

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

Executive - 20th June 2005

Report from the Director of Environment

For action

Wards affected: ALL

Report Title: Environment and Culture's Service Development Plan 2005-2008

Forward Plan ref: ES-04/05-326

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 On 4th July 2005 the new department of Environment and Culture will be formed. This report seeks approval for a new Strategic Summary to the Service Development Plan to reflect the wider responsibilities of the new department and to ensure that all services within the department have a clear sense of direction focused on the delivery of the Corporate Strategy.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Executive agree the Strategic Summary to the Environment and Culture Service Development Plan 2005–2008 attached as Appendix 1.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 On 14 April 2005 the Executive agreed a re-organisation of the Council. This report relates to the formation of the Environment and Culture Department on 4 July 2005.
- 3.2 The new department includes all staff from Environment Services and those staff from Education Arts and Libraries who deal with Culture, Heritage, Libraries and Adult Education. The priorities for these staff are currently split between two Service Development Plans. This report seeks Executive approval for a combined "Strategic Summary" Service Development Plan as set out in Appendix 1.

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Version No.1.2
06/06/05

- 3.3 The Service Development Plan is an important part of performance management arrangements, linking the Corporate Strategy and Community Plan to the detailed Service Operational Plans for each of the services. It is crucial that it be up to date and reflect the organisational structure of the Council if the services are to be clear about priorities and staff are to understand the contribution they are making to the Council's overall objectives.
- 3.4 Appendix 1 is a revised Strategic Summary of the Service Development Plan reflecting the new, wider priorities of the larger Department. It is not, at present, the intention to revise the full version of the Service Development Plan: the summary is felt to be sufficient to ensure that staff have a clear understanding of the priorities for services.
- 3.5 The former Environment Service Development Plan had eight priorities to make progress on the five Corporate Strategy themes. It is proposed that a further priority "*Celebrating our culture and creative life*" should be added to the "*Quality of life and the green agenda*" theme, and that the priority "*Delivering the strategy for sport and leisure*" in the "*Supporting children and young people*" theme should be expanded to "*Keeping children healthy and safe*". The new plan therefore has nine priorities for the new department to complete implementation of the Corporate Strategy. The plan is based on the combined 2005-06 budget of the relevant units. Every effort has been made to minimise changes to priorities.
- 3.6 To assist Members in identifying changes, the new plan is compared to the current Service Development Plan for Environment below. The headings underlined are the five Corporate Strategy themes.

Old Environmental Services	New Environment and Culture
<u>Promoting Quality of Life and the Green Agenda</u>	<u>Promoting Quality of Life and the Green Agenda</u>
Investing in our public realm	Investing in our public realm
The war on waste	The war on waste
Transforming transport	Transforming transport
Protecting the public	Protecting the public
	Celebrating our culture and creative life
<u>Supporting Children and Young People</u>	<u>Supporting Children and Young People</u>
Delivery the strategy for sport and leisure	Keeping children healthy and safe
<u>Regeneration and Priority Neighbourhoods</u>	<u>Regeneration and Priority Neighbourhoods</u>
Making Wembley work for us	Making Wembley work for us

Old Environmental Services

Tackling Crime and Community Safety

Securing the public realm

Achieving Service Excellence

Aiming for Beacon standards

New Environment and Culture

Tackling Crime and Community Safety

Securing the public realm

Achieving Service Excellence

Aiming for Beacon standards

- 3.7 The plan also sets out the organisational structure of the department. The main blocks headed by Assistant Directors were agreed at the Executive on 12 April 2005. The structure shows the functions of the various units and includes minimum changes to job titles, unit titles and service blocks consequential on forming the new department.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 A four year budget summary for the new department based on combining existing approved budgets is set out on the penultimate sheet of the Service Development Plan.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 None as a result of this report.

6.0 Diversity Implications

- 6.1 Diversity issues are an integral part of the Service Development Plan. The additional priority “celebrating our culture and creative life” gives further emphasis to this area.

7.0 Staffing Implications

- 7.1 None as a result of this report.

8.0 Environmental Implications

- 8.1 Work is being undertaken to ensure that the entire new department meets the environmental management standard ISO 14001.

Background Papers

Corporate Strategy 2002-2006
Environmental Services and EAL Service Development Plans 05/08
Report to Executive 14th April 2005 – Modernising Brent Council

Contact Officers

Any person wishing to inspect the above papers should contact Richard Saunders, Brent House, 349 High Road, Wembley, Middlesex. Telephone No. 020 8937 5002.

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