

Meeting: Better Places Partnership

Date: 1 December 2009

Report Title: Area Based Grant Funded Projects – Quarter Two Update

Report of: Adam Hunt, Executive Policy Development Officer

Purpose

This report highlights issues arising from quarter two of the programme of projects in receipt of ABG funding managed by the Better Places Partnership.

Summary

As shown in the attached traffic light report, all of the projects delivered by the Better Places Partnership have an overall traffic light status of green, and are expected to deliver against agreed outputs on budget within the financial year. The only exceptions or issues identified are:

Improving the urban environment – Amber for Timescales

This is due to a slight delay with implementing the Community Toilet Scheme. A new approach has been agreed and we are working with business and trade forums to implement this in January 2010.

Street Enforcement – Amber for Resources

Long term sick of officers may have an impact on service delivery and achievement of targets. Being managed through sickness policy, SMART working and OH referrals. Situation reviewed every month.

Community clear ups and recycling – Red for Issues

Recycling performance for 2009/10 is below target owing primarily to changes in the methodology for calculating the recycling rate, imposed by NLWA, including a new household/non-household waste split and application of an increased recycling contamination rate, as well as a significant reduction in reclaimed bulky refuse apportionment from NLWA. A Recycling Action Plan is in place, identifying activities, projects and services that will raise performance during 2009/10. Key to this are challenging the methodology imposed by NLWA for calculating the recycling rate and work with WRAP (the Waste & Resources Action Programme) to review the service and direct the communications strategy. Notwithstanding these actions, the 32% target remains extremely challenging.

Vulnerable Communities/ Voluntary and Education Sector Programme – Amber for Issues

Walk, Jog, Cycle officer has resigned. Plan to recruit to vacant post in qtr 3.

Recommendations

To note the current position across the programme of projects funded with ABG, to observe issues with delivery of targets arising in the exception commentary, and to continue to monitor action being taken to resolve issues.

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Appendices

AGB Project Highlight Report (attached)