



BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO: REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: COUNCILLOR MARTIN SMITH

DATE OF REPORT: 9th JULY 2008

1. Progress on Strategic Objectives

L4 Improved Services to the homeless and other vulnerable groups in the community	
Action	Progress
L4a: Proactively work with residents vulnerable to losing their home through preventative strategies	An Action Planning Day will be held on the 8th July to consult with all partners on the prevention of homelessness strategy. A draft of the strategy is currently available and a finalised version will be going to the Executive for Approval in August. The action plan that is being developed as part of the strategy will set out in detail how together with our partners we intend to reduce incidences of homelessness together with targets and milestones.

<p>L4b: Ensure quality housing services are available to vulnerable, elderly and disabled residents</p>	<p>The review of the Council's disabled adaptations service has been completed in 2008. It has resulted in an improved service to disabled people. Internal processes have been streamlined and publicity information and advice to service users has been improved. Burnley continues to work with its East Lancashire partners in a coordinated way to implement the Government's best practice and ensure that we continue to improve the service for disabled people across the region. The review of the Anchor Home Improvement Agency has been completed along with much of the action plan. The Council has implemented a new funding support mechanism through fees, which will ensure that the agency delivers value for money in implementing Home Repair Assistance grants for the Council. Loans will be introduced in 2009 to replace some or all of the grants that we currently give. This work on loans is currently ongoing.</p>
<p>L4c: Provide multi agency support through the Family Intervention Project to help vulnerable families</p>	<p>Parenting co-ordinator and FIP manager for NCH are working more closely together to provide a seamless parenting and more intensive FIP intervention in place. 15 families are receiving support through FIP. 300 families attended a father's day event in June organised by the parenting co-ordinator and supported by the MAPS team. The next step will be to align the work of MAPS to meet the themes identified in Burnley's strategic assessment.</p>
<p>L4d: Support Lancashire County Council in implementing Lancashire Strategy for an Ageing Population</p>	<p>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.</p>

PL1 Revitalised communities and balance housing markets	
Action	Progress
PL1a: Restructure the housing market and address inappropriate supply	Phase 1 in South West Burnley is on site. Progress is still being made in continuing to promote affordable housing on all the appropriate sites across the borough.
PL1b: Engage residents in the redevelopment of their neighbourhoods	The consultation period on the preferred options closed at the end of March, and feedback from residents is now being taken into account in the preparation of the submission documents, to be released for consultation in the Autumn. Data systems are also being revised in preparation for the next stage, and additional systems training was delivered in May. Additional measures to increase resident engagement online are also being investigated.
PL1c: Maximise and make best use of funding for housing and sustainable community initiatives	We are continuing to engage with housing association partners and the Housing Corporation to maximise the funding available for the provision of affordable housing across the borough. We have secured the highest figure to date from Elevate Housing Market Renewal Programme and continue to work with the Government to increase resources through the Housing Capital Programme.
PL1d: Develop and deliver an effective partnership with lead developers in the HMR Pathfinder Areas	Partnership Agreements have been signed with Keepmoat in South West Burnley and Burnley Wood. Progress is being made on moving.
PL2 Higher quality housing and neighbourhoods	
Action	Progress
PL2b: Improve standards on the private rented sector	The Council's application for selective licensing should be approved shortly and will improve the standards of management in the selected area and will improve living conditions for residents affected by poorly managed private rented sector properties. The Council's accreditation scheme and enforcement services continue to play an important role in raising property standards in the private rented sector throughout the borough.

PL3 A more sustainable environment	
Action	Progress
PL3b: Improve energy efficiency, reduce fuel poverty and help tackle climate change	The results have now been received from our recent thermal imaging survey of the borough and we are currently analysing the data to feed into our strategic programme for improving the energy efficiency of housing across the borough. We are also working in partnership with Pendle to produce a cross authority Energy Efficiency and Fuel Poverty Strategy that will be available in September. To support this strategy we continue to explore new initiatives, such as our recent Solar Water Heating Scheme to promote the use of renewable energy.
E1 A diverse business base with an entrepreneurial culture and a reputation as a place to do business	
Action	Progress
E1a: Support successful delivery of 3 projects through the No Limits (LEGI) Programme in the Borough	Finance for Growth - Four business applications have been approved to date and a further six are currently being processed. We have seen a very good start to the year and we have a number of enquiries that we are currently following up which we hope will result in more applications being submitted. We are optimistic that we will need to seek additional resources from the lead authority, Pendle. For the year 2007/08 (incl. Nortex) FFG produced the following outputs: Actual number of grants paid to companies = 11 Actual amount of grant paid = £117,373.00 Actual amount of Private Sector Leverage = £224,808.32. Forecasted number of jobs created = 46.5 Forecasted number of jobs safeguarded = 47.5 Enterprise Haven - The development work is now complete and the units are currently being marketed. A launch event is being planned for early July. The project has a target of 50% (7 units) of the units being occupied by March 2009. The current economic conditions do give rise to some concern. Helping Hands - The recruitment process is due to start in July with a person expected in post by the Autumn. This project is slightly behind but is now known in Burnley as Burnley Opportunities Board and will be promoted as such.

E1c: Develop cultural & creative industries sector capitalising on development of Media City...	Discussions are ongoing with NWDA to promote the potential of the Weavers Triangle as the Borough's key link to Media City in Salford.
E2 Firmly establish Burnley as a key retail and service centre in Pennine Lancashire	
Action	Progress
E2a: Deliver key projects identified from both the Town Centre Master Plan & Public Realm Strategy	Draft Town Centre Public Realm Strategy completed
E2b: Develop a programme of highways & access improvements to support delivery of Town Centre Master	Draft Town Centre Public Realm Strategy identifies a programme of highways and access improvements. Meeting with LCC highways planned for August 08
E2c: Secure delivery partners for the Westgate and Thompson Centre/Saunder Bank sites	A Development Brief is being finalised for these sites.
E3 To establish Burnley as a centre of education excellence with highly skilled & qualified workforce	
Action	Progress
E3a: Ensure that the Pennine Lancashire Skills Strategy is effectively delivered in Burnley	Pennine Lancashire Skills Strategy not yet completed by PLACE.
E4 Burnley is known as an alternative destination for living, workforce & leisure based on....	
Action	Progress
E4a: Deliver the strategic projects identified in the Weavers' Triangle Townscape Heritage Initiative	Steering Group established under chairmanship of Sir Neil Cossons to generate and drive forward strategy and large-scale investment projects. Funding secured from NWDA to underpin new strategic approach and explore possibility of site assembly for new developments. New partners engaged, including Prince's Regeneration Trust, Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment, Waterways Trust.
E4b: Promote Burnley as a visitor destination under the Pennine Lancashire Brand	We are continuing to market Burnley as 'A Town Amidst the Pennines' in print and on the website - www.visitburnley.com , and Burnley is taking part in the Pennine Lancashire Food Festival 2008.

E4c: Complete feasibility & business case work to progress reduction in journey to & from Manchester	Revised feasibility study completed in April 08 identifying reduced capital costs and higher cost benefit ratio. This information has been supplied to Network Rail as part of their consultation on the Lancashire and Cumbria Rail Utilisation Strategy. BBC working with NWDA to lobby network rail for funding.
E4d: Develop a new marketing campaign for the Borough	Business perceptions report completed April 08.
E6 Burnley has a reputation as a regionally significant centre for advanced manufacturing	
Action	Progress
E5a: Re-develop the former Michelin site as an Advanced manufacturing Park in partnership with NWDA	Feasibility work completed in partnership with the NWDA and a case has been made for its future use for the manufacturing/engineering sector.
E5b: In partnership with UCLAN establish an Institute of Advanced Manufacturing presence in Burnley	Supporting UCLAN to make links with local businesses and schools to help shape the future curriculum.
E6 Burnley is a place where everyone is able to benefit from new employment opportunities	
Action	Progress
E6a: The Council pro-actively implements the Borough's Strategy for Employment through its activity	Outreach work has continued to engage with hard to reach workless residents and assist progression. Pennine Lancashire Partners continue to share best practice and seek additional resources. HR Forum re-launched as Evolve Business Works.
L6b: Ensure major new developments provide employment opportunities for workless residents	Building Foundations Trainees - 60 starts, 31 placed into work with private companies, Calico or Elevate contractors. Partners supporting major inward investors e.g. new hotel to recruit staff.