

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 16 NOVEMBER 2010

REPORT BY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

5. 2010/11 SERVICE PLANS – SUMMARY OF PROGRESS AND EXCEPTIONS REPORT

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL.

Purpose/Summary of Report

- This report provides a summary of 2010/11 Service Plan actions relevant to Environment Scrutiny Committee that have been achieved and details those that require a revised completion date.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
(A)	The summary of progress against 2010/11 Service Plan actions be received and the Executive be advised of any recommendations; and
(B)	Those actions requiring revised completion dates be noted.

1.0 Background

1.1 The 2010/11 Service Plans were scrutinised by the joint meeting of Scrutiny Committees at their meeting held on 16 February 2010 and approved by the Executive at its meeting on 9 March 2010. This report covers the period 1 April to 30 September 2010 for the following services:

- Environmental Services
- Planning and Building Control

2.0 Report

2.1 In total, there are 29 2010/11 Service Plan actions relevant to Environment Scrutiny Committee, of which:

14% (4) have already been achieved.

76% (22) are on target.

3% (1) project has been cancelled.

7% (2) have had their completion dates revised.

In addition, two actions from the 2009/10 Environmental Services Service Plan that had revised completion dates before 30 September 2010 have now been achieved.

2.2 An overview of the achievements by Corporate Priority can be summarised as follows:

Promoting prosperity and well being; providing access and opportunities. *Enhance the quality of life, health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities, particularly those who are vulnerable.*

8 actions are on target.

1 action has had its completion date revised, as detailed in **Essential Reference Paper “B”**.

Achievements from the 2009/10 Environmental Services Service Plan were:

- Management Plans are in place at Southern Country Park and the Ridgeway Open Space and are under development at Grange Paddocks and Hartham, with the draft plan for Pishiobury Park nearing completion. These provide clear direction and allocation of resources to meet local needs, together with demonstrating local community involvement.
- Works to the Ridgeway Open Space have been completed, resulting in an area of derelict land being brought back into public use, with new play features being provided and positive feedback being received from the local community.

Fit for purpose, services fit for you. *Deliver customer focused services by maintaining and developing a well managed and publicly accountable organisation.*

1 action has been achieved.

3 actions are on target.

1 action has had its completion date revised (detailed in Essential Reference Paper "B").

The achievement was:

- A Planning Enforcement Policy was agreed and implemented from 1 April 2010, providing clarity for customers in relation to service provision and timescales. Performance data is being collected for analysis during early 2011.

Pride in East Herts. *Improve standards of the neighbourhood and environmental management in our towns and villages.*

3 actions are on target.

Caring about what's built (and) where. *Care for and improve our natural and built environment.*

1 action has been achieved.

8 actions are on target.

1 project has been cancelled.

The achievement was:

- Systems are now in place to measure the Council's carbon footprint on an annual basis and report National Performance Indicators.

The cancelled project was the implementation of a charge to customers for wheeled bin delivery, as the Council decided to suspend charging arrangements.

Shaping now, shaping the future. *Safeguard and enhance our unique mix of rural and urban communities, ensuring sustainable, economic and social opportunities including the continuation of effective development control and other measures.*

2 actions have been achieved.

The achievements were:

- Local Development Documents have been prepared; however, the requirement for the agreement of GO East to

the revised Local Development Framework has changed as a result of decisions of the new Government from May 2010. The Council's Local Development Framework establishes what impact on the environment of development in the future is acceptable and sets out broad criteria against which future development proposals will be judged.

- Consultation on the Core Strategy commenced in September 2010 – this is the first stage of implementation of the Core Strategy as part of the Local Development Framework. The Strategy sets out a broad framework for the future of the district – the spatial implementation of aspirations of the Council and other public service providers.

2.3 **Essential Reference Paper “B”** details those 2010/11 Service Plan actions that have had their completion dates revised. For ease of reference, these have been categorised by Corporate Priority. Full progress comments on all 2010/11 Service Plan actions can be accessed by referring to the Council's performance management system, Covalent (www.covalentcpm.com/eastherts).

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper ‘A’** attached to the report now submitted.

Background Papers

2010/11 - Service Plans report to joint meeting of Scrutiny Committees on 16 February 2010.

2010/11 - Service Plans report to the Executive on 9 March 2010.

Contact Member: Councillor A P Jackson, Leader of the Council.

Contact Officer: Anne Freimanis, Chief Executive, Extn: 1403.

Report Author: Dave Cooper, Performance Officer, Extn: 2242.

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

<p>Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives (delete as appropriate):</p>	<p>Promoting prosperity and well-being; providing access and opportunities <i>Enhance the quality of life, health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities, particularly those who are vulnerable.</i></p> <p>Fit for purpose, services fit for you <i>Deliver customer focused services by maintaining and developing a well managed and publicly accountable organisation.</i></p> <p>Pride in East Herts <i>Improving standards of the built neighbourhood and environmental management in our towns and villages.</i></p> <p>Shaping now, shaping the future <i>Safeguard and enhance our unique mix of rural and urban communities, ensuring sustainable, economic and social opportunities including the continuation of effective development control and other measures.</i></p> <p>Leading the way, working together <i>Deliver responsible community leadership that engages with our partners and the public.</i></p>
<p>Consultation:</p>	<p>There are no specific consultation implications arising directly from this report.</p>
<p>Legal:</p>	<p>There are no specific legal implications arising directly from this report.</p>
<p>Financial:</p>	<p>There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.</p>
<p>Human Resource:</p>	<p>There are no specific human resource implications arising directly from this report.</p>
<p>Risk Management:</p>	<p>There is a generic risk management implication arising from this report, in terms of not completing the actions from Service Plans would be likely to result in not achieving the Corporate Priorities and Objectives.</p>