

**ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
10 JANUARY 2012**

**EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN ITEMS RELATING TO
ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES
Assistant Chief Executive**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report presents current Executive Forward Plan items relating to Environment, Culture and Communities for the Panel's consideration.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 **That the Environment, Culture and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel considers the current Executive Forward Plan items relating to Environment, Culture and Communities appended to this report.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 To invite the Panel to consider current Executive Forward Items.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 Consideration of items on the Executive Forward Plan alerts the Panel to forthcoming Executive decisions and facilitates pre-decision scrutiny.
- 5.2 To achieve accountability and transparency of the decision making process, effective Overview and Scrutiny is essential. Overview and Scrutiny bodies are a key element of Executive arrangements and their roles include both developing and reviewing policy; and holding the Executive to account.
- 5.3 The power to hold the Executive to account is granted under Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 which states that Executive arrangements of a local authority must ensure that its Overview and Scrutiny bodies have power to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the Executive. This includes the 'call in' power to review or scrutinise a decision made but not implemented and to recommend that the decision be reconsidered by the body / person that made it. This power does not relate solely to scrutiny of decisions and should therefore also be utilised to undertake pre-decision scrutiny.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

No advice was sought from the Borough Solicitor, the Borough Treasurer or Other Officers or sought in terms of Equalities Impact Assessment or Strategic Risk Management Issues. Such advice will be sought in respect of each Executive Forward Plan item prior to its consideration by the Executive.

7 CONSULTATION

None.

Background Papers

Local Government Act 2000

Contact for further information

Richard Beaumont – 01344 352283

e-mail: richard.beaumont@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Andrea Carr – 01344 352122

e-mail: andrea.carr@bracknell-forest.gov.uk