

Chief Executive (Introduced by the Leader)	Council	17 th July 2012
---	---------	----------------------------

CHORLEY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To provide a summary of the progress made by Chorley Council during 2011/12 and identify areas for improvement and challenge for 2012/13.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- That the report be noted.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- The performance of the Council in 2011/12 has been good with many of the Council's key measures performing at or above target. However there are numerous challenges and areas for improvement which include a high level of households in temporary accommodation, the number of young people not in education employment or training (NEET) and the need to strengthen the local economy and the town centre.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

- N/A

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- N/A

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Strong Family Support	✓	Education and Jobs	✓
Being Healthy	✓	Pride in Quality Homes and Clean Neighbourhoods	✓
Safe Respectful Communities	✓	Quality Community Services and Spaces	✓
Vibrant Local Economy	✓	Thriving Town Centre, Local Attractions and Villages	✓
A Council that is a consistently Top Performing Organisation and Delivers Excellent Value for Money			✓

BACKGROUND

7. The Annual Report is produced by Chorley Council to present our key successes, and challenges. The Annual Report is a key mechanism for presenting information on the Council's performance to residents, partners and key stakeholders.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

8. The Chorley Council Annual Report is attached to this report as an appendix. The key headlines from the report are:
- Sickness Absence has been reduced to an average of 5.44 FTE days per employee.
 - Median workplace earnings were up 1 per cent on 2010/11 but residents working in the borough are still paid less than those who commute outside of the borough.
 - There are still less jobs per head in Chorley at 0.66 jobs per resident aged 16-64, than in Lancashire, where there are 0.73 per resident.
 - 70 new business start-ups were supported in 2011/12 and 95 per cent of new businesses are surviving after 12 months.
 - 170 additional affordable homes were delivered last year but the average house price is still over six times the average resident's income, one of the highest rates in Lancashire.
 - The number of households in temporary accommodation increased from 12 at the end of 2010/11 to 22 at the end of March 2012, exceeding the target of 13.
 - 98 per cent of streets inspected were clear of litter and 96% were clear of detritus (leaves and dirt).
 - Crime is down by 0.9 per cent compared with last year, however domestic abuse and violent crimes are on the up.
 - 6.8 per cent of town centre floor space was vacant in March 2012, which is better than our target of 7.5 per cent, however, more action is still needed to support the town centre.
 - Green Flag Awards were received for Yarrow Valley Country Park, Withnell Local Nature Reserve and Tatton Recreation Ground.
 - Chorley won the 'best town centre' and a silver gilt medal in the 'best small city/large town in the North West in Bloom Awards.' Category
 - Chorley's recycling rate has increased to 48.8 per cent.
9. Numerous challenges and areas for improvement are identified for 2012/13. These include the high level of households in temporary accommodation, reducing the number of young people not in education employment or training (NEET) and the need to strengthen the local economy and the town centre.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

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

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

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
David Wilkinson	5248	02 nd July 2012	Annual Report 2012 Covering Report