



BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO: LEADER

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: COUNCILLOR GORDON BIRTWISTLE

DATE OF REPORT: 9th JULY 2008

1. Progress on Strategic Objectives

L1 Strong visible leadership for the Council and the Borough	
Action	Progress
L1a: Make a strong contribution to Burnley Action Partnership becoming more effective and focussed	Both the Council and Burnley Action Partnership have been closely involved in the development of the Lancashire Local Area Agreement. In particular, we have been lobbying and working with partners to ensure that wherever possible, the targets seek to "narrow the gap" between Burnley and other parts of Lancashire (for example, crime reduction). The Council has endorsed the Partnerships Working Neighbourhood Fund Programme and grant offer letters have been issued to all projects. Finally, in order to ensure that the Partnership is even more effective, a review is being undertaken over the summer period.
L1b: Play a major role in developing Pennine Lancashire Leaders & Chief Executives Group and...	Pennine Lancashire Leaders' and Chief Executives' Group (PLLACE) is now established as a key strategic body. It is recognised by key agencies, such as GONW and NWDA, as an effective contributor to the governance of Pennine Lancashire. PLLACE has commissioned work on a Pennine Lancashire Economic Development Strategy and a Multi-Area Agreement.

L1c: Implement actions within the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act	The Government have given notice of their intention to issue a further White paper in summer this year and further reports will be brought forward to respond to any additional proposals.
L1d: Continue to ensure Burnley Borough Council influences and aligns with regional strategies...	I continue to play a key role in developing the new Regional Housing Strategy, alongside the new Lancashire Housing Strategy, which will be shortly finalised. I will also be heavily involved in the development of the coming regional strategy of the North West. In all of these roles I am representing the whole of Lancashire an endeavouring to visit all other authorities in the County to better understand their needs and priorities. In addition the Council is effectively influencing the coming Network Rail investment strategy to ensure the Todmorden Curve features.
L2 Developing Opportunities and sustaining ambition of local residents	
Action	Progress
L2a: Work with partners to ensure successful implementation of Building Schools for the Future prog.	All the sites for the reprovision of Burnley's high schools are now identified. Three of the projects are on site and progressing broadly to programme.
L2b: Work with partners to deliver a communication programme to promote changing face of Burnley...	The Council is working with the Vision Board to develop a dynamic strategy to promote the Borough to the business sector as a good place to live and work. Following last year's residential perception survey of the Borough, a Business perception survey has recently been completed. These are essential baselines that will enable the Council and its partners to develop a more up to date campaign to promote the opportunities and attractiveness of the Borough. In addition I have recently convened a breakfast meeting with key industrialists; Burnley College and UCLAN to ensure the new education offer meets the needs of our key business sectors, particularly engineering. Industry and education working together effectively can be a key element of the campaign.

L3 Social and community cohesion, engagement & communication are at the heart of the Council's plans	
Action	Progress
L3b: Continue to develop programme of capacity building & mediation training for community leaders	The progress of the Good relations programme (GRP) is being reviewed and establishing an action plan for the Management Group. A series of training sessions have been planned to increase the capacity with practitioners.
L4d Improved services to the homeless & other vulnerable groups in the community	
Action	Progress
L4d: Support Lancashire County Council in implementing Lancashire Strategy for an Ageing Population	The National Indicators and targets for older people within the Lancashire Local Area Agreement have been finalised. These along with the outcomes of a workshop which looked at how we need to change our services to meet the needs of an ageing population will be considered at the August Leadership and Community Scrutiny Committee.
E1 A diverse business base with an entrepreneurial culture & a reputation as a place to do business	
Action	Progress
E1b: Deliver the preferred option for the Enterprise Park at Princess Way	The preferred option will be approved by the Executive at its July 22nd meeting. The joint BBC/NWDA project team has finalised an Enterprise Action Plan with regional partners to support the project.