



Executive Cabinet

Agenda and Reports

For consideration on

**Thursday, 2nd September
2010**

In the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chorley

At 5.00 pm



www.chorley.gov.uk

PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS/SPEAKING AT EXECUTIVE CABINET MEETINGS

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

PROCEDURE FOR 'CALL-IN' OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

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

24 August 2010

Dear Councillor

EXECUTIVE CABINET - THURSDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER 2010

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Executive Cabinet to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chorley on Thursday, 2nd September 2010 at 5.00 pm.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**

2. **Declarations of Any Interests**

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

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

3. **Minutes of last meeting (Pages 1 - 10)**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 12 August 2010 (Minutes enclosed).

4. **Public Questions**

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

ITEMS OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER (PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIP) (INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLOR PETER MALPAS)

5. **Refresh of Chorley's Economic Regeneration Strategy and development of Partners' Action Plan (Pages 11 - 36)**

To receive and consider the enclosed report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy., together with the revised Strategy and associated action plan.

6. **Action Plan to deliver the Town Centre Strategy - Creating a thriving 'Contemporary Market Town' (Pages 37 - 42)**

To receive and consider the enclosed report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy.

7. **Enhancement of Flat Iron Market (Pages 43 - 52)**

To receive and consider the enclosed report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy, with accompanying appendices.

A brief explanatory presentation will be made at the meeting by the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy and the Head of Economic Development.

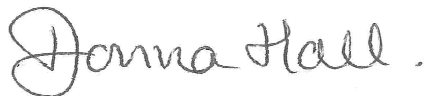
ITEM OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER (PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS) AND EXECUTIVE MEMBER (PEOPLE) (INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS PETER MALPAS AND JOHN WALKER)

8. **Allocation of Play and Recreation Fund (Pages 53 - 58)**

To receive and consider the enclosed report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy.

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

Yours sincerely



Donna Hall
Chief Executive

Tony Uren
Democratic and Member Services Officer
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Distribution

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

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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 آپکی اپنی زبان میں بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ یہ خدمت استعمال کرنے کیلئے براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر ٹیلیفون
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Executive Cabinet

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 12 August 2010

Present: Councillor Peter Goldsworthy (Executive Leader in the Chair), and Councillors Eric Bell, Kevin Joyce, Greg Morgan and John Walker

Also in attendance:

Lead Members: Councillors Harold Heaton and Keith Iddon

Other Members: Councillors Judith Boothman, Alan Cullens, Anthony Gee, Marie Gray, June Molyneaux, Mick Muncaster (Clayton-Le-Woods West and Cuerden), Alan Platt, Debra Platt, Ralph Snape and Peter Wilson

10.EC.177 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Pat Case (Deputy Leader of the Council), Councillor Peter Malpas (Executive Member (Planning and Partnerships) and Councillors Alistair Bradley, Henry Counce, Mike Devaney, Geoffrey Russell and Rosemary Russell.

10.EC.178 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS

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

10.EC.179 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 3 June 2010 were confirmed as a correct record for signature by the Executive Leader.

10.EC.180 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Executive Leader reported that there had been no requests from any member of the public to speak on any of the meeting's agenda items.

10.EC.181 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TASK GROUP'S INQUIRY INTO HIGHWAYS ISSUES - EXECUTIVE'S RESPONSE

The Executive Cabinet were reminded that the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group's inquiry into highway issues had made numerous recommendations reported to an earlier Cabinet meeting, the majority of which related to the Council's joint working with Lancashire County Council.

Chorley Council was currently in discussion with the County Council on Public Realm and Locality Working issues and it was, therefore, intended to delay the Executive's response to the inquiry's findings until the outcome of the discussions was known.

Decision made:

That the report be noted.

10.EC.182 PETITIONS SCHEME

The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Transformation seeking endorsement of a Petitions Scheme for the Council under the requirements of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

The draft scheme presented to Members had been based on a Government model, adapted to take account of the practices currently in force at Chorley. The scheme clarified how petitions should be organised and presented and the processes that should be adopted by the Council in assessing, deliberating and reporting back on the petitions.

In particular, the scheme made provision for petitions containing at least 750 signatures to be debated at a public meeting of the Executive Cabinet, with petitions containing more than 1500 signatures being submitted to the full Council for debate. A separate policy outlining the processes for dealing with e-petitions was included within the scheme.

The Executive Cabinet was assured that the outcome of petitions would be reported both to the lead petitioner and to the Council.

Decisions made:

- (1) That the Petitions Scheme, as now submitted, be endorsed and that the Council be recommended to approve the scheme for adoption and inclusion in the Council's Constitution.**
- (2) That approval be given to the implementation of the e-petitions proposals and procedures as outlined in the Petitions Scheme.**

Reason for decision:

The adoption of the scheme will satisfy one of the Council's statutory requirements.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

10.EC.183 CHORLEY COUNCIL PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT - FIRST QUARTER OF 2010/11

The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy, which set out and reviewed the Authority's performance in respect of the key projects and performance measures included in the Corporate Strategy, together with a number of other national indicators measured locally, during the first quarter of 2010/11.

The report revealed a good overall performance, with 88% of the key projects either having been completed or on track for completion. Factors mainly outside the control of the Authority had affected the remaining 12% of projects, and only one of the amber rated schemes was unlikely to be brought back on track by the next quarter period.

65% of the key measures identified in the Corporate Strategy were performing either above target or within the 5% tolerance and action plans had been compiled to improve the below target performance.

Decision made:

That the report be noted.

10.EC.184 CHORLEY PARTNERSHIP - PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT FOR FIRST QUARTER OF 2010/11

The Executive Cabinet received a report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy on the activities of the Chorley Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), particularly through the delivery of the objectives of the Lancashire Area Agreement and the Sustainable Communities Strategy over the first quarter of 2010/11.

The Executive Member (Policy and Performance) highlighted the following significant statistics and trends revealed in the report;

- Overall crime statistics had increased by 6% when compared to a low overall base in 2009/10, but the crime level statistic for Chorley was still below the Lancashire average.
- The number of households living in temporary accommodation had fallen to 4, well below the target figure of 13.
- Unemployment had fallen by 0.6% over the last quarter period, with significantly more people claiming benefits.
- 6 of the 9 projects commissioned by the Chorley Partnership in 2010/11 were proceeding on or ahead of schedule.

Decision made:

That the report be noted.

10.EC.185 PAUSING THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy presented a report on the implications of recent Government announcements on the future stages of the Local Development Framework processes.

The new coalition Government had announced its intention to introduce legislation to abolish regional spatial strategies and return decision-making powers on housing and planning to local Councils. Consequently, decisions on future housing supplies would rest with Local Planning Authorities without the framework of regional numbers and plans.

It had subsequently been agreed that it would be logical to postpone the publication of the Central Lancashire LDF Core Strategy in the light of further discussions between Members and Officers of the Central Lancashire (Chorley, Preston and South Ribble), particularly on the housing supply policies, and to await further guidance from the Government.

In the interim, it was proposed that work would continue on the Issues and Options stage of the Site Allocations Development Plan Document, as it would enable unsuitable development sites to be identified at an early stage.

Decision made:

That the Executive Cabinet notes:

- (1) That publication of the Central Lancashire LDF Core Strategy has been delayed to allow Officers and Members of Chorley, Preston and South Ribble Councils to consider the situation and take account of any emerging guidance from Central Government on planning and housing powers;**
- (2) That the position in relation to the Core Strategy will be considered at the next meeting of the Central Lancashire LDF Joint Advisory Committee with a view to a way forward being agreed;**

- (3) That, in the interim, Officers will revise the Publication Version of the Core Strategy to reflect recent changes in national policy;
- (4) That Officers will continue with the preparation of the Issues and Options stage of the Site Allocations Development Plan Document.

Reasons for decisions:

To ensure an appropriate way forward for further LDF activity.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

10.EC.186 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN GARDENS

The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy drawing attention to the decision of the coalition Government to alter the definition of garden land in planning policy, reclassifying such land as Greenfield, rather than Brownfield, in the light of growing concern at the impact at the amount of housing development taking place in residential gardens.

The report sought endorsement of an Interim Policy Statement that sought to control private garden development in the Borough in order to reflect the recent policy changes.

A revised draft Interim Policy Statement was circulated at the meeting, which, if adopted, would introduce a policy that would only permit, within the boundaries of settlements, development within private residential gardens on sites not allocated in saved Local Plan Policy HS1 for:

- (a) agricultural workers dwellings/dependants where there is a proven need and where they need to be located in a specific location;
- (b) appropriately designed and located replacement dwellings where there is no more than one for one replacement;
- (c) the conversion and extension of buildings, provided they are not allocated for, currently used for, or their last use was for, employment uses, and the conversion would have significant urban regeneration benefits.

In addition, the draft Policy stated that, beyond the above criteria, garden development may be considered in exceptional circumstances, subject to other material planning considerations, providing the developer could demonstrate that the proposed development was in keeping with the character of the local area.

The Executive Cabinet was recommended to endorse, for consultation purposes, the draft Interim Policy Statement with the objective of restoring a degree of discretion to the Local Planning Authority to determine garden development applications on relevant planning policy and material consideration grounds, following the reclassification of garden land as Greenfield.

Decision made:

That the draft Interim Policy Statement proposed for use as a development control tool when assessing proposals for new developments in residential gardens, in the form circulated at the meeting, be endorsed for the purposes of a 6 weeks consultation period.

Reason for decision:

To ensure an appropriate response to the coalition Government changes to planning policy and to reflect local concerns.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

10.EC.187 ALLOTMENTS - ACTION PLAN. 2010/11

The Director of People and Places submitted a report on the outcome of a recent review and examination of future potential allotment sites throughout the Borough, following the allocation of £40,000 in the 2010/11 revenue budget for the development of new allotment sites in an endeavour to reduce the numbers on the allotments waiting list.

The report commented on the outcome of the Officer investigations and feasibility studies which had resulted in the identification of land at Rothwell Road, Anderton and Manor Road, Clayton-le-Woods as potential areas for development as allotment plots and community growing areas. A further area of land at Duke Street, Chorley required further investigations before development options were pursued.

While demand for allotments exceeded supply, the Council would continue to examine the potential for the development of additional plots in conjunction with partners.

The Executive Cabinet was also reminded that an Overview and Scrutiny Task Group had recently been set up to consider allotments issues. The Chair and Cabinet members hoped that the Task Group's review would encompass the issue of guidance on the use, management and maintenance of allotment plots.

Decisions made:

- (1) That approval be given to the commencement of the public consultation process on the plans to provide additional allotment plots on the potential sites at Rothwell Road, Anderton and Manor Road, Clayton-le-Woods.**
- (2) That further site investigations around ground conditions and potential land transfer issues be undertaken in respect of land at Duke Street, Chorley and that, in the event of investigations to convert the land into allotment plots proving favourable, the required public consultation exercise be commenced.**

Reasons for decisions:

The decisions will allow public consultation to commence on the sites identified for future development, with a view to an increase in the future allotments provision in order to address public demand for plots.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

10.EC.188 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES - ACTION PLAN

The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Director of People and Places on ways in which a programme of initiatives supported by the Council could complement the 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games in London.

The would offer opportunities to encourage people to participate in sport and other community, volunteering and cultural activities.

The report outlined a programme of existing events, activities and initiatives that could be organised and expanded in 2012, either through normal budget provision or with external funding aid from partners, to link into the promotion of the 2012 Olympics.

Decision made:

That the programme of potential initiatives, events and activities identified in the submitted report form the basis of the Council's action plan to maximise the benefits arising from the 2012 Olympic Games.

Reason for decision:

To maximise the benefits arising from the 2012 Olympic Games.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

1. Take no action.
2. A more ambitious programme was rejected given the lack of funding opportunities to support such a programme.

10.EC.189 STAFF SURVEY, 2009

The Executive Cabinet received a report of the Director of Transformation which gave an overview of the results of the Council's staff survey undertaken in the autumn of 2009 by the Council in conjunction with a specialist market research company.

A commendable 78% response rate had been achieved and the report highlighted the following significant findings from the survey:

- 91% of staff are satisfied in their job;
- 96% understand what the Council's priorities are;
- 92% are proud to work for Chorley Council;
- 99% feel that they have the skills and knowledge needed to do their job.

The survey also revealed a number of areas for development (eg inter-team and inter-departmental communication), which would require to be addressed.

The Members commented on the significantly high response rate of staff, which had been achieved in the midst of a major senior restructure.

Decision made:

That the report be noted.

10.EC.190 TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, 2010/11

The Director of Transformation presented a report on the Council's Treasury management activity and performance up to 30 June 2010.

The report indicated that the Council had received a return of 0.73% on its average surplus cash balance of £5.8m during the first quarter of 2010/11 and confirmed that investments continued to be made with only highly rated institutions for short periods.

The Council's treasury advisor was satisfied that the Council was complying with the prudential indicators specified in the adopted Treasury and Investment Strategies and, therefore, it was intended to continue with adherence to the current treasury management strategy.

Decision made:

That the report be noted.

10.EC.191 CAPITAL PROGRAMME, 2010/11 TO 2012/13 - MONITORING

The Executive Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Transformation on proposals to revise the Council's Capital Programme for 2010/11 to 2012/13.

It was proposed to increase the Capital Programme for the three year period from £12,037,260 to £13,327,540 as a result of the rephrasing of £728, 830 expenditure from 2009/10 and the financing of new projects by external contributions of viirement from other existing capital budgets.

The report clarified that there would be no additional borrowing requirement to fund the increased Capital Programme beyond that previously budgeted to finance part of the expenditure rephrased from 2009/10. However, the report also emphasised the importance of securing all budgeted resources (eg VAT Shelter income from Chorley Community Housing and capital receipts from the disposal of surplus assets) if any increase in borrowing was to be avoided. In the event of the anticipated income and receipts not being realised, it would be necessary to reconsider the Capital Programme.

Decisions Made:

That the Council be recommended:

- (1) to approve the revised Capital Programme for 2010/11, as presented in Appendix 1 to the submitted report;**
- (2) to note the amendments to the provisional Capital Programmes for 2011/12 and 2012/13, as presented in Appendix 2 to the submitted report.**

Reason for decisions:

To update the three year Capital Programme for 2010 to 2013 to take account of the rephrasing of expenditure and other changes to the resources available to fund the programme.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

10.EC.192 REVENUE BUDGET, 2010/11 - MONITORING

The Director of Transformation presented a report monitoring the Council's financial performance during the first quarter of 2010/11 in comparison with the budgetary and efficiency savings targets for the financial year.

The report revealed that the first quarter's savings target of £75,000 had been achieved and that it was anticipated that further savings would be made during the year sufficient to meet the expected annual saving of £300,000 from management of the establishment. The projected outturn showed a forecast underspend of around £64,000, despite the loss of £127,000 from the Housing and Planning Delivery Grant for 2010/11. The underspend would, therefore, contribute to the remaining savings target.

Reference was made, in particular, to the budget shortfall likely to be incurred as a result of the larger than anticipated inflationary increase contractually required to be added to the cost of the waste collection contract.

Whilst no further action or measures were deemed necessary at this stage, a number of identified budgetary areas would be monitored closely over the next months to ensure that the budget savings remained on track.

Decision Made:

That the report be noted.

10.EC.193 CCTV - SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The Executive Cabinet received a report of the Director of Transformation informing Members of a short term extension of the contract for the servicing and maintenance of the Council's CCTV infrastructure.

The current contract was due to expire at the end of December 2010, but the Council had the opportunity to participate in Team Lancashire's procurement exercise for future servicing and maintenance, provided the contract arrangements were co-terminus with other District Councils, whose current contracts, in the main, expired at the end of 2011.

The Director considered that the negotiation of a short term extension to the current contract provided a better value for money solution than the letting of a separate short term contract in anticipation of the joint procurement arrangements at the end of 2011.

Decision made:

That the report be noted.

10.EC.194 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**Decision Made:**

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the ground that they involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

(There were no members of the public or press present at the meeting.)

10.EC.195 ALLEYGATES SCHEMES

The Executive Cabinet considered a non-restricted report of the Director of People and Places reviewing the effectiveness of the Council's alleygate project, which had introduced 53 separate schemes across Chorley between April, 2005 and March, 2010, and putting forward recommendations for the future of the of the initiative.

Lancashire Constabulary had been commissioned to evaluate a number of the alleygate schemes that had been in operation for at least 12 months and the Members took account of a confidential report of the Police's findings and conclusions. The findings report assessed the impact the installation of alleygates had had on crime levels and residents' perceptions and confidence in the schemes. The report concluded that there was little evidence to suggest problems with crime facilitated by alleyways in Chorley, with statistics indicating that less than 2% of all crime involved crimes where entry to property had been gained via an alleyway.

In the light of the Police's evaluation report, the Executive Cabinet was recommended to discontinue the alleygates programme on the basis that the initiative was not now achieving its original objective and was not now cost effective. Discontinuance of the programme would result in significant capital and revenue cost savings.

Members were aware of the success of the scheme in helping to reduce residents' fear of crime and assisting their perception of safety. It was, however, pointed out that, since the introduction of the alleygates project, several other cost effective initiatives and measures had been introduced to tackle crime, anti-social behaviour and depositing of litter. Each of the Council's programmes now required to be measured against their cost and operational effectiveness.

Decision made:

That, based upon restricted Police evidence and a re-evaluation of the project, the installation of alleygates within the Borough be discontinued.

Reason for decision:

There is little evidence to suggest that the implementation of alleygates in Chorley has reduced crime in the respective areas in which they have been installed.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

10.EC.196 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ICT) - RESTRUCTURE

The Director of Transformation presented a confidential report on a proposed revision to the staffing structure of the Technical Support Team within the ICT Section as the first phase of changes.

The introduction of the corporate Citrix programme had resulted in the need for specialist technical skills to support and maintain the new infrastructure. The proposed new structure, entailing the deletion of two posts and the creation of two replacement posts, aimed to provide the specialist Citrix support, as well as capacity to support other technical calls to the ICT helpdesk.

Decision made:

- (1) That the proposals to alter the structure of the Information and Communications Technology Section of the Transformation**

Directorate, as outlined in Appendix 2 to the submitted report, be approved for consultation with the affected staff.

- (2) That all Officers in deleted posts who are risk of redundancy be given the opportunity to apply for the newly created posts as potential suitable alternative employment.

Reason for decision:

The need to provide Citrix specific technical skills is critical to the maximisation of the use of the technology and improvement of the use experience.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.

Executive Leader

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director - Partnerships, Planning & Policy (Introduced by the Executive Member for Planning & Partnerships)	Executive Cabinet	2 nd September 2010

THE REFRESH OF CHORLEY'S ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT OF PARTNERS' ACTION PLAN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update Members on the process to refresh Chorley's Economic Regeneration Strategy and to seek approval of both the final version of the Strategy (attached at Appendix A) and the associated partners' Action Plan (attached at Appendix B).

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. That the final version of the Chorley Economic Regeneration Strategy (contained in Appendix A) along with the associated partners' Action Plan (contained in Appendix B) are approved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

3. The refresh of Chorley's Economic Regeneration Strategy is a key project within the Corporate Strategy for delivery by September 2010. This refresh is an opportunity for Chorley Partnership to reflect on successes from the previous strategy and to highlight future shared priorities and actions during these challenging economic times and as we head towards recovery. At the March meeting of the Executive Cabinet the first draft refresh of the Chorley Economic Regeneration Strategy was approved for formal consultation. This report now presents both the final version of the Strategy and, following a workshop at the Economic Regeneration Group and discussions with partners, an Action Plan for its delivery over the next three to five years.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

4. It is important that during these uncertain economic times that Chorley Council, along with partners and key stakeholders, has clear direction and deliverables to ensure that the Chorley economy maintains resilience as we head towards recovery.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

5. None.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

6. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region	√	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

7. The current Economic Regeneration Strategy for Chorley was adopted in 2006. Economic circumstances have changed and with new emerging national, regional and sub-regional policies (including the Mid-Lancashire Multi-Area Agreement) the strategy requires a refresh. Considerable progress has been made in delivering the current strategy and it is timely to define future key priorities and actions over the next three to five years.

At the March meeting of the Executive Cabinet the first draft refresh of the Chorley Economic Regeneration Strategy was approved for formal consultation. It was proposed that the final version of the Strategy, along with an associated Action Plan, would be brought back to Executive Cabinet in the Autumn.

THE ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY REFRESH 2010 AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PARTNERS' ACTION PLAN

8. Following feedback to the formal consultation on the first draft of the refreshed Economic Regeneration Strategy, a final version (contained in Appendix A) has been prepared. A workshop was held at the June meeting of the Economic Regeneration Group to commence the preparation of the Action Plan. Following discussions with partners, a final version of the Action Plan is contained in Appendix B and focuses on the following priority themes:

- Promoting knowledge-based inward investment
- Creating a thriving 'Contemporary Market Town'
- Supporting a strong indigenous business base; and
- Ensuring residents and communities reach their full economic potential.

The lead agency, partners, funding sources and timescales for delivery are considered for each project.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

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

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

COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSFORMATION

The delivery of the refreshed Economic Regeneration Strategy and associated partners' Action Plan has implications for Human Resources, and can be delivered within existing mainstream staffing budgets.

CONCLUSION

10. The refresh of the Economic Regeneration Strategy and the development of a partners' Action Plan is an opportunity for Chorley Partnership to reflect on successes from the previous strategy and highlight future shared priorities and actions during these challenging economic times and as we head towards recovery.

LESLEY-ANN FENTON
DIRECTOR – PARTNERSHIPS, PLANNING & POLICY

Background paper

Executive Cabinet – 25th March 2010

The Refresh of Chorley's Economic Regeneration Strategy

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Cath Burns	5305	17/08/2010	ExecCabRefreshofERS2010

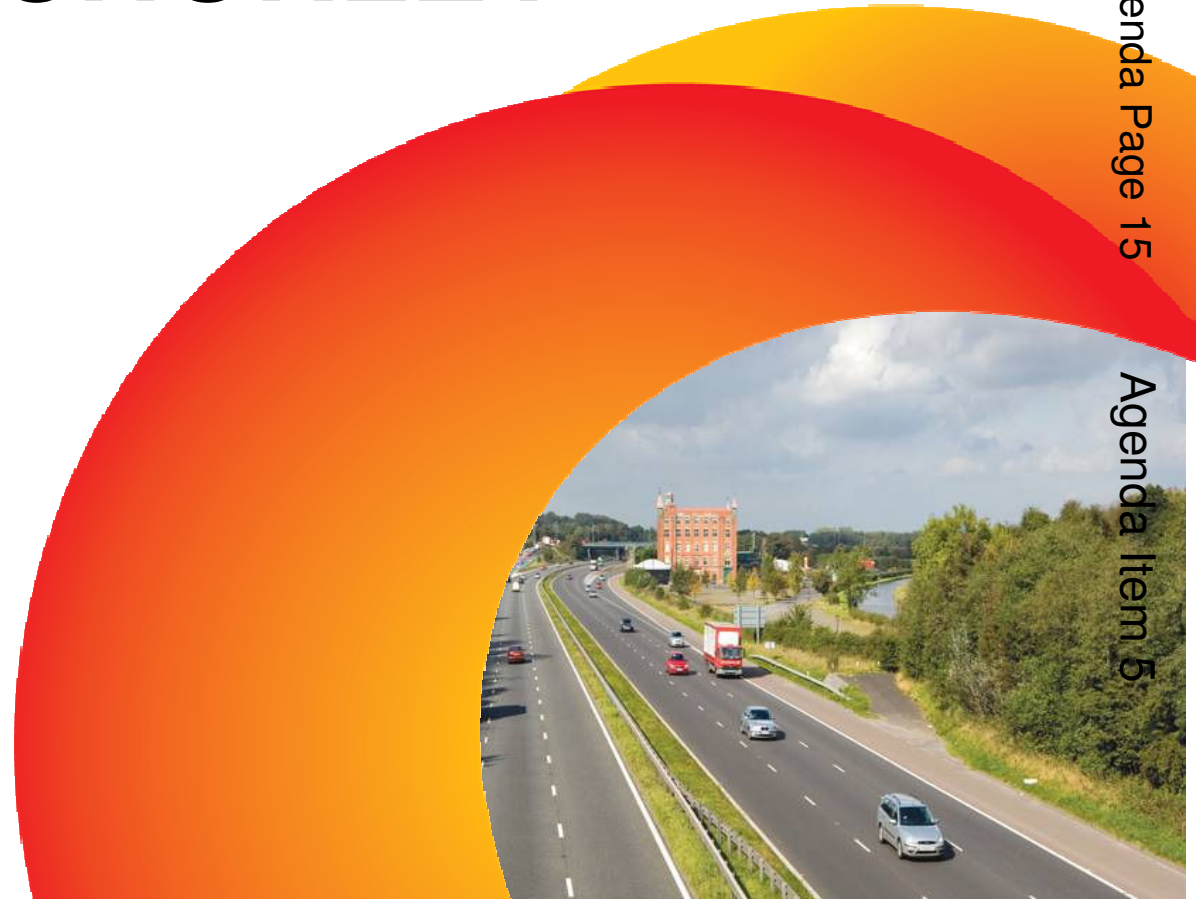
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ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY FOR CHORLEY

2006 - 2021

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Agenda Item 5



Foreword

Welcome to the refreshed Economic Regeneration Strategy for Chorley. First published in 2006, the Strategy proposed a number of key actions to maximise economic opportunity, drive up value added activity and boost economic inclusion in order to achieve sustainable growth over the next 10 – 15 years.

This refreshed edition has been compiled as a result of changing economic circumstances and also emerging new national, regional and sub-area economic strategies including the Mid-Lancashire Multi-Area Agreement. Considerable progress has been made in delivering the Strategy and it is timely to define future key priorities and actions over the next 3 – 5 years.

We have achieved a lot. The significant increase in employee job growth places Chorley in the top 20% of districts nationally. Similarly unemployment is at one of the lowest levels in Lancashire. We are achieving record levels for business start up and survival. In many respects the prognosis for Chorley's economy continues to be bright.

Through feedback with partners and other stakeholders, this year we have refreshed our Strategy and set four Strategic themes which will guide the work of Chorley Partnership and the Economic Regeneration Group over the coming years.

This Strategy demonstrates the commitment to and success of partnership working in Chorley. Together we can ensure the continued long-term prosperity and regional importance of Chorley.



Allan W Jones
Chair, Chorley Partnership and Economic Regeneration Group

Introduction to Chorley's Economic Regeneration Strategy and Aim

The Chorley Economic Regeneration Strategy was produced in 2006 by the Chorley Partnership, in consultation with partners and key stakeholders from public, private and voluntary sectors in Chorley. The Strategy was designed to facilitate sustainable economic growth over the next 10 – 15 years. Since then, economic circumstances have changed and there are many emerging new national, regional and sub-area economic strategies, including the Mid-Lancashire Multi-Area Agreement.

We have also achieved a great deal since 2006 against our original set of priorities and actions. With this in mind, we have decided to refresh the Economic Regeneration Strategy to reflect the priorities for the Borough from 2010 onwards and to celebrate the progress we have made since 2006 in achieving the aims of the original Economic Regeneration Strategy.

A thriving and vibrant economy is a top priority for Chorley Partnership and partners recognise that the economy is central to and impacts on housing, health, crime, community and life chance opportunities. The refreshed Strategy will provide the structure for the development of shared priorities and actions to be delivered in partnership across public, private and voluntary sector over the next 3 – 5 years.

Aim

By 2021 Chorley will have capitalised on its premier location as a place to do business, complemented by a thriving contemporary market town. Chorley will have attracted big named employers to its key employment sites, and with a strong local business base, residents will have greater opportunity to gain well paid employment locally. Chorley will be a thriving 'Contemporary Market Town' where people can enjoy a wealth of stores and attractions to complement neighbouring cities and shopping centres in the North West.

This strategy will maximise economic opportunity, drive up value added activity and boost economic inclusion to achieve sustainable growth and strengthen Chorley's economic position in both Central and Mid-Lancashire.

What this Strategy means for Chorley.

- Private sector investment worth £270 million
- The creation of 8,800 new jobs, with more than 3,000 new jobs in higher value sectors
- Achieving greater prosperity for all – raising the value of economic activity per head of population

An Economic Success Story

Chorley has many of the key components of economic success – a premier location at the heart of the North West motorway network with great access to the M61, M6 and M65 and only 35 minutes from Manchester International Airport; market catchments of Manchester, Liverpool and Preston; a highly skilled workforce; top performing schools; glorious countryside; high quality of life and a strong economic structure orientated towards growth.

The prognosis going forward is very bright – Chorley offers considerable economic growth potential and can make an effective contribution to sub-regional, regional and national economic growth objectives.

A Thriving Economy

Economic indicators show a robustness of the Chorley economy in weathering the current economic downturn. The Borough can boast:

- A strong economic structure aligned with the Central Lancashire sub-regional economy, which has significantly out-performed surrounding areas.
- A diverse economy with a range of sector strengths within the knowledge based and high growth sectors promoting economic stability – Business and Professional Services, Food and Drink, Digital and Creative, Advanced Engineering and Materials, Manufacturing, Construction and Retail.
- A recent significant increase in employee job growth by 23.4%, compared to a regional average of 5.7%
- A high business density of 45 per 10,000 resident adults which equates to the county average.
- A good skills profile with levels of NVQ2 and higher qualifications above the county and regional levels.
- High labour force economic activity at 80.4% of the working age population, which has remained constantly above the regional and national averages.
- Good educational attainment – five out of six secondary schools in Chorley achieve higher GCSE pass rates than the national average with 75.3% of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE A* – C grades compared to 69.8% nationally.
- Balanced housing stock – with a higher proportion of detached and semi-detached housing than regional / national benchmarks and a more modern housing stock than many other parts of Lancashire.



Key Challenges

While recent trends indicate further strong economic growth potential, there are some key challenges facing the Borough which need to be addressed. The key challenges are:

- Commuting patterns: addressing the mass out migration of the workforce on a daily basis.
 - Low workplace-based earnings: addressing the difference between work-based earnings within the Borough and in surrounding authorities which currently provide an incentive to commuting.
 - Ensuring a continuous supply of employment land for inward investment: overcoming supply-side constraints to economic development and the demand side of attracting inward investment into the Borough.
 - Chorley Town Centre: maintaining Chorley's position in the retail hierarchy, growing the quality of its offer and providing a distinctive town centre environment.
 - Economic structure: putting in place measures to lesson economic dependence upon more vulnerable sectors which are influenced by globalisation, maximising potential from knowledge-based sectors and links with University of Central Lancashire, Higher Educational Institutions and Further Educational Institutions.
- Deprivation: addressing pockets of multiple deprivation, reconnecting deprived areas with the evident opportunities which exist and addressing entrenched employability difficulties.



Chorley's Economy – Defining the Future

There are a number of new and emerging strategies within which local economic development is being shaped. Primarily these are the Mid-Lancashire Multi-Area Agreement (MAA), Blackpool and Central Lancashire Housing Growth Point and the Central Lancashire Economic Development Strategy.

The Mid-Lancashire (MAA) intends to promote economic development across Chorley, Lancaster, Preston, South Ribble and West Lancashire districts, and has as its strategic objectives:

1. Maximising the potential of our key economic development and regeneration attributes.
2. Ensuring our infrastructure is capable of supporting our challenging economic growth opportunities.
3. Capitalising on our unique educational attributes to support and sustain our commitment to a knowledge-led economy.

These objectives are critical to maximising the potential of Mid-Lancashire to act as a catalyst for accelerated growth across the sub-region and to become a key contributor to leading the UK economy out of recession.

In recognition of the growth potential of Central Lancashire, the Blackpool and Central Lancashire Housing Growth Point aims to accelerate levels of new house building and associated infrastructure provision in the area.

An economic regeneration strategy has been prepared for the economic footprint of Central Lancashire, which covers Chorley, South Ribble and Preston districts. By 2026 Central Lancashire will be recognised as a highly sought after place to live and work in the North West. Central Lancashire will play a leading role in Lancashire's world class economy and have sustainable economic growth based on the area's unique assets.

The Strategy – Our Priority Themes

Although we are hopeful that the worst part of the recession has ended, Chorley Council and partners will continue to deliver bespoke responses to support businesses and the community during this challenging economic climate.

The Chorley Partnership has refreshed its priority themes, which will focus on achieving the vision and identifying the actions required to achieve this over the next 3 – 5 years. Key targets that will indicate how well we are performing have also been identified and agreed by partners and key stakeholders:

- Promoting knowledge-based inward investment.
- Creating a thriving 'Contemporary Market Town'.
- Supporting a strong indigenous business base.
- Ensuring residents and communities reach their full economic potential.



PRIORITY 1 Promoting knowledge-based inward investment

Attracting large inward investors in recognised knowledge based sectors will strengthen Chorley's economic base and provide better paid jobs locally.

SUCCESS STORY: The Revolution, Buckshaw

The Revolution is Chorley's Strategic Regional site and provides a 128 acre (52 ha) high quality logistics and industrial park, and has attracted high profile occupants Multiport and Encon, creating 450 number of jobs locally.

The involvement of Helio Slough – developers of The Revolution – has generated further investment at neighbouring site 'Buckshaw Link' to provide a highly prestigious 15 acres (6 ha) site of 20 speculatively built warehouse/industrial units developed to a high specification.

This is a flagship project, not only for Chorley, but for the Region as a whole, and has been brought about with relatively little public sector funding.

Adjacent to The Revolution is Buckshaw Village which is currently being developed as an urban village consisting of housing, employment and green space.



Whilst The Revolution is a positive story for Chorley, there are a number of challenges ahead. The current economic downturn has stalled the rate of investment at Buckshaw and needs to be reversed. We also need to ensure a quality supply of sites for inward investment in the medium to long term.

Priorities for Action

1. Ensure the implementation of Buckshaw Railway Station.
2. Bring forward development at Botany/Great Knowley.
3. Develop a succession strategy for major inward investment; identifying sites for the longer term.
4. Develop and deliver an inward investment plan building on Chorley's knowledge-based and high growth sectors.
5. Maximise opportunities for Chorley to grow as a location for Government and agency-based institutions, and USA professional services.
6. Lobby for a new Lancashire inward and international investment body.

Economic Regeneration Group – Choose Chorley for business

The new inward investment brochure 'Choose Chorley for business' showcases the Chorley offer to attract new investors to the area.



PRIORITY 2 Creating a thriving 'Contemporary Market Town'

This priority is about maintaining Chorley's position in the retail hierarchy, growing the quality of its offer and providing a distinctive and attractive town centre environment.

Chorley Town Centre is well known throughout the North West for its famous markets. The Town Centre boasts a diverse mix of traditional streets, markets, fine buildings and newer developments like Market Walk.

New multi-million pound shopping and leisure developments at Market Walk and Market Street, along with re-invigorated markets, are vital to Chorley's future, to create a contemporary market town, where people can enjoy a wealth of stores and attractions to complement neighbouring cities and shopping centres in the North West. Its redevelopment will take place over the next 10 years and will attract new retail and commercial investment, bringing thousands of new jobs and increased visitor levels.

SUCCESS STORY: Chorley Covered Markets

During 2009 Chorley Covered Market, owned and managed by Chorley Council, has been completely revamped with grand entrances to welcome shoppers to the market, a roof over the central aisle for the first time to improve the shopping experience, new lighting making it much brighter, full redecoration, and a new floor surface and layout for easier access.

These improvements have helped to boost trade and continue to attract visitors.



The 2008 Town Centre Audit and Design Strategy provides a detailed guide to future Town Centre interventions and thus providing direction for our Priorities for Action.

Priorities for Action

1. Securing the redevelopment of the Pall Mall Triangle, and Market Street public realm.
2. Look into the feasibility of a shop front improvement scheme.
3. Develop and deliver proposals for improvements to the Flat Iron area as a multi-functional market, civic amenity and car park.
4. Progress Market Walk Phase II shopping development.
5. Develop a strategy and identify a new phase of development opportunities in the town centre to attract larger multiples.
6. Develop a scheme to support high quality independents into vacant premises.
7. Develop and deliver a marketing package for the town centre, markets and Chorley as a whole.
8. Improve pedestrian routes from car parks into the shopping centre.
9. Promote the night time economy.
10. Developing our visitor offer by connecting local attractions to the town centre.
11. Develop a town centre improvement fund.



Economic Regeneration Group – Town Centre and Markets Manager

Chorley Town Centre is fairly unique in having its own Town Centre and Markets Manager to ensure the effective day to day smooth running of the Town Centre for our customers, traders and stakeholders.

PRIORITY 3 Supporting a strong indigenous business base

Chorley has a diverse economy with a range of sector strengths including knowledge based and high growth sectors - Business and Professional Services, Food and Drink, Digital and Creative, Advanced Engineering and Materials, Manufacturing, Construction and Retail. This theme is about supporting existing local businesses to survive and grow and maximising potential from links with UCLAN, Higher Educational Institutions and Further Educational Institutions.

SUCCESS STORY: Chorley Council and Business Link North West Partnership

Chorley Council working in partnership with Business Link North West has been supporting businesses as we head towards recovery – providing independent business support and information to businesses which is totally free to access and use.

Paul Hindle, Director of Lumenata Lighting Design Ltd who provide energy saving commercial and domestic lighting applications, has this to say about us:

“The guidance and support given has enabled me to make my vision a reality. I know I can always ask for my Advisors’ opinion and can trust the response – which has been essential in such challenging times”.

Priorities for Action

1. Supporting follow-on premises for university-led incubation and spin-out companies, and supporting university knowledge exchange.
2. Ensuring a supply of land and premises for a range of uses.
3. Supporting the delivery of the Lancashire West Local Development Scheme to grow and diversify rural economies.
4. Co-ordinating the delivery of environmental support to business.
5. To promote local supply networks by developing an electronic business directory.
6. Develop and deliver an action plan of shared business support with Business Link and other partners.
7. Develop and deliver a strategy to maximise local food production in Chorley.
8. In partnership with Business Link, strengthen economic trade and university linkages with India, China and USA.
9. Maximise Chorley’s position on the emerging Local Enterprise Partnership.

Economic Regeneration Group – Sustainability and Climate Change.

‘Going Green’ is a top priority for the Economic Regeneration Group. Working in partnership, businesses are being supported with free environmental diagnostic reviews, Council funded grant assistance packages, climate change business club, breakfast events and other forms of financial support.



PRIORITY 4 Ensuring residents and communities reach their full economic potential.

Despite Chorley being a relatively wealthy borough, there are pockets of multiple deprivation and residents in unemployment with low skills and low educational attainment. This theme is about linking deprivation to economic opportunity, removing barriers to employment, enhancing local skills, and maximising opportunities for our budding entrepreneurs.

SUCCESS STORY: Generating and Sustaining new business starts.

Business Venture Group, a local enterprise agency, are the appointed local supplier of new business start up and support service in Central Lancashire; with Chorley Council acting as Accountable Body.

In a recent article by the Sunday Times, Chorley was ranked as one of the best places to start a business in the UK. The performance table demonstrates our year on year success.

Chorley New Business Starts and Survival Performance						
Measure	2007/2008		2008/2009		2009/2010	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
New Businesses Established	53	74	53	82	53	74
Sustained for 12 months	82%	81%	81%	96%	82%	91%
Sustained for 24 months	76%	79%	76%	94%	76%	89%

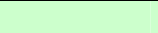


Economic Regeneration Group – Redundancy Task Force.

A team of committed professional public/private sector organisations have been established to provide quality advice, information, guidance and support to businesses and their staff within a redundancy situation.

Priorities for Action

1. Continue to exploit new opportunities and to support existing employment initiatives such as Chorley Employment Charter, Redundancy Task Force, Connect to Work and Future Jobs Fund.
2. Look into the feasibility of a Chorley based 'Coaching Academy' to provide an enhanced full-time jobs club.
3. Maximising potential to develop a shared employment and skills infrastructure with Business Link, Mid Lancashire Employment and Skills Board and other partners.
4. Develop strong links between the Children's Trust and the Economic Regeneration Group to develop the employability of young people, including those not in education, employment or training (NEET), and to reduce child poverty.
5. Managing the delivery of the Central Lancashire Intensive Start-Up Support Programme.
6. Developing opportunities in the third sector; including volunteering and social enterprise.
7. Promote the provision of managed workspace and incubator units.
8. Improving local transport accessibility, the provision of a new railway station at Coppull, improving car parking at Chorley and Adlington railway station, Chorley-Wigan quality bus corridor and innovative rural transport solutions.
9. Sub-regional transport enhancements including the electrification of Manchester-Blackpool rail line and Chorley/South Ribble/Preston express bus service and quality bus corridor.

MEASURING PERFORMANCE

Indicator of Success	Baseline 2010	Target March 2011	Target March 2012	Target March 2013
NI 151 Employment Rate (%) (Sept 2009)	75.9			
NI 152 Working Age Benefits (%) (Aug 2009)	11.1			
NI 163 Working Age Population at NVQ Level 2+ (2008)	71.1			
NI 165 Working Age Population at NVQ Level 4+ (2008)	28.4			
NI 166 Average Workplace Earnings of Employees (%) (2008-09)	428.2			
NI 171 Enterprise: VAT Registrations (Rate) (2008)	59.5			
NI 172 Small Businesses Employment Growth (%) (2008)	14.5			
Visitor Expenditure (£ millions) (2008)	172.00	172.50	173.00	173.50
No. of New Businesses Established (Mar 2010)	74	53	53	53
No. of New Businesses Established and Sustained for 12 Months (Mar 2010)	91%	91%	91%	91%
No. of New Businesses Established and Sustained for 24 Months (Mar 2010)	89%	89%	89%	89%
Town Centre Visits – Pedestrian Passes (Apr 2010)	33,800	34,814	35,858	36,933
Vacant Town Centre floorspace (Apr 2010)	7.94%	7.5%	7.0%	6.5%
Occupancy of Covered Market (%) (Mar 2010)	87%	89%	91%	93%
KEY				
	Better than or Equal to Regional and National Average / Exceeding Targets			
	Better than or Equal to Regional Average but Worse than National Average / Meeting Targets			
	Worse than Regional Average / Below Targets			



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ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY – PARTNERS ACTION PLAN 2010 - 2013

THEME 1: PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE-BASED INWARD INVESTMENT

KEY ACTIONS				
PROJECT	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS	FUNDING SOURCES	TIMESCALE
Ensuring the implementation of Buckshaw Railway Station	Network Rail	CC LCC	CIFII	2010 – 2011
Lobby for a new Lancashire-based Inward Investment body	CC	SRBC PCC LCC Chamber Banks etc Private Sector	Regional Growth Fund	2010 – 2012
Bring forward development at Botany / Great Knowley	Developer	CC Landowners	Private	2010 – 2015
Succession Strategy – identifying Inward Investment sites for the longer term	CC	SRBC PCC LCC Developers	Partners	2010 – 2012
Refresh Chorley's Inward and International Investment Plan	CC	Government Agencies Private Sector UCLAN	Partners	2010 – 2013

ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY – PARTNERS ACTION PLAN 2010 - 2013

THEME 2: CREATING A THRIVING ‘CONTEMPORARY MARKET TOWN’

KEY ACTIONS				
PROJECT	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS	FUNDING SOURCES	TIMESCALE
Securing the redevelopment of the Pall Mall Triangle and Market Street Public Realm	Developer	CC LCC Land Owners Traders	Private Sector	2010 – 2012
Shop Front Improvement Scheme Feasibility Study	CC	Traders	CC Private Sector	2011 – 2013
Develop and deliver proposals for Improvements to the Flat Iron area	CC	LCC Traders	CC	2011 – 2013
Market Walk Phase II Shopping Development	Developer	CC LCC Traders	Private Sector	2011 – 2013
Develop Strategy to attract Larger Multiples	CC	LCC Land Owners Retail Specialists Commercial Agents	Partners	2011 – 2012
Develop and deliver a Marketing Package for the Town Centre, Markets and Chorley as a whole	CC	Traders Town Centre Stakeholders	CC Private Sector	2010 – 2011

ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY – PARTNERS ACTION PLAN 2010 - 2013

THEME 3: SUPPORTING A STRONG INDIGENOUS BUSINESS BASE

PROJECT	KEY ACTIONS			
	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS	FUNDING SOURCES	TIMESCALE
Supporting the Lancashire West LDS to grow and diversify rural economies – maximising opportunities for Chorley.	LCC	CC Rural Businesses LAG Board	RDPE Private	2010 – 2013
Critical Review of Employment Land / Premises Provision – ensuring a rolling programme to meet a variety of needs.	CC	SRBC PCC Developers Local Businesses	Partners	2010 – 2012
Co-ordinating the delivery of Environmental Support to Business	CC	Local Businesses LCC Groundwork	CC LCC Private	Ongoing
Develop Electronic Business Directory – promoting local supply networks and marketing activities.	CC	SRBC Local Supplier	CC SRBC	2010 – 2011
Develop and deliver Shared Business Support Action Plan	CC	Business Link LCC Business Support Providers	Partners	2010 – 2013
Local Enterprise Partnerships – maximising Chorley's position.	CC	Local Authorities Businesses UCLAN SBF Chambers of Commerce	Regional Growth Fund	2010 +

ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY – PARTNERS ACTION PLAN 2010 - 2013

THEME 4: ENSURING RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITIES REACH THEIR FULL ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

KEY ACTIONS				
PROJECT	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS	FUNDING SOURCES	TIMESCALE
Support existing employment initiatives such as Chorley Employment Charter, Redundancy Task Force and Future Jobs Fund, exploiting any new opportunities.	CC	Charter Partnership	SFA	2010 – 2013
		Redundancy Task Force Mid Lancashire Future Jobs Fund Group	FJF	2010 – 2011
Managing the delivery of the Central Lancashire Intensive Start Up Support Programme	CC	NWDA A4e SRBC PCC LCC BVG	NWDA WNF LCC	2010 – 2012
Managed Workspace and Incubator Units Phase 1 – Chorley Innovation Centre, Buckshaw Village	CBRE	LCC Private Sector CC	LCC Private	2010 – 2012
‘Coaching Academy’ Feasibility Study	CC	JCP SFA Skills Agencies	SFA	2011 – 2012
Third Sector Strategy responding to ‘Big Society’	CC	SELNET	Mainstream	2011 – 2012
Car Parking Improvements at Chorley Railway Station	LCC	Developer CC	Developer Contributions	2012 – 2015
Car Parking Improvements at Adlington Railway Station	LCC	Developer CC	Developer Contributions	2012 – 2015

ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY – PARTNERS ACTION PLAN 2010 - 2013

KEY: Partners

CC	Chorley Council
BL	Business Link
NWDA	North West Regional Development Agency
LCC	Lancashire County Council
SRBC	South Ribble Borough Council
PCC	Preston City Council
SFA	Skills Funding Agency
SELNET	Social Enterprise Lancashire Network
UCLAN	University of Central Lancashire
LAG Board	Local Action Group (West Lancashire) Board
SBF	Small Business Federation
A4e	Action for Employment
BVG	Business Venture Group
JCP	Job Centre Plus

KEY: Funding Sources

SFA	Skills Funding Agency
CC	Chorley Council
LCC	Lancashire County Council
SRBC	South Ribble Borough Council
PCC	Preston City Council
RDPE	Rural Development Programme for England
FJF	Future Jobs Fund
NWDA	North West Regional Development Agency
WNF	Working Neighbourhoods Fund

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Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Partnerships, Planning & Policy (Introduced by the Executive Member for Planning & Partnerships)	Executive Cabinet	2 nd September 2010

DELIVERING THE TOWN CENTRE STRATEGY – CREATING A THRIVING ‘CONTEMPORARY MARKET TOWN’

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To propose a range of actions for the town centre that can be further explored and delivered, and to ask Members for their suggestions, as well as inform discussions on future budget decisions.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. That Members comment on the proposals, provide further suggestions and approve the proposed list of projects subject to any Member amendments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

3. This report puts forward an initial range of short and medium/longer term actions to create a thriving ‘Contemporary Market Town’ for consideration by Members.

Members comments are sought on the proposals, giving particular regard to future budget decisions.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

4. A thriving town centre is an essential part of the economy and Chorley Town Centre is a top priority for the Council. Developing a clear plan of short and medium/longer term actions for the town centre is essential going forward.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

5. None.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

6. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region	✓	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

- 7. The 2006 Economic Regeneration Strategy for Chorley is currently being refreshed; and creating a thriving ‘Contemporary Market Town’ is a key priority within the strategy.
- 8. The Town Centre Strategy was adopted in 2006 and highlighted general principles for the town centre which still hold good today. Both the Economic Regeneration and Town Centre Strategies were informed by the Chorley Town Centre Retail and Leisure Study (October 2005) undertaken by White Young Green.
- 9. The 2008 Town Centre Audit and Design Strategy provided a detailed guide to future town centre interventions and has informed direction in developing a partners’ Action Plan for the next three to five years to deliver the refreshed Economic Regeneration Strategy.
- 10. Whilst the findings and recommendations of the 2010 Overview and Scrutiny Inquiry on Town Centre Vitality are being progressed, this report takes forward two recommendations specifically in relation to the Flat Iron Market and access to town centre car parks.

CREATING A THRIVING ‘CONTEMPORARY MARKET TOWN’

- 11. In order to fulfil our vision of achieving a thriving ‘Contemporary Market Town’, there are four key areas we need to tackle:
 - a. Improve the **retail offer** whilst at the same time striking the right balance of individual specialist versus larger multiple retailers.
 - b. **Regenerate** the unattractive and ‘secondary’ parts of the town centre.
 - c. Create an attractive **environment** that encourages shopping in Chorley, e.g. public realm, gateways and car parking.
 - d. Improve the **leisure offer** and expand and improve the quality of dining in the town centre.
- 12. An initial range of short and medium/longer term actions are presented in the table below for consideration by Members. Where possible, an indication of funding requirements and potential funding sources to make the schemes viable have been provided. However, further work will be needed over the coming months as part of budget preparation with all stakeholders to secure the necessary funds to take the projects forward. It is also anticipated that those medium and longer term proposed actions favoured by Members will require more detailed work over the year and further papers will be brought to Executive Cabinet accordingly.

<u>DELIVERING THE TOWN CENTRE STRATEGY</u> <u>- CREATING A THRIVING 'CONTEMPORARY MARKET TOWN'</u>			
	<u>PROPOSED SHORT TERM PROJECTS</u>	<u>DELIVERY YEAR</u>	<u>FUNDING REQUIREMENT</u>
1.	<p><u>Regeneration & Attractive Environment – Public Realm on Market Street</u></p> <p>This project is about making the Southern end of Market Street a more attractive and accessible experience by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • De-cluttering footways • Introducing improved quality paving and street furniture (bins, benches) • Softening the landscape with tree planting. 	2011	Developer S78/S106
2.	<p><u>Regeneration & Attractive Environment - Shop Front Improvements</u></p> <p>Improving the public realm in terms of the visual appearance at a vertical level by providing a grant assistance package to owners and leaseholders for shop front improvements. For example, 50% grant assistance up to a maximum of £10,000. Grant assistance is conditional to receiving business advice and support to promote the sustainability of the business over 2 years.</p> <p>The scheme would be available to small retailers and piloted within targeted areas of the Town Centre.</p>	2011/12	<p><u>Shop Front Grant</u> Chorley Council = £150,000 Business Contribution = £150,000 Total = £300,000 <u>Business Support</u> Revitalising Town Centres / Chorley Council = £7,500</p>
3.	<p><u>Retail Offer - Supporting High Quality Independents into Vacant Shop Premises</u></p> <p>Chorley Town Centre prides itself on the offer from our quality independents. This project brings together capital and revenue business support measures to promote and ensure the viability of this sector and to bring vacant shop premises back into use by providing a £3,000 fixed grant to refurbish the internal shop and a 100% business rate subsidy in the first 6 months.</p> <p>The grant assistance is conditional to receiving business advice and support to promote the sustainability of the business.</p> <p>The scheme would be available to small independent retailers moving into vacant premises within the Town Centre boundary. Promoting the quality of offer will be</p>	2011/12	<p><u>Refurbishment grant</u> Chorley Council = £27,000 <u>Business rate subsidy</u> Chorley council = £53,325 <u>Business Support</u> Intensive Start Up Support Grant = £16,470</p>

	essential to attract goods and services currently not available such as books, shoes, children's clothes etc.		
4.	<p><u>Leisure Offer - Developing the Night Time Economy</u></p> <p>'Cheers to Chorley' proposal focusing on third Thursday night of each month to redirect mainstream / partner resources to boost night time activity in the Town Centre. Project covers late night shopping, promotions at pubs and eateries, entertainment, free car parking after 4.00 pm on Thursday, youth diversionary activities, town centre evening economy guide.</p> <p>One option to be explored further is the development of St George's St as a food quarter (as advocated in the White Young Green retail and leisure study) over the medium term.</p>	<p>2011/12</p> <p>2012/13</p>	<p>£11,600 Chorley Council & Partners Mainstream Resources</p>
5.	<p><u>Attractive Environment - Improving Pedestrian Routes from Car Parks into Market Street</u></p> <p>This project is about improving the accessibility, including DDA Compliance, and signage of pedestrian routes from town centre car parks into the Town Centre.</p> <p>Linked to this project is consideration of providing car parking free at quiet times to increase trade, and an associated loss on car parking revenue will be calculated.</p>	<p>2011/12</p>	<p>Raising levy on businesses, e.g. Business Improvement District</p>
6.	<p><u>Retail Offer & Attractive Environment – Short Term Proposals for Flat Iron</u></p> <p>This project proposes to maximise revenue generation by re-laying out the Flat Iron Market. This additional revenue will pay for new attractive gazebos which will improve the visual appearance of the market and in theory improve the market offer.</p>	<p>2011</p>	<p>Additional revenue generation</p>

	<u>MEDIUM TO LONG TERM PROJECTS</u>	<u>DELIVERY YEAR</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
7.	<p><u>Regeneration and Retail Offer - Market Street / Gillibrand Street Comprehensive Redevelopment Opportunity</u></p> <p>The former MacDonald's site can be viewed as part of a wider development opportunity by incorporating Fleet Street Short and Long Stay car parks, and potentially other adjacent parcels of land.</p>	<p>2012 onwards</p>	<p>Special Purpose Vehicle / Developer Partner</p>
8.	<p><u>Retail offer - Strategy to Attract Larger Multiples / Independent Department Stores</u></p>		

	<p>This project is about improving our Town Centre offer by attracting larger multiples. In doing so, independent department stores have been considered in a similar capacity. The strategy will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the ratios of larger multiples vs. independent specialists over short, medium and long term. • Master planning site allocations for larger multiples over short, medium and long term. This may include identifying other redevelopment opportunities. • Developing a short list of 'desirable' larger multiples / independent stores. 	<p>2012 onwards</p>	<p>Special Purpose Vehicle / Developer Partner</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Developing a Town Centre Improvements Fund</u></p> <p>This project is about establishing a Town Centre Fund which can be used to make improvements in the town centre of both a capital and revenue nature. There are a number of mechanisms which can be explored to create the fund e.g. S106 contributions; Community Infrastructure Levy; surplus income from the markets; car park revenue; broader capital receipts/revenue savings, Business Improvement District</p>	<p>2011 onwards</p>	<p>Variety of sources</p>

CONCLUSION

13. Creating a thriving 'Contemporary Market Town' is about maintaining Chorley's position in the retail hierarchy, growing the quality of its offer and providing a distinctive and attractive Town Centre environment. Developing a clear plan of short and medium / longer term actions is essential going forward.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

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

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

15. The accessibility of the town centre for disabled people is an issue that has been raised and discussed by the Equality Forum. A task and finish group of the forum has examined access in the town centre and the comments received following the work are taken into consideration in work undertaken in the town centre.
16. Specific consultation will be undertaken with the Equality Forum at the appropriate time on any new major scheme in the town centre that may have an impact upon access, as previously agreed with the Forum.

COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSFORMATION

17. The report sets out for Members a series of options requiring financial support from the Council. The bulk of these options require revenue funding which is not recurrent at this stage. Therefore, should Members determine the strategy is appropriate, further work would be needed as the report suggests to finance the costs and to agree an appropriate funding stream. This would need to be completed during the coming months and funds found from current cash budgets for 2010/11 or be part of the budget preparation for future years.

LESLEY-ANN FENTON
DIRECTOR OF PARTNERSHIPS, PLANNING & POLICY

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Cath Burns	5305	16/08/2010	Exec Cab Deliv Town Centre Strategy



Report of	Meeting	Date
Director - Partnerships, Planning & Policy (Introduced by the Executive Member for Planning and Partnerships)	Executive Cabinet	02/09/2010

CHORLEY MARKETS – FLAT IRON MARKET

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To put forward a proposal to improve the visual appearance of the Flat Iron market by introducing Gazebo style structures within a new layout.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- That Members approve proposals and financing arrangements to improve the Flat Iron market as outlined in this report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- This project proposes to improve the visual appearance of the Flat Iron market by the phased introduction of gazebo style stalls.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

- Chorley Town Centre is a top priority for the council. It is essential that further investment is made into the Flat Iron to both attract a vibrant mix of quality traders and improve the customer offer.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND POTENTIALLY REJECTED

- No further investment in the Flat Iron market.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

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



BACKGROUND

7. The 2006 Economic Regeneration Strategy for Chorley is currently being refreshed and creating a thriving 'Contemporary Market Town' is a key priority within the strategy. Developing and delivering proposals for improvements to the Flat Iron area as a multi-functional market, civic amenity and car parking is a stated priority for action.
8. As part of a longer term proposal, Landscape Projects were commissioned to draw up plans for improving the Flat Iron as a multi-functional area and consultation on this work is being planned for over the coming months. This project will be delivered when funding is available. The project for enhancing the Flat Iron Market highlighted that new stalls in an improved layout would not only have positive effects for traders using the market, but also for the Town Centre as a whole by attracting more visitors to the gateway.

PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING THE FLAT IRON MARKET

9. This project proposes to improve the visual appearance of the Flat Iron market by the phased introduction of gazebo style stalls. The additional revenue generated by relaying the Flat Iron will pay for these improvements.

TRIAL - PHASE 1

10. It is proposed that the new gazebos (measuring 6m x 3m) will be phased with an initial trial of 4 units adjacent to Booths/Sir Henry Tate. The diagram in Appendix A locates the trial in yellow (marked T). The trial with traders will start from April 2011. The budget estimate for the trial (including gazebos and floor fittings) is £4,500. If the trial is successful, and there is positive demand for the new gazebos, a Phase 2 is planned.

PHASE 2

11. Phase 2 proposes a further 32 gazebos around the perimeter of the Flat Iron (shaded orange (marked 2) in the diagram in Appendix A). Phase 2 would significantly enhance the look and feel of the Flat Iron to on-lookers from outside the market. It also promotes more choice for traders to either take a gazebo, to use the existing stall frames or build their own within the centre of the market (shaded blue (marked WB) and pink (marked SB) on the diagram).
12. The budget estimate for Phase 2 is £46,500 (including gazebos, floor fittings, side panels, parking barriers, storage trailer). With the potential to achieve additional revenue from car parking (stalls would no longer be erected on Monday afternoon) and extra revenue from the new stall layout, the payback period for the trial and phase 2 is 26 months.
13. A visual impression of the new look stall for the Flat Iron is contained in Appendix B. The stock of gazebos will allow us to use them for other events such as Farmers Market, REACH and Christmas Markets.
14. A price will be negotiated for separation sheets to a uniform specification that traders must use and existing stalls and self-build stalls will use a uniform colour palette for their sheets. Members should be aware that there will be a re-allocation of traders to stalls, dependent upon interest. There will be specific promotion of the revitalised market to new traders and customers. The new gazebos will require a review of current market operations in regards to staffing, use of vehicles and storage facilities.

FINAL PHASE

15. Following an assessment of the success of the trial and perimeter stalls, consideration would be given to a final phase which would replace all the existing and self-build stalls with

new gazebos (refer to diagram in Appendix C). The budget estimate for full completion is £59,300 and Members should note that the payback period is slightly longer involving a further 34 months.

- 16. The capital costs would be funded as an invest to save proposal.
- 17. Chorley Markets are a vital ingredient to our Town Centre offer. It is essential that Chorley’s market service remains cutting edge. The proposals for the Flat Iron will significantly enhance the look of the market to attract traders, improve the offer and range of goods, as well as attract more customers to the town centre.

RECOMMENDATION

- 18. That Members approve proposals to improve the Flat Iron market as outlined in this report.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

- 19. 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	

COMMENTS BY THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSFORMATION

- 19. The report sets out that there is a business case in financial terms for investment in the Market offer. A total investment of £110,300 is required, albeit in three phases.
- 20. There is a risk in relying on income generation and to mitigate this risk it would be appropriate if resources were found from existing spending plans. Accordingly, I suggest that, if Members agree this is a priority, £47,990 is committed from the current invest to save budget included in the Capital Programme and that the remaining £62,310 is found from virement within the Capital Programme.

LESLEY-ANN FENTON
 DIRECTOR PATNERSHIPS, PLANNING & POLICY

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Conrad Heald\Cath Burns	5507\5305	13/08/2010	

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APPENDIX A

Flat Iron Market - Trial / Phase 2



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APPENDIX C

Full Implementation with Gazebos



Chorley Pals

4 TRIAL
32 PHASE
16 PHASE
16 PHASE
20 PHASE
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Agenda Item 7

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Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Planning, Partnerships & Policy (Introduced by the Executive Member (Planning and Partnerships))	Executive Cabinet	2 September 2010

PLAY & RECREATION FUND

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To consider funding applications to the Play & Recreation Fund.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- That the recommendations in Appendix A to this report be approved, subject to the Director of Partnerships, Planning & Policy agreeing and signing off a Play & Recreation Fund Agreement with each organisation awarded a Play & Recreation Fund Grant.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- On 13 December 2009, members approved the establishment of a Play & Recreation Fund and invited bids from Parish & Town Councils, Community Groups and the Council itself. The Play & Recreation Fund is sourced from section 106 contributions for borough-wide provision.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

- To provide improvements in the quantity, quality and accessibility of open space.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- Not to award any funding grants – to do so would not ensure that section 106 monies were appropriately spent.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

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

BACKGROUND

- Members will recall that the Play & Recreation Fund was established to ensure the allocation of section 106 monies that have arisen from off site contributions towards borough wide open space provision, and that applications to the fund were invited from Parish & Town Councils, Community Groups and the Council itself.



ASSESSMENT

8. At end of July 2010, the total amount available for the fund was £324,159 at end of July 2010. Appendix A details the bids and the recommendations for funding. The nature of bids submitted was as follows:
 - A total of 20 applications were received requesting a total of £407, 746.35.
 - 10 bids from Parish/Town Councils
 - 3 from sports clubs (football and rugby league)
 - 1 from a Playing Field Trust
 - 1 from a community enterprise
 - 1 from an “In Bloom” group
 - 4 from Chorley Council

9. The 20 bids have been carefully considered to assess whether they are appropriate in terms of the legislative context for section 106 contributions and in particular that they meet an identified need and deliver appropriate improvements in the quantity, quality and accessibility of open space. A Central Lancashire Open Space Study was commissioned earlier this year, and the draft findings of that study have been received and this has been informed the assessment of bids. There are areas of the borough deficient in open space for which no bids have been received.

10. Some of the bids seek 100% of the project value, while others seek considerably less, as low as 10%. Some bids demonstrate match funding from other bodies or their own funds, including funds raised from events and donations. The level of consultation varies from little or no consultation to a comprehensive standard. With these factors in mind, a fundamental approach was not to recommend approval to bids which do not address an identified need. It was also considered appropriate to apply a threshold, where bids of less than £10,000 in value were 100% approved, but otherwise to a maximum 75% of project value.

11. If these recommendations are approved, 16 applicants would receive funding, to a total of £316,313.76. Members will not that this would leave approximately £7k remaining in the fund which can be used to meet any future bids. Successful applicants will be required to enter into a Play & Recreation Fund Agreement, with appropriate terms and conditions.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

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

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

COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSFORMATION

13. The recommended awards will ensure the expenditure of presently uncommitted section 106 funds, and suitable controls will be applied in terms of funding conditions and submission of claims.

LESLEY-ANN FENTON
 DIRECTOR OF PARTNERSHIPS, PLANNING & POLICY

Jennifer Moore Head of Planning	5571		T:P&RFUND/CAB
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PLAY & RECREATION FUND - SUMMARY ASSESSMENT

Bid Ref	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Applicant	Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council	Charnock Richard Football Club	Heskin Parish Council	Heskin Parish Council	Charnock Richard Parish Council	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors Football Club	Euxton Parish Council	Wheelton Parish Council
Site	Gough Lane Play Area	Charter Lane	Town Lane Field	The Meadows Play Area	Mossie Close Play Area	Astley Village Sports Facilities	Euxton Skate Park	Wheelton Play Zone Action Area - Meadow Street
Project Details	New Play Equipment & Surfacing	New Changing Rooms & Toilets	Wild Flower Meadow & Interpretation Board	New Play Equipment & Surfacing	New Play Equipment & Surfacing	Acquisition of 7 year Lease from LCC for land adj Buckshaw Primary School	New Skate Park for skate boarders, BMX bikers & In-line skaters	New Play Equipment
Bid Amount	£ 31,489.35	£ 5,000.00	£ 4,000.00	£ 9,100.00	£ 9,171.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 30,000.00	£ 44,393.00
Total Project Value	£31,489.35	£50,000	£4,000	£9,100	£18,341	£1,000	£170,000	£44,393
Bid as % of Project	100%	10%	100%	100%	50%	100%	18%	100%
Type of Open Space	Children's Play	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Natural & Semi Natural Open Space / Amenity Open Space	Children's Play	Children's Play	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Facilities for Young People	Children's Play
Location Type	Urban / Local Service Centre	Rural / Remaining Wards	Rural / Remaining Wards	Rural / Remaining Wards	Rural / Remaining Wards	Chorley Key Service Centre	Rural Service Centre	Rural / Remaining Wards
Assessment	Although a retrospective application for funds, Clayton is an area of shortfall for play. Subject to clarification that no other funding grants were received for the project, approve in full.	This facility serves a borough wide catchment & beyond. Open Space Review Study recommends improvements in quality to meet governing standards. This would achieve FA standard for Grade G. Extensive funding has been sourced from elsewhere, and hire fees could be generated as a result, and therefore the bid represents good value for money.	Open Space Review Study finds no quantitative or qualitative shortfall in either typology for Heskin. Lack of consultation is of concern.	Equipment from Town Lane has been moved to meet a more strategic objective at the Meadows, and this project will assist that objective. In Neighbourhood Action Plan.	Parish Council is funding 33%, Neighbourhood Working Budget 16%. Improvements in quality & age range of provision. In Neighbourhood Action Plan.	The funding of legal fees is not an appropriate use of s106 funds. A grant for the same purpose has previously been awarded via Neighbourhood Working Budget. Officers should work with the club to identify a way forward.	Open Space Review Study notes that the perceived need for facilities for young people is high; and finds provision in Chorley to be limited. Nearest facilities are Bolton, Clitheroe, Burnley, Manchester. Provision would be borough wide and beyond. In Neighbourhood Action Plan.	The only play provision in Wheelton, regularly maintained & inspected. Open Space Review Study supports the provision of more inclusive opportunities on single larger sites. The bid seeks 3 pieces of equipment. In Neighbourhood Action Plan.
Recommendation	Approve 75% of Total Project value	Approve in Full	Refuse	Approve in Full	Approve in Full	Refuse	Approve in Full	Approve 75% of Total Project value
Recommended Grant	£ 23,617.01	£ 5,000.00		£ 9,100.00	£ 9,171.00	£ -	£ 30,000.00	£ 33,294.75

PLAY & RECREATION FUND - SUMMARY ASSESSMENT

Bid Ref	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Applicant	Eccleston Parish Council	Bretherton Parish Council	Chorley Panthers Rugby League Club	Adlington & District In Bloom	Croston Parish Council	Mawdesley Parish Council	Freestyle Urban Soccer	Chorley Council
Site	Eccleston Rec Ground, Drapers Avenue	Bretherton Rec Ground & Play Area, R/O South Road	Chisnall Playing Fields, Coppull	Aldington War Memorial	Station Road Recreation Ground	Village Play Area & Nature Corner	One Community One Goal	Lodge Bank Play Area, School Lane, Brinscall
Project Details	Resurfacing	New Play Equipment & Surfacing	Installation of Floodlighting	General Improvements - resurfacing of paths, railing repair, purchase of shrubs	Refurbishment	Refurbishment	Portable pitches for fields, car parks & streets / Staff	Refurbishment
Bid Amount	£ 9,325.00	£ 51,000.00	£ 8,420.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 25,500.00	£ 49,848.00	£ 10,000.00	£ 30,000.00
Total Project Value	£12,425	£86,000	£38,420	£1,500	£34,000	£49,848	£10,000	£40,000
Bid as % of Project	75%	59%	22%	100%	75%	100%	100%	75%
Type of Open Space	Children's Play Amenity Open Space	Children's Play	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Civic Space Amenity Open Space	Children's Play Amenity Open Space	Children's Play Amenity Open Space	None - Mobile provision	Children's Play Amenity Open Space
Location Type	Rural / Local Service Centre	Rural / Remaining Wards	Urban / Local Service Centre	Urban / Local Service Centre	Rural / Remaining Wards	Rural / Remaining Wards	n/a	Rural / Remaining Wards
Assessment	Open Space Review Study finds that a lack of maintenance of amenity open space is a key concern.	The only play provision in the village. Existing equipment has been well maintained and at least 20 years old. In Neighbourhood Action Plan.	This facility serves a borough wide catchment & beyond. Good value for money as current expenditure for winter training can be diverted into further improvements. Other funding sources to £30k secured including £10k from the Club. Subject to Chorley council approving lease to Chorley Panthers at Chisnall Playing Fields and a successful planning application for the erection of floodlighting.	War Memorial visitors are borough wide & beyond. On balance, qualitative improvements acceptable, subject to agreed maintenance regime. .	The site is not considered ideal for play as it is out of sight and appears underused and neglected. There are a number of concerns with anti social behaviour and nuisance and the matter is identified in the Neighbourhood Action Plan. The Open Space Review Study suggests an over provision of amenity open space and children's play in rural remaining wards. A review of provision in Croston is required to identify the focus for play development. A future bid could be considered at a later date.	While Open Space Review Study suggests an over provision of amenity open space and children's play in rural remaining wards, this is the main facility in the village, and the study recommends a focus of expenditure to the main facility in such locations to achieve a wider range of equipment.	Other funding sources have been provided. Not suitable for section 106 funds.	While Open Space Review Study suggests an over provision of amenity open space and children's play in rural remaining wards, this is the main facility in the village, and the study recommends a focus of expenditure to the main facility in such locations to achieve a wider range of equipment.
Recommendation	Approve in full	Approve in full	Approve in full	Approve in full	Refuse	Approve 75% of Total Project value	Refuse	Approve in full
Recommended Grant	£ 9,325.00	£ 51,000.00	£ 8,420.00	£ 1,500.00	£ -	£ 37,386.00	£ -	£ 30,000.00

PLAY & RECREATION FUND - SUMMARY ASSESSMENT

Bid Ref	17	18	19	20
Applicant	Chorley Council	Chorley Council	Whittle-le-Woods Playing Fields Trust	Chorley Council
Site	Astley Park/Queens Road	Chorley Cemetery	Kem Mill Lane Playing Fields	Play Area Scawfell Road Buttermere Avenue, Gillibrand
Project Details	Enhanced access	Memorial Wetland Garden	Pavilion inc changing rooms & kitchen	Play Area Surface Improvements
Bid Amount	£ 30,000.00	£ 28,000.00	£ 10,000.00	£ 20,000.00
Total Project Value	£30,000	£28,000	£81,000	£20,000
Bid as % of Project	100%	100%	12%	100%
Type of Open Space	Formal Park	Cemetery / Amenity Open Space / Natural & Semi-natural	Children's Play Amenity Open Space	Children's Play Amenity Open Space
Location Type	Key Service Centre	Key Service Centre	Rural / Remaining Wards	
Assessment	Astley Park is the main formal park in the borough with sub-regional/regional significance. Open Space Review Study recommends quality focus should include appropriate footpaths, and Green Flag status should be the key standard - this bid will help to achieve that.	Open Space Review Study recognises the need to create better areas for reflection in cemeteries; & notes that the effective promotion, management & maintenance of bio-diversity in urban cemeteries is a key target of the Lancs Biodiversity Plan. Cost-effective solution to a problem that generates significant complaints, (especially from those visiting graves which are subject to flooding) and involves BTCV.	The facility caters to borough wide need. The Open Space Review Study recommends improvements in quality, especially in provision of changing rooms and to meet governing association standards.	The new play area that serves the residents of Chorley Moor and the Gillibrand development suffers from a poor level of surfacing. Identified need to renew tarmac and include floor graphics where possible to complete site.
Recommendation	Approve 75% of Total Project value	Approve 75% of Total Project value	Approve in full	Approve 75% of Total Project value
Recommended Grant	£ 22,500.00	£ 21,000.00	£ 10,000.00	£ 15,000.00

TOTAL BIDS:	£ 407,746.35
TOTAL APPROVED	£ 316,313.76

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