



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL

**PORTFOLIO:** **LEADER**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** **COUNCILLOR GORDON BIRTWISTLE**

**DATE OF REPORT:** **22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 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	The review of Burnley Action Partnership was approved at the BAP Assembly meeting on 30 September 2008. The review includes recommendations on improving performance management, the role of thematic groups and the role of partner organisations. BAP and the Council will be working closely with the Lancashire Partnership on the new Comprehensive Area Assessment inspection for Lancashire which the Audit Commission will initiate from April 2009.
L1b: Play a major role in developing Pennine Lancashire Leaders & Chief Executives Group and.	The draft Pennine Lancashire Economic Development Strategy has now been completed. Negotiations have commenced with Government on a Pennine Lancashire Multi-Area Agreement. This process will run throughout October and early November with a view to Ministerial sign-off towards the end of November 2008.

L1c: Implement actions within the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act	Officers have drafted a response to the consultation on new local accountability proposals relating mostly to scrutiny, which will be considered by the Executive and Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs this month. Final statutory guidance has yet to arrive but much of what is proposed relates to things this council and its partners already do to make themselves accessible and accountable to the public.
L1d: Continue to ensure Burnley Borough Council influences and aligns with regional strategies...	The Regional Housing Group is now starting to consider its approach to resource allocation for 2009/10. In my role representing Lancashire I will strive to ensure a strong settlement that benefits the County.
<b>L2 Developing Opportunities and sustaining ambition of local residents</b>	
<b>Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>
L2a: Work with partners to ensure successful implementation of Building Schools for the Future programme.	Burnley Schools Sixth Form Centre (Burnley Campus) and Shuttleworth College both opened their new buildings in September. Work is well advanced on the Sir John Thursby site and has now started at Unity College. Discussions through Burnley Action Partnership about how the Borough and county councils can work to support educational improvement are continuing.
L2b: Work with partners to deliver a communication programme to promote changing face of Burnley...	Work continues on this important initiative.
<b>L3 Social and community cohesion, engagement &amp; communication are at the heart of the Council's plans</b>	
<b>Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>
L3b: Continue to develop programme of capacity building & mediation training for community leaders	The Good Relations Programme has reviewed progress; determined a work programme for the coming period; is currently producing new publicity; and is running an accredited training programme in conflict awareness and introductory skills in mediation.

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 outcomes of the workshop which looked at how we need to change our services to meet the needs of an ageing population was considered at the Leadership and Community Scrutiny Committee on 13 October 2008. Lancashire County Council have introduced a new role to assist in the roll out of the strategy across the Districts and a meeting with them is taking place on 6 October 2008.
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 project continues to make good progress. Detailed discussions are now underway with Lancashire County Council on the re-location of the Princess Way Waste Transfer Station and funding bids have been submitted to the NWDA for the project.
SP/Leader: Additional Commentary	I'd also like to brief Council that at the recent NWDA AGM & Annual Meeting work to regenerate Burnley was showcased strongly and in particular our case to reinstate the Todmorden Curve featured throughout the meeting. This gives me an opportunity to place on record this Council's deep appreciation of the work that Bryan Gray, the outgoing Chair of the North West Development Agency, has done for the Borough over the last 6 years. In partnership with the Development Agency we have now put in place a very significant programme of economic regeneration for the Borough, and have attracted significant resources to support that programme. The Agency have directly supported the development of the Princess Way Campus, and in addition are resourcing the development of an Enterprise Park adjoining the Campus. They are directly working with us to regenerate both the Weavers' Triangle and the Town Centre and are exerting considerable influence nationally and regionally to support our case for reinstating the Todmorden Curve. Finally along side the Council they will be working to bring the ex Michelin site to market for an advanced manufacturing park and

have recently directly supported one of our most important employers, Aircelle, to bring about a major expansion of the companies operations at Heasandford. Ensuring this comprehensive programme, critical to the Borough's future prosperity, is further developed and delivered is a top priority for this Council.