action that has been taken in response to the letters submitted to the last meeting of the Council from residents of Black Croft, Clayton-le-Woods requesting action to control the height and spread of trees planted as part of the former Central Lancashire New Town to screen residential property from noise from the adjacent road system.
37. We noted that the Corporate Director had subsequently written to the residents explaining that the Council's limited resources will not permit the level of tree maintenance sought on the number of 'shelter belts' located throughout the Borough. The letter explains that the Council endeavours to maintain lower growth in a reasonable and presentable condition and to prune overhanging branches whenever necessary, but that it has not been the authority's practice to reduce the size or spread of trees.

#### **Revenue Budget, 2008/09 – Second Quarter Monitoring Report**

38. The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) monitoring the Council's financial performance during the second quarter of 2008/09 in comparison with the budgetary and efficiency savings targets for the current financial year.
39. The report confirms that the Council is on course to achieve its overall savings target of £320,000 by the end of the financial year, with savings in the region of £234,000 having already been achieved.
40. The situation in respect of a number of funding areas (eg contributions to corporate savings and efficiency targets; major income streams; concessionary travel costs; and benefits costs) is being closely monitored. The report also comments on the potential overspending of up to

£250,000 in respect of concessionary travel costs, recommending the development of contingency plans to identify further savings to mitigate any significant overspend.

41. We accepted the report and agreed:

- (i) to remove an additional sum of £10,800 from working balances for allocation to a specific reserve to meet the final costs of equal pay claims;
- (ii) to develop contingency plans to identify additional savings to mitigate the impact of a potential overspending on concessionary travel of up to £250,000 in 2008/09.

### **Recommendations**

42. The Council is recommended to note this report.

COUNCILLOR PETER GOLDSWORTHY  
Executive Leader

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There are no background papers to this report.

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

### **General Report**

1. This report summarises the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 29 September and 10 November 2008.

### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 29 SEPTEMBER 2008**

#### **Items from Executive Cabinet on 2 October 2008**

2. We considered a number of reports from Executive Cabinet, namely the Climate Change Strategy; Growth Point - Programme of Development; and Future Contractual Arrangements for Civil Parking Enforcement in Chorley.

Comments were fed through to the Executive Cabinet expressing reservations about the effectiveness of solar panels and suggesting that the remit of the £20,000 grant fund for solar panels be widened to include more innovative ways of generating or saving energy in the domestic sector. The Committee also requested that the Executive Cabinet look at the Councils own requirements in the use of restrictions placed on listed buildings e.g. prevent the installation of double glazing and other energy saving measures.

3. In considering a report updating Members on the next stage in the Central Lancashire and Blackpool Growth Point Programme of Development, Members discussed the shortfall in the funding for Buckshaw Village Railway Station and also how the growth point programme could generate more affordable hosing provision.

#### **Capital Programme Monitoring 2008/09 and Onwards**

4. The Committee received a report from the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) on changes in the current years capital programme. The Committee approved a revised capital programme with a reduction of £970,270 which was made up of £949,400 in slippage to 2009/10 and other reductions of £20,870.

### **Communities in Control: Real People, Real Power – Proposals Relating to Overview and Scrutiny**

5. The Committee received a report from the Corporate Director (Governance) on proposals relating to overview and scrutiny contained in the above White Paper.

The Government wishes to raise the visibility of scrutiny and has combined recent proposals in the Local Government and Involvement in Health Act 2007 with some new approaches to scrutiny. Overall, however, these are limited and in many local authorities are already in place. Proposals include:

- encouraging more creative involvement of the public in scrutiny
- moving committee meetings and hearings out of the Town Hall and into the community and considering webcasting
- greater public involvement in suggesting and selecting topics for review
- making information more readily available and accessible on websites and at council offices
- councillor call for action

- formalising dealing with petitions with any appeals being considered by overview and scrutiny
- further embracing powers to require information from partners
- power to have area scrutiny committees in two tier areas
- requiring dedicated scrutiny resources in County and Unitary Councils

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 10 NOVEMBER 2008**

### **The Council Investment Process and the Deposit in Landsbanki**

6. The Committee discussed whether to undertake a review of the Council's investment process and deposit in Landsbanki but decided to await the draft Treasury Management Strategy which would come to Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment as well as Executive Cabinet.

### **Chorley Town Centre Audit and Design Strategy**

7. We received a report of the Corporate Director (Business) that summarised the main contents of the Chorley Town Centre Audit and Design Strategy which has been the subject of extensive consultation with overview and scrutiny. The Strategy envisaged Chorley as a vibrant, diverse, sustainable, accessible and attractive place. It highlighted the opportunities and challenges for Chorley Town Centre and recommended a number of Urban Design Objectives, and associated projects and implementation processes as a means to realise this vision.
8. Members welcomed the strategy and acknowledged that it was a document that had been widely consulted on. Consideration was given to how the Council could encourage the evening economy of the Town Centre and improve the cultural offer beyond daytime activities.
9. Members also asked to be kept fully informed of when the works mentioned in the project timetable were commencing or had actually been completed on a regular basis and it was thought that this could best be achieved through the Members e.bulletin, 'intheknow'.

### **Revenue Budget Monitoring 2008/09 Report 2 (end of September 2008)**

10. We received a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) which set out the Council's current financial position as compared against the budget and efficiency savings targets it set itself for 2008/09 for the General Fund.
11. The report indicated that the Council was expected to make overall target savings of £320,000 in 2008/09, which equated to £160,000 for the first two quarters. Excellent progress had been made with savings of £234,000 already achieved.
12. There are a number of areas that will be monitored closely as the year progresses, these are:
  - Contributions to Corporate Savings and Efficiency Targets
  - Major income streams, in particular car parking fees, land charges and markets
  - Concessionary travel costs
  - Benefit costs.

13. With the economy now moving towards recession, the impact was starting to be felt across several areas of the Council's services with income levels being significantly lower than those budgeted for.
14. The report highlighted a potential overspend of up to £250,000 in respect of concessionary travel costs and it was recommended that contingency plans be developed to identify further savings that could mitigate the effect of this, should a significant overspend materialise.
15. Members raised concerns that the twelve districts had not yet all signed up to the pooling arrangements for the concessionary travel scheme and consideration was given to what would be the impact on the Council should the pooling arrangement fall down.

#### **Business Plan Monitoring Statements – 1 July to 30 September 2008**

16. The Committee received the second quarter Business Plan Monitoring Statements from the following Directorates:
  - Business Directorate
  - Neighbourhoods Directorate
  - People Directorate
  - Business Transformation Directorate
  - Policy and Performance Directorate
17. The Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) submitted a report summarising the Business Plan Monitoring Statements that had been completed by the directorates and Members noted the various key messages of the Directorates. In particular the negotiations of the Section 106 monies for the Group One, Buckshaw Village outline planning application, the costs to the Council with regard to fly tipping and the possibility of more allotments in the Borough.

#### **Performance Monitoring Report – Second Quarter of 2008/09**

18. We received a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) on the second quarter performance management report, which set out performance against the 2008/09 target, 1 July to 30 September 2008.
19. The report indicated that the overall performance of the key projects in the Corporate Strategy was very good with 27 (87%) of the projects either completed, progressing ahead of plan or on plan.
20. The report identified the completed projects and showed the key outcomes from the projects that had been completed to date. In total 20 (64.5%) of key projects, in the refreshed Corporate Strategy had now been completed, an increase of 22% on the position last quarter.
21. The Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) also explained that the Council had registered its concerns with Lancashire County Council that the Local Area Agreement performance target for percentage of land assessed as having below acceptable levels of detritus was too high (22%) and the Council had set itself a much lower target of 4%

**Chorley Partnership 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Performance Report**

22. We received a report of the Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) outlining the improvements made by the Chorley Partnership (the Local Strategic Partnership for Chorley) since the last quarter and contained updates on the work of the LSP, through its 11 strategic projects, including expenditure and the key performance indicators from the Sustainable Community Strategy and the first reporting period of the Local Area Agreement.
23. The report indicated that the Chorley Partnership projects are in the main on track, progressing well and the partnership is already starting to deliver on its Local Area Agreement targets.

**Update from Task and Finish Groups****24. Chorley Community Housing**

This task group has met six times in total and has now completed its review with the final report and recommendations due to be considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee in December.

**25. Streetscene**

This task group has met seven times and is also nearing completion with the final report and recommendations due to be considered by Overview and Scrutiny committee in December.

**26. Joint Scrutiny Inquiry with Preston and South Ribble on Affordable Housing**

There have been three meetings, at South Ribble, Chorley and Preston with a number of initiatives brought forward and various pieces of work to be compiled by each of the participating authorities. The group has discussed a number of related issues, including maintaining the affordability of dwellings, Right to Buy and Right to Acquire, a local definition of affordable housing and bringing properties up to Decent Homes Standard. The next meeting is at South Ribble and officers from the three authorities have been requested to submit their respective policies on maintaining the affordability of dwellings.

**27. Chorley Partnership Task Group**

This task group has met twice and is due to meet again shortly. The scoping of the review will shortly be finalised with three key objectives. In looking at the issue of Elected Member understanding and knowledge of the LSP and its thematic groups, a Member Learning Hour on this topic was held on 17 November 2008.

**RECOMMENDATION**

28. The Council is recommended to note this report.

COUNCILLOR DENNIS EDGERLEY  
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

CR/DS

There are no background papers to this report.

**REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE****PLANNING APPLICATION 08/00957/CB3 – Land 10m East of 21 to 33  
Buchanan Street, Chorley**

1. The Development Control Committee, at its meeting on 14 October 2008 considered an application for deemed planning permission for the change of use from public open space to residential curtilage and erection of 1.8 high fencing to delineate boundaries.
2. As the Council's Constitution precludes the Development Control Committee's determination of Council applications for deemed planning permission, the application requires to be submitted before the full Council for decision.
3. It had been previously agreed through public consultation to install alley gates to the rear of Buchanan Street, Blackburn Street and Worthy Street and to transfer Council-leased land to private ownership. This will be followed by site clearance, resurfacing and new fencing delineate curtilage extensions. The alley gates (phase I) had been installed and the proposed land transfer/curtilage extension of this application comprises phase II.
4. The application had been submitted as part of an access and environment improvement initiative, designed to improve the streetscene, provide off-street parking for local residents and to help tackle anti-social problems arising from a local garage.
5. Members commented that this scheme had been long awaited and welcomed the proposals in the application.

**Recommendation**

6. The Development Control Committee recommends the Council to grant planning permission to application 08/00957/CB3 for the change of use from public open space to residential curtilage and erection of 1.8m high fencing to delineate boundaries on land 10m east of 21 to 33 Buchanan Street, Chorley, subject to the following conditions:
  1. The fencing hereby permitted shall be erected in conformity with the approved details within 3 months of the land being transferred into the residents' private ownership, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.  
*Reason: To ensure a visually satisfactory form of development, to provide reasonable standards of privacy to residents and in accordance with Policy No.GN5 of the Adopted Chorley Borough Local Plan Review.*
  2. The proposed development must be begun not later than three years from the date of this permission.

*Reason: Required to be imposed by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.*

COUNCILLOR GREG MORGAN  
Chair of Development Control Committee

There are no background papers to this report

DS



Report of	Meeting	Date
Corporate Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development (Introduced by the Executive Member for Resources)	Council	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2008

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME AND REDUNDANCY DISCRETIONARY PAYMENTS**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To request that Members approve the recommendations outlined as a result of changes to the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) Regulations 2006 – in particular those that relate to the discretions around early retirement and voluntary redundancy.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2. That the Council be recommended to approve the following recommendations outlined within the report:
  - a) Not to introduce pensionable service augmentation for all employees
  - b) To continue to offer statutory redundancy payment based on actual salary
  - c) To note that enhanced severance payments are no longer paid to employees under the age of 50.
  - d) To approve the policy on late applications into the pension fund.

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

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

3. To ensure that the Council complies with its statutory obligations within the Local Government pension scheme, redundancy discretionary payments and ensures that costs related to these are contained.

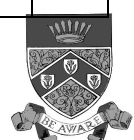
### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

4. None considered

### **CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

5. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional		Improved access to public services	
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economic development in the central Lancashire sub region			
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. Since 1976 there have been discretions available to Councils to allow payments to employees whose employment is terminated early on the grounds of redundancy or efficiency of the service. In effect, these discretionary powers allowed Chorley Council to:

- Calculate redundancy pay on actual pay rather than on the ceiling in the Employment Rights Act
- Pay up to 66 weeks pay as a one off lump sum payment based on a service and age related formula
- Award of up to 5 added years service in the LGPS to eligible employees aged 50 plus and less than 65 years of age
- Award of ½ weeks pay per years service in addition to statutory redundancy payment to eligible employees under the age of 50.

These benefits have been used to encourage volunteers for both redundancy and ‘interests of efficiency’ staff reductions in restructures as the Councils priorities have changed over the years.

**ISSUES**

7. From 1<sup>st</sup> October 2006, the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations took effect to comply with the age related provisions of the European Employment Directive.

8. The Governments position is that age and length of service related formula that governs the above payments will discriminate under the new Age Regulations. The existing regulations were therefore replaced with new regulations that required the Council to review and amend its policy relation to discretionary payments to employees whose employment terminates early on the grounds of redundancy or efficiency.

9. In summary the new regulations allow Councils to:

- Retain the power to calculate redundancy payments on actual pay
- Remove the power to award added years
- Discretion to award a one off lump sum payment of up to 104 weeks pay inclusive of any statutory redundancy payment made.

10. The Government did not intend to prescribe formula by which the award of up to 104 weeks pay should be made, it does however, require Local Authorities to formulate publish and keep under review their policy decision on how they intend to exercise their new discretionary power.

11. The regulations specify that any change to the policy must be published for one month before they can take effect. Any policy must have regard to any serious loss of confidence in public services and be satisfied that the policy is workable, affordable and reasonable having regard to foreseeable costs.

**OPTIONS**

12. To consider introducing pensionable service augmentation for all employees subject to ERVS regardless of age.

Awarding of added years ceased with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007, Under the LGPSR 1997 an employer can award extra membership to any active member of the LGPS known as augmentation. From April 2006 the maximum an employer can award is the least of 6 years or 243 days or the period between the date of leaving and age 65. Chorley Council does not offer added years to any employer and it is recommended to continue this practice, as any changes would have to be made to all employees regardless of age.

13. To offer statutory redundancy payment at the maximum statutory level of £330 per week

The Government believes that the current statutory redundancy arrangements (subject to the removal of the upper and low age limits for redundancy payments) can be justified under Regulation 33 of the Age Regulations i.e. ½ weeks pay for service under aged 22, 1 weeks pay for service from aged 22 to 41 and 1 ½ weeks pay for service over 41 up to a maximum of 30 weeks pay. If the Council were to adopt the maximum statutory level of £330 per week option it would be unlikely to produce volunteers for redundancy and may provoke confrontation with the Trade Unions but it would be the lowest cost, it is therefore recommended not to adopt the statutory level of £330 per week.

14. To continue to offer a statutory redundancy payment based on actual salary.

This reflects the current position of the Council and uses the statutory tables as outlined above but the actual weekly salary of employees. It is recommended that in the spirit of positive employee relations this discretion be maintained.

Employees under the aged of 50 were previously awarded an additional ½ weeks pay per years service in recognition that they were unable to have immediate access to their pension, this is now not permissible to under 50s only on the grounds of age discrimination. Unison have been advised that this has been withdrawn at a previous LJCC and are in agreement that if the additional award is not offered to all employees regardless of age then it is discriminatory.

15. To offer enhance severance payments for staff subject to voluntary redundancy.

Under the revised regulations the Council may exercise discretion to award an additional severance payment up to 104 weeks (including the statutory redundancy payment). It is argued that using a multiplier using age and service can comply with the Age regulations and therefore the Council has discretion to offer a multiplier to either the number of weeks pay, the statutory redundancy amount or both up to a maximum of 104 weeks.

Employees can only receive a discretionary payment if they do not receive augmentation to pensionable service.

Voluntary severance costs have been a local agreement paid previously to those employees under the age of 50 who are not eligible for pension. This agreement has now ceased with the new age discrimination regulations.

16. Cash sum to convert into LGPS membership.

All authorities can now allow an employee to convert an enhanced payment up to 104 weeks pay into pensionable service, ensuring that any statutory payment has been made.

The impact of this option would vary by individual employees, is quite complex and if offered can only be used wholly, not in part.

17. Termination on the grounds of interests of efficiency.

The exception of the Age Regulations only applies to redundancy payments. If the Council were considering making payments for cases of IES the formula would have to be free from age discrimination. The recommendation from the Employers Organisation if we were to consider this option is to offer a 'one off' payment.

18. Late requests for transfer into the pension fund.

A policy is required in relation to the acceptance of transfers into the pension fund, where the member makes a request after the expiry of the first 12 months of active membership of the LGPS. New starters are provided with a comprehensive information pack on the LGPS and advised that the transfers of any pensions from other schemes will only be accepted in the first 12 months of service. After 12 months it is the Assistant Chief Executive (Transformation) discretion under delegated powers whether to approve the late transfer or not.

It is recommended that a policy be approved that takes immediate affect and is worded as follows:

Not to approve such requests unless the reason for the late request is either:

- a) That the member was not given the option to transfer as a result of an administrative error or
- b) That the initial request was received within the first 12 months of entitlement to membership of the scheme and there was an administrative delay in processing the request.

**IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT**

19. 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.**

20. Contained within the report

**COMMENTS OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION)**

21. The report sets out a variety of options in relation to severance and pensions all of which would mean additional costs to the Council. Our current approach is to offer no enhancements, other than the age related enhancement on severance paid at actual salary. The purpose of this approach has always been to contain costs. To date the Council has not

experienced any issues in attaining efficiencies through voluntary severance and no augmentation has been needed in recent times. Members should make their decision on the options with this in mind and the Council is always at liberty to alter policies if at any later stage a different approach is required.

LORRAINE CHARLESWORTH  
CORPORATE DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCES & ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

There are no background papers to this report.

<b>Report Author</b>	<b>Ext</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Doc ID</b>
Lorraine Charlesworth	5159	20 October 2008	***

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