

## **Appendix 2 – business plan actions**

### **Social & Community O&S business plan actions ‘completed’**

#### **NB. The references used to describe each action stem from the business plan monitoring report**

**Action 1B1** - We will reduce rough sleeping, homelessness and repeated homelessness.

How: Through carrying out and completing a review with partners of rough sleeping and provision of tenancy support services, in line with Supporting People Strategy 2005/10, for those with support needs including those with drug related problems.

Progress: A review has been completed, rough sleeping has reduced from 9 to 7 individuals. Work is being carried out to reduce the amount of aggressive begging during the day.

Responsibility: AD: Peter Woolley  
Deputy: John Webster

**Action 1E1** - We will reduce the number of unfit private sector homes and number of homes left empty for long periods.

How: Through using our private sector renewal grant programme to help progress the government's target. We will implement the introduction of a new loans scheme to complement the availability of grant aid by July 2005. We will secure an improvement in the living conditions of at least 250 households as measured against the housing health and safety rating system (i.e. we will make 250 private sector homes safer).

Progress: Loan scheme completed, however implementation was delayed pending legal confirmation about process. The first loan application was approved by the Council on 14 November 2005. Health and Safety grants have been approved during the quarter and grants are being processed under the county warm and well scheme.

Responsibility: AD: Mike Redman  
Deputy: John Webster

**Action 1E5** – As above (1E1).

How: Through commissioning and completing a private sector stock condition survey that will identify those vulnerable households that live in non-decent homes. We will complete the private sector stock survey by October 2005.

Progress: The survey has been completed. A report is awaited. The results will be analysed and published by March 2006.

Responsibility: AD: Mike Redman  
Deputy: John Webster

**Action 1F(1&2)** - We will understand the local housing market and align our strategic thinking to meet identified needs.

How: Through finalising our housing strategy which meets ‘fit for purpose’ criteria

*and* producing related special needs housing strategies focusing on specific client groups.

Progress: The Housing Strategy was agreed by Cabinet on 19 July 2005 and submitted to GOSW. GOSW classified the strategy as 'fit for purpose'. Related special needs housing strategies focusing on specific client groups were printed in September.

Responsibility: AD: Jane Griffiths and Peter Woolley  
Deputy: John Webster

**Action 5A2** - Working with the three community regeneration partnerships to develop a sense of community (and to develop capacity within the community).

How: We will work with partners to relaunch the Whaddon Partnership as the Oakley Regeneration Partnership during 2005.

Progress: The Oakley Regeneration Partnership is now formed.

Responsibility: AD: Peter Woolley  
Deputy: John Webster

**Action 5B2** - We will empower our communities, community groups and the voluntary sector.

How: Through contributing to the ongoing development of the county compact with the voluntary and community sector and working towards its full implementation *and* complete our annual review of council grant funding by October 2005.

Progress: The review of council grant funding has been completed and will be reported to Cabinet on 24 January 2006.

Responsibility: AD: Peter Woolley  
Deputy: John Webster

**Action 5E1** - We will explore ways of encouraging citizenship.

How: We will organise two events to coincide with local democracy week in October 2005.

Progress: Two events were held during local democracy week – a six form challenge on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2005, and on 16 November 2005 Councillor Morris spoke to children at the Kingsmead School. Additionally, an O&S working group has been established and a project brief was considered by O&S on 12 September 2005. The remit now covers local democracy and young people. The first meeting of the working group took place on 24 November. The O&S working group developed an action plan for 2006 which will be considered by MAD in January 2006.

Responsibility: AD: Jane Griffiths  
Deputy: John Morris

**Action 6D2** – We will progress proposals for new arts and cultural facilities in the town and look to improve the art gallery and museum and library facilities.

How: Through considering options of reviewing arts and culture provision within Cheltenham together with our partners and Arts Council England. We will agree the review option and subsequent potential grant application by May 2005.

Progress: A grant application was successfully submitted to the Arts Council for England to fund the feasibility study.

Responsibility: AD: Mike Ibbitson  
Deputy: Rowena Hay

**Action 6E1** - We will encourage young people's participation in the cultural life of the town.

How: Through re-directing and re-focusing existing play resources to ensure implementation of the county play policy. We will appoint a community play development worker by June 2005.

Progress: Community Play Development Worker appointed.

Responsibility: AD: Peter Woolley  
Deputy: Rowena Hay

**Action 6F1** – We will promote Cheltenham as a quality tourist destination.

How: Through working with our partners to secure improvements to tourist attractions, infrastructure and facilities. We will deliver on-line accommodation booking through the tourism web site by April 2005.

Progress: Completed in partnership with Active Hotels. As at December '05, 55 bookings have been taken on line. Cheltenham Spa's water supply has now been successfully reconnected.

Responsibility: AD: Ken Jennings  
Deputy: Rowena Hay

### **Social & Community O&S business plan actions 'not on target'**

**Action 1A2** – We will meet the need for affordable and social housing.

How: We will adopt the second review of the local plan by December 2005.

Reason it is 'not on target': Following the deposit period, the government office for the south west has indicated that the council is still in non-conformity in relation to employment land. In order to ensure that the full implications are considered it is proposed to hold a special council meeting on February 24 2006, to agree any modifications.

Responsibility: AD: Jane Griffiths  
Deputy: Andrew Mckinlay/John Morris

**1B2** – Action: We will reduce rough sleeping, homelessness and repeated homelessness.

How: By working with partners to develop and open a one-stop shop for housing advice and support (by autumn 2005).

Reason it is 'not on target': Work is underway to convert the building for use as a one stop shop. However this has been delayed due to building regulation problems (listed building). Revised opening date now February 2006.

Responsibility: AD: Peter Woolley  
Deputy: John Webster

**Action 1C1** – We will work towards creating mixed and balanced communities by increasing choice for those that rent and increasing the mix of housing sizes and types.

How: through reviewing the council's rental allocations policy, and considering the option of adopting a new choice-based lettings allocations system by the end of 2006.

Reason it is 'not on target': Work is continuing on this, however it was agreed to delay the introduction of a new lettings system until after CBH is re-inspected - and to benefit from Gershon efficiency savings by working with other districts across the county.

Responsibility: AD: Peter Woolley  
Deputy: John Webster

**Action 1C2** – See 1C1 above.

How: Through including a housing needs policy in the Cheltenham Local Plan. We will adopt the second review of the Local Plan by December 2005.

Reason it is 'not on target': See 1A2 above. However though there are still issues around the Local Plan, the housing needs policy has been included and was supported by the inspector at the inquiry.

Responsibility: AD: Jane Griffiths  
Deputy: Andrew Mckinlay/John Morris

**Action 2C6** – We will promote a safe and attractive day and night time environment that is accessible to all.

How: through including a policy in the Cheltenham Borough Local Plan which requires all development to take into account the issues of security and the prevention of crime and disorder. We will adopt the second review of the local plan by December 2005.

Reason it is 'not on target': see 1A2, page 1. However, though there are still issues around the Local Plan, the policy was included within it.

Responsibility: AD: Jane Griffiths  
Deputy: Andrew Mckinlay/John Morris

**Action 5A1** – We will support our communities which suffer from multiple deprivations.

How: Through endorsing the Cheltenham Strategic Partnership's (CSP) regeneration strategy and working through the CSP to encourage better co-ordination of the

regeneration partnerships with the aspiration of establishing a Single Regeneration Company in the medium term. We will agree the regeneration strategy and action plan by July 2005.

Reason it is 'not on target': This initiative is being led by the CSP, through the regeneration partnership. A regeneration officer has been appointed and is working on the strategy.

Responsibility: AD: Jane Griffiths  
Deputy: John Webster

**Action 5C1** – We will work with our partners to reduce learning inequalities faced by different groups and communities in Cheltenham.

How: Through supporting the lifelong learning partnership and helping it to produce a lifelong learning strategy. We will approve the lifelong learning strategy by September 2005.

Reason it is 'not on target': Consultation on the draft strategy has taken place with stakeholders. A lifelong learning officer has now been appointed. Approval of the strategy has been delayed due to the re-evaluation of the Learning Town Partnership within the context of the CSP/Regeneration Partnership. The amended target date is now March 2006.

Responsibility: AD: Sonia Phillips  
Deputy: Rowena Hay

**Action 6A1** – We will provide a vigorous and successful programme of cultural and entertainment activities that will attract international acclaim, but also reflect the culture and diversity of the town and be accessible to all.

How: Through developing the council's relationship with Cheltenham Arts Festivals Ltd to focus on council priorities and provide longer-term secure funding. We will deliver a three year funding agreement by May 2005.

Reason it is 'not on target': Delays mean that the funding agreement with CAF should be completed by March 2006. This will lay out a performance framework for CAF aligned to the council's business plan.

Responsibility: AD: Mike Ibbitson  
Deputy: Rowena Hay

**Action 6E2** – We will encourage young people's participation in the cultural life of the town.

How: Through carrying out a review of the existing young people's strategy. We will complete the review by December 2005.

Reason it is 'not on target': Some slippage means that the review of the young people's strategy although underway will not now be completed until February 2006. This work will feed into the development of a new strategy that will be completed in 2006/07.

Responsibility: AD: Peter Woolley  
Deputy: Rowena Hay

**Action 6E3** – Through the implementation of the arts development strategy, in respect of arts projects and young people including support to arts in education initiatives and a digital arts project with young people.

How: In response to consultation with young people and their needs, we will deliver the digital arts project by March 2006.

Reason it is 'not on target': Staff shortages mean that this project will now be completed in 2006/07. This forms part of the Arts Development Officer's work plan and is in the Arts Development Strategy for year 2.

Responsibility: AD: Sonia Phillips  
Deputy: Rowena Hay