

CPA IMPROVEMENT PLAN: POSITION STATEMENT SEPTEMBER 2005

PROPOSED AREA OF ACTIVITY	CURRENT POSITION	STATUS
1. Delivering a Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member Visioning Session held in July Further session held 21st September Looking to ODPM Capacity Building Fund to help provide momentum and additional resource. With formal notification now received, progress can be escalated. 	Just behind programme but potential to catch up with additional resource now confirmed
2. Review Council Plan and Strategies	Follows on from 1	In abeyance at present
3. Review Community Strategy	Follows on from 1	In abeyance at present
4. Local Plan	Inquiry completed. Inspector's report just received	On programme
5. Fit for Purpose Housing Strategy	Signed off by GoEast Feb 2005	Completed
6. HRA Business Plan	Signed off by GoEast Feb 2005	Completed
7. Member Training	Programme developed in conjunction with IDeA. News of Capacity Building Fund (CBF) approval allows for further development and expansion of the programme.	On programme
8. Review of Overview and Scrutiny	Recommendations being developed.	On tonight's agenda
9. Review of Planning Services	Report on questionnaire survey to other	As 8 above

Committee	authorities reporting into Environment O&S Committee in September.	
10. Organisational Review/Succession Planning	Awaiting final HAY Gradings from ECC prior to finalising report for Member consideration.	Behind programme. However, aiming to get key adverts out no later than in October.
11. Workforce Development Plan	Number of actions carried out within the WFDP. Participating in Stage 2 Pilot at Regional Level	Individual elements within WFDP may vary but overall the Plan is on programme
12. Partnership Review	<p>Focussing on 5 main partnerships: Thames Gateway South Essex; Local Strategic Partnership; Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership; Children and Young Persons Strategic Partnership; and Joint Health Board with Castle Point.</p> <p>Key partners now being interviewed – through September and October.</p>	On programme to conclude process by November 2005.
13. Essex Waste Procurement Project	<p>Formal PFI expression of interest submitted to DEFRA by ECC on behalf of the Essex Partnership in March. Feedback received from DEFRA in April. Current activity is focussing on the further analysis and amendment of individual Authority Information before finalising individual and collective specifications. Aiming to submit outline Business Case to DEFRA by no later than October 2005.</p>	Slippage on original estimated programme. Invitation to submit Outline Proposals still timetabled for April 2006.
14. Housing Option Appraisal Process	See separate detailed report on Housing	On programme to complete process by 30 April 2007

15. Continuous improvement to Housing Benefit Service	Performance improving internally.	On programme.
16. Build capacity and efficiency around the Housing Benefit Service	Linked to bid to ODPM Capacity Building und and start of the Regional Centre of Excellence project.	Already in "capacity" discussions with Chelmsford and Maldon. CBF monies will be used to progress RDC's best options and way forward.
17. Homelessness Improvement	Staffing and Procedures in place. Improvement in performance underway	Completed
18. Review existing consultation mechanisms	Information collected. Internal evaluation completed. However, looking to link with County-wide consultation work and feedback from Audit Commission 'User Focus' Work. Also, looking to use IDeA to tease out best practice.	Now aiming to complete by October 2005.
19. Introduce revised performance management system	Aiming to have new system in place and operational no later than March 2006	Some improvements in Member reporting already made with Chapter 7 of Performance Plan progress being reported to Policy and Finance Committee on quarterly basis.
20. Measurement of Financial Baseline data	Overtaken by "Gershon" requirements and timetable. Efficiency Statements produced on programme.	Further work continuing around "Gershon" and VFM agenda.