

Follow up of Significant Issues on AGS 2010/11

| Ref | Issue | Agreed Actions on AGS | Current Position | RAG |
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| AGS 1 | <p><u>PUBLIC SECTOR FUNDING</u></p> <p>The government's policy to reduce the national debt has led to significant cuts in public spending during 2011/12 and future years.</p> <p>This has resulted in B&NES Council having to manage additional in-year reductions of £1.8M in both revenue and capital expenditure.</p> <p>Whilst the required savings have been successfully achieved, these did include a reduction in staff, which in itself incurs costs and impacts on the ability of the Council to provide efficient and effective services.</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SDG & Cabinet should continue to ensure there are robust budget setting and budget monitoring processes to minimise the impact on delivery of service. 2. SDG & Cabinet should continue to monitor and review Financial Planning targets and linked to this complete an Annual Review of the Medium Term Financial Plan. The review process will result in preparation of a Summarised Plan for Overview & Scrutiny (November 2011) and finalise the Plan for Council (February 2012). 3. SDG & Cabinet to continue to monitor the impact of the staff losses and related capacity issues through the Council's Performance and Risk Management processes. | <p>The medium term service and resource plans along with individual service action plans have been reported to the relevant policy, development and scrutiny panels over the last three to four months and the budget report for 2012/13 is being prepared for full Council in February.</p> <p>Performance regarding the budget & staffing implications for 2011/12 has been subject to regular (monthly) scrutiny by SDG & Cabinet and is on-track.</p> <p>Corporate Risks are subject to ongoing review by SDG and Cabinet and the risk around financial challenge and resource capacity continues to rank as one of the organisations highest risks.</p> <p>Actions in relation to that risk as detailed above are on track.</p> | <p>Green Status</p> <p>Actions on Target or Complete</p> |

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| AGS 2 | <p><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p>During the year (2010/11) the Council lost a judicial review of action taken by the Council's Planning Service.</p> <p>This was related to a planning enforcement case.</p> <p>The findings of the Court resulted in costs of £95,000 being awarded against the Council.</p> <p>In addition the Council had to incur the costs of defending the claim of £65,429.85.</p> | <p>1. The Divisional Director – Planning & Transportation to undertake a detailed review of policies and procedures based on the Court findings and implement any necessary changes.</p> <p>2. Strategic Director – Service Delivery to review progress</p> | <p>Risk & related action plan being monitored through the Planning and Transportation Risk Register – risk that the Council does not take sufficient action following the outcome of legal challenge and Judicial Review.</p> <p>Actions recorded against this risk include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Submission of a Development & Control Paper 2) Appointment of leading QC 3) Commence high level engagement with the planning applicant. <p>Current Status of actions as at Qtr 3 2011/12 – 'Complete' or 'On-Target'.</p> | <p>Green Status</p> <p>Actions on target or complete</p> |

