

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: THURSDAY 15 APRIL 2010
title: FORWARD PLANNING SERVICE PLAN
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
principal authors: COLIN HIRST

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To consider and approve the Ribble Valley Borough Council Forward Planning Service Plan 2010/11.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Council Ambitions – This key service document sets out how this Council is to fulfil its statutory duties in relation to Forward Planning “to help protect and enhance the environmental qualities of the area and to balance the supply of housing”.
- Community Objectives – To Protect and enhance the environmental qualities of the area, and to maintain a vibrant local economy.
- Corporate Priorities – To be a well-managed Council.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 In order to assist Ribble Valley Borough Council to meet the requirements for comprehensive performance and be transparent in its service delivery objectives, an annual service plan has been prepared for implementation this year.

3 ISSUES

3.1 The report is attached as an appendix to this report.

3.2 The service areas covered in the report relate to Planning Policy, Economic Development and Regeneration as well as Countryside and Tree services.

3.3 The principle issues in the Forward Plan Service Plan relate to the progress of the LDF and the relevant funding to enable the production of appropriate documents. The plan also emphasises the development of regeneration activities.

3.4 A number of staffing matters are covered in the report. These relate to the need to review the current contract of the Senior Planning Officer (policy) that is nearing the end of its term. The capacity implications of the secondment of a member of the regeneration team to work with Regenerate Pennine Lancashire are also discussed.

3.5 A copy of this document will also be placed on the Ribble Valley Borough Council website for reference purposes.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – The documents identify a number of resource issues as set out in the relevant sections of the service plans.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – None.
- Political – None.
- Reputation – This document meets the Council's obligation in relation to producing a comprehensive document stating its intentions in relation to service and delivery.

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Approve the document for implementation on the next financial year within available resources.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

For further information please ask for Colin Hirst, extension 4503.