

**TO: THE EXECUTIVE
16 FEBRUARY 2010**

**COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT ACTION PLAN AND USE OF RESOURCES
RESPONSE TO AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS
Assistant Chief Executive**

1 PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1 As part of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) the Audit Commission published on 10 December 2009 their final reports on the Organisational Assessment (OA) of Bracknell Forest Borough Council including the Use of Resources assessment and report and the Area Assessment (AA) of the Bracknell Forest Partnership.
- 1.2 In order to address the areas of improvement, identified officers across the council with its partners have developed improvement action plans which are included and monitored through service plans which have been reported separately to the Executive in February 2010. The improvement action plans will be shared with the Audit Commission and the Bracknell Forest Partnership Board.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Executive:

- 2.1 **Approves the Comprehensive Area Assessment actions included in the body of the report and Use of Resources – Response to Audit Recommendations (Appendix 1).**
- 2.2 **Invites the Governance and Audit Committee to receive the Use of Resources response to audit recommendations**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 It is important for the Council and the Partnership to take action on the areas of improvement identified.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The findings in the Organisational Assessment, Area Assessment and Use of Resources reports were noted by the Executive in December 2009.
- 5.2 These have been discussed with council officers and partners and areas of improvement were identified.
- 5.3 These areas of improvement have been included in the CAA action plan and Use of Resources – response to audit recommendations and cross checked with other

existing plans across the council and the partnership so that there is no gap or duplication.

- 5.4 The majority of areas of improvement raised in the OA are already included in the existing council's action plans. However, some specific actions have been identified, which are not addressed in existing plans. These are set out below.

CAA Action Plan

Council Priority	Partnership Priority	Area for Improvement	Action	Lead Officer	OA or AA	By When
Priority One: A town fit for the 21st century	Desirable Place	Overall completion of the town centre will need substantial re-phasing of work over a longer period of time than originally planned	Continue collaborative working with partners to secure regeneration as soon as possible	Victor Nicholls	OA/AA	On-going
Priority Three: Promoting health and achievement	Thriving Population/ Cohesive Communities	Public satisfaction with libraries is lower than average	An improvement plan is currently being developed with the Building Surveyors	Mark Devon	AA	As per library improvement action plan
		There are inequalities of life expectancy	Actioned via re-launching of Public Health Working Group	Glyn Jones/ Dr Angela Snowling	AA	As per Public Health Working Group

- 5.5 All actions are included in service plans and will be monitored regularly through the performance management framework. They will be included in the quarterly performance reports.

- 5.6 Members should note that the CAA and Use of Resources actions will constitute work additional to that already contained in departmental service plans.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 There are no legal implications pertaining to this report.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The action plans assume that where resources or effort is required it is provided from within existing budget and staffing resources.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 The service plans and CAA improvement action plans include actions to address equality issues raised.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 Risk management issues relating to actions in the plans will be dealt with as part of the service planning process.

Other Officers

- 6.5 None

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 The Comprehensive Area Assessment reports and action plans have been discussed with officers and partners.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Meetings with Corporate Management Team, managers and Bracknell Forest Partnership.

Representations Received

- 7.3 None

Background Papers

Appendix A – Comprehensive Area Assessment Action Plan and Use of Resources – Response to Audit Recommendations

Contact for further information

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