



BARROW BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN HALL
DUKE STREET
BARROW-IN-FURNESS

13th July, 2009

To: The Members of Barrow Borough Council

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of BARROW BOROUGH COUNCIL to be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER at the TOWN HALL, BARROW on TUESDAY the 21st day of JULY, 2009 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM for the transaction of the business specified below.

Chief Executive

Prior to the business of the meeting, Prayers will be offered.

Business

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. A Member with a Personal Interest in a matter to be considered at this meeting must either before the matter is discussed or when the interest becomes apparent disclose:-
 - (1) the existence of that interest to the meeting;
 - (2) the nature of the interest concerned; and
 - (3) decide whether they have a prejudicial interest.

A note on declaring interests at meetings, which incorporates certain other aspects of the Code of Conduct and a pro-forma for completion where interests are disclosed accompanies the agenda and reports for this meeting.
2. MINUTES. To confirm the Minutes of the Council's proceedings held on 12th May, 2009
3. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
4. (A) TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS:-

To expedite the business of the meeting, Members are requested to give the Chief Executive adequate notice of any Amendments which they propose to raise.

- (1) Planning
- (2) Licensing
- (3) Executive
- (4) Audit

(B) QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Council has agreed that time be set aside for questions to the Leader of the Council.

Standing Order 10.2 and 10.4 set out the procedure for questions to the Leader and the notice period required.

The Leader will also take any questions without notice relevant to the reports and minutes detailed on the agenda.

(C) TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE.

5. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON A REVIEW OF THE REPRESENTATION OF THE DIFFERENT POLITICAL GROUPS OF THE COUNCIL ON COMMITTEES AND DECIDE: -

- (i) The size of Committees
- (ii) The allocation of seats and substitute seats to political groups,
- (iii) Delegate to Committees the power to make appointments to outside bodies appropriate to their terms of reference; and
- (iv) To confirm the appointment of Members to Committees by the Conservative and Independent Groups.

6. NOTICE OF MOTION UNDER RULE 11

To consider the following motion signed by Councillor Bell and Councillor English

To call on the Council to set up a member lead working group to review the Boroughs present management arrangements for setting "Key Priorities" and identify the opportunities to create new ones and to make them more visible; and

To look at opportunities to incorporate more fully other Borough Strategies and ward priorities like the "Sustainable Community Strategy for Barrow and Furness" and the "Dalton 2005 Strategic Review Priorities" using the discussion document by Councillor Bell attached at **Appendix 4** as a reference for the working group, Members, experts and staff. The review to be completed as a matter of priority.

7. TO APPOINT THE OFFICIAL SPOKESPERSON FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY.

8. TO PASS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION, THAT IS TO SAY:

That the Council authorises the fixing of its Common Seal to any documents to give effect to the Minutes and proceedings of the Committees submitted to or approved by this meeting and any other matters dealt with at this meeting.

To expedite the business of the meeting, Members are requested to give the Chief Executive adequate notice of any Amendments which they propose to raise.

BOROUGH OF BARROW-IN-FURNESS

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL of this Borough was held at the Town Hall, Barrow-in-Furness at 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday the 12th day of May, 2009 to take into consideration and determine upon the following subjects, namely: -

- 1 - TO ELECT THE CHAIRMAN AND MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.
- 2 - TO ELECT THE VICE-CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.
- 3 - (A) VOTE OF THANKS TO THE EX-CHAIRMAN AND MAYOR AND RETIRING MAYORESS.
(B) PRESENTATION OF FORMER MAYOR'S MEDAL.
- 4 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.
- 5 - TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY AND THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 21ST APRIL, 2009.
- 6 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.
- 7 - TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND/OR HEAD OF THE PAID SERVICE.
- 8 - TO ELECT THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL.
- 9 - TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:
 - (1) Executive
 - (2) Planning
 - (3) Licensing
 - (4) Overview and Scrutiny – Regeneration and Community Services
 - (5) Overview and Scrutiny – Corporate Services
 - (6) Audit
 - (7) Standards

- 10 - TO AGREE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ABOVE COMMITTEES AND THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION FOR COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS.
- 11 - TO FIX THE DATE AND TIME OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL IN 2010 AND CERTAIN OTHER DATES FOR COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN 2009/2010.
- 12 - TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON A REVIEW OF THE REPRESENTATION OF THE DIFFERENT POLITICAL GROUPS OF THE COUNCIL ON COMMITTEES AND TO DECIDE:-
 - (i) The size of Committees;
 - (ii) The allocation of seats and substitute seats to political groups; and
 - (iii) Delegate to Committees the power to make appointments to outside bodies appropriate to their terms of reference.
- 13 - TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND APPOINT COUNCILLORS (AND SUBSTITUTES) TO SERVE ON COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES.
- 14 - TO APPOINT THE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES.
- 15 - TO APPOINT THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSING MANAGEMENT FORUM.
- 16 - TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL SPOKESPERSONS:-
 - (i) Cultural Heritage
 - (ii) Economic Development/Regeneration
 - (iii) Environment and Planning
 - (iv) Housing
 - (v) Licensing
 - (vi) Member Development and Human Resources
 - (vii) Children and Young People
 - (viii) Equalities and Diversity
 - (ix) Health and Safety

PRESENT:- Councillor D. Roberts (Mayor in the Chair) and Councillors Barlow, Bell, Callister, Dawes, English, Garnett, Guselli, Hammond, Heath, Husband, Irwin, James, Jefferson, Maltman, McClure, Marcus, Millar, Murray, Pemberton, Pidduck, Richardson, Solloway, Unwin, Waiting, Williams and Wood.

The meeting opened with prayer's by Reverend Stuart Evason.

1 – Mayor's Announcement – Memorial Garden for Service Men and Women from the Borough of Barrow-in-Furness

The Mayor suggested that a Memorial Garden be incorporated into the renovation of the Coronation Gardens on Abbey Road in recognition of servicemen and women from the Borough who had lost their lives in service. It had been suggested that a tree could be placed in the gardens and that the Mayor could switch on the lights on his way to the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday as well as at Christmas time. He advised that official proposals would be submitted by Officers to the Executive Committee and requested Members to give this proposal due consideration and support.

2 – Election of Chairman and Mayor for 2009/2010

The Chairman invited nominations for the office of Chairman and Mayor for the ensuing year.

The nomination of Councillor Dorothy Dawes was moved by Councillor Maltman and seconded by Councillor Williams.

There being no further nominations, a vote was taken and Councillor Dorothy Dawes was declared elected.

RESOLVED: - That Councillor Dorothy Dawes, being a Councillor of this Borough, be and hereby is elected Chairman and Mayor of this Borough for the ensuing year.

Councillor Dorothy Dawes, having made and subscribed to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, as required by law, took upon herself the Office of Chairman and Mayor.

COUNCILLOR DOROTHY DAWES (MAYOR) IN THE CHAIR

3 – Election of Vice-Chairman and Deputy Mayor for 2009/2010

The Mayor invited nominations for the office of Vice-Chairman and Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.

The nomination of Councillor Rory McClure was moved by Councillor Williams and seconded by Councillor Guselli.

There being no further nominations, a vote was taken and Councillor Rory McClure was declared elected.

RESOLVED: - That Councillor Rory McClure, being a Councillor of this Borough, be and hereby is elected Vice-Chairman and Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the ensuing year.

Councillor Rory McClure, having made and subscribed to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, as required by law, took upon himself the Office of Vice-Chairman and Deputy Mayor.

4 – Vote of Thanks to Ex-Chairman and Mayor and Retiring Mayoress

It was moved by Councillor Richardson and

RESOLVED: - That the appreciation of this Council be tendered to David Roberts and his Mayoress for the able and efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties as Chairman and Mayor and Mayoress, respectively during the past year.

Councillor Roberts (Ex-Chairman and Mayor) placed on record his thanks and appreciation to his colleagues and made a short speech. He also presented Councillor Dawes (Mayor) with a bouquet of flowers as a thank you for being his Deputy during the past year.

5 – Presentation of Former Mayor's Medal

The Mayor presented the Former Mayor's Medal on behalf of the Borough Council to Councillor David Roberts in recognition of the duties he had carried out on behalf of the Borough as Mayor during 2008/2009.

6 – Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest had been received.

7 – Minutes

The Minutes of the Extraordinary and the Ordinary meetings of the Council held on 21st April, 2009, as amended, were taken as read and confirmed.

8 – Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors McCavish, M. A. Roberts and Stephenson.

9 – To receive any announcements from the Chairman and/or Head of the Paid Service

No announcements had been received.

10 – Election of Leader of the Council for 2009/2010

The Mayor invited nominations for the Office of Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

The nomination of Councillor John Robert Richardson was moved by Councillor Guselli and seconded by Councillor Williams.

There being no further nominations, a vote was taken and Councillor John Robert Richardson was declared elected.

RESOLVED:- That John Robert Richardson being a Councillor of this Borough be and hereby is elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

Following election as Leader of the Council, Councillor Richardson made the following announcements:-

1. Free Swimming Scheme – Since the implementation of the free swimming scheme for under 16's and over 65's on 1st April, 2009, over 9,000 passes had been issued.
2. Armed Forces Day – From 22nd – 29th June the Council would be flying a special Armed Forces Day flag from the Town Hall, this would be delivered by Servicemen on 22nd June and all Members of the Council had been invited to be present when the flag was delivered.
3. Recycling - The delivery of small bins would be completed this week. There had been a general acceptance of the new system and the requests for recycling bags and boxes had increased. The percentage of domestic waste going to landfill had seen a decrease of 32% already which was an excellent start.

11 – Appointment of Standing Committees/Terms of Reference

It was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Williams that the Council appoint the Committees listed on the Council Summons for 2009/2010.

RESOLVED:- That the following Committees be appointed for 2009/2010 namely:-

- (1) Executive
- (2) Planning
- (3) Licensing
- (4) Overview and Scrutiny – Regeneration and Community Services
- (5) Overview and Scrutiny – Corporate Services
- (6) Audit
- (7) Standards

12 – Terms of Reference of Committees and Scheme of Delegation for Committees and Officers

It was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Williams that the Council agree the Terms of Reference and the Scheme of Delegation for Committees and Officers as set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

RESOLVED:- (i) To agree the Terms of Reference of the Committees outlined above (Minute No. 11); and

(ii) To agree the Scheme of Delegation for Committees and Officers, as set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

13 – Annual Meeting of the Council in 2010 and Certain Other Dates for Council and Committee Meetings in 2009/2010

It was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Williams that the recommendations in the Chief Executive's report dealing with the date and time for the Annual Council Meeting in 2010, the dates for the ordinary meetings of the Council and the programme of meetings for Committees and Housing Management Forum for 2009/2010 be agreed.

RESOLVED:- (i) That the Annual Council Meeting in 2010 be held on Wednesday 19th May, 2010 at 2.00 p.m.

(ii) That the Council meet on the following Tuesdays at 7.00 p.m. in 2009/2010 namely:-

21st July and 13th October, 2009 and 26th January and 23rd March, 2010.

(iii) That an Extraordinary meeting of the Council (Budget Meeting) be held at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 22nd February, 2010.

(iv) That the Executive Committee meet on the following Wednesdays at 2.00 p.m. in 2009/2010 namely:-

10th June, 8th July, 29th July, 16th September, 14th October, 11th November and 9th December, 2009 and 27th January and 3rd March, 2010.

(v) That the Planning Committee meet on the following Tuesdays at 2.30 p.m. in 2009/2010 namely:-

19th May, 16th June, 7th July, 28th July, 18th August, 8th September, 29th September, 20th October, 10th November, 1st December and 22nd December, 2009 and 19th January, 9th February, 2nd March, 30th March and 20th April, 2010.

(vi) That the Licensing Committee meet on the following Thursdays at 2.00 p.m. in 2009/2010 namely:-

18th June, 30th July, 10th September, 22nd October and 3rd December, 2009 and 28th January, 11th March and 22nd April, 2010.

(vii) That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Regeneration and Community Services meet on the days indicated at 2.00 p.m. in 2009/2010 namely:-

9th June (Tuesday), 22nd July (Wednesday), 9th September (Wednesday) and 17th November (Tuesday), 2009 and 12th January (Tuesday) and 4th March (Thursday), 2010.

(viii) That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Corporate Services meet on the following Wednesdays (unless otherwise indicated) at 2.00 p.m. in 2009/2010 namely:-

17th June, 23rd July (Thursday), 15th September (Tuesday) and 18th November, 2009 and 13th January and 10th March, 2010.

(ix) That a joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees be held at 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday 10th February, 2010.

(x) That the Audit Committee meet on the days indicated at 2.00 p.m. in 2009/2010 namely:-

29th June (Monday), 23rd September (Wednesday) and 16th December, (Wednesday), 2009 and 9th March (Tuesday) 2010.

(xi) That the Standards Committee meet on the following Thursdays at 2.00 p.m. in 2009/2010 namely:-

9th July and 17th September, 2009 and 7th January and 18th March, 2010.

(xii) That the Housing Management Forum meet on the following Thursdays at 2.00 p.m. in 2009/2010 namely:-

25th June, 27th August and 26th November, 2009 and 21st January and 25th February, 2010.

14 – Review of Representation of Political Groups on Committees

The Chief Executive reported that Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 had placed a duty on the Local Authority at its Annual Meeting (or as soon as practicable after the meeting) to review the representation of the different Political Groups on the Council. In performing that function the Council was required to determine the allocation to different political groups of the seats which fell to be filled by appointments and in making

such determinations to give effect, so far as reasonably practicable, to the following principles:-

1. That not all the seats on the body were allocated to the same political group;
2. That the majority of the seats on the body be allocated to a particular political group if the number of members belonging to that group is a majority of the Authority's membership;
3. Subject to Nos. (1) and (2) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary Committees of the Authority which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all seats on the ordinary Committees of that Authority as is borne by the number of Members of that group to the membership of the Authority; and
4. Subject to Nos. (1) and (3) above, that the number of the seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as is borne by the number of Members of the group to the membership of the Authority.

The number of seats held on the Council by each group is:-

Conservative Group	-	17
Labour Group	-	8
Socialist People's Party	-	4
Independent	-	4
Barrow Borough Independent Group	-	2
Liberal Democrat	-	1

The relevant Regulations require that so far as is reasonable, the proportion of the total seats on Committees and on individual Committees held by the political groups bear the same proportion to their seats on the Council.

The Chief Executive submitted as an appendix to his report, the recommended allocation of seats on Committees and Sub-Committees and requested Members to note the following:-

1. The Local Government Act 2000 (Section 53(10)) provides that the Standards Committee is not regarded as a body to which the duty to allocate seats to political groups applies. Hitherto, five Members have been appointed in addition to the Independent Chairman and two other Independent Members. Those five seats had nevertheless been split on a proportional basis in the past.
2. The number of seats on the Executive, Licensing and Planning Committees had been set at twelve.

3. The number of seats on the Regeneration and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee had been set at six.
4. The Council's Constitution provides that:-
 - (a) Members of the Executive Committee shall not be eligible to be members of the Planning Committee and vice-versa.
 - (b) One Executive Committee member from each political group may be appointed to each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees subject to the proportionality rules. All other Councillors qualify to sit on the Committees and any Sub-Committee established.
5. The number of Councillors on the Housing Management Forum had been set at eight.
6. The number of Councillors on the Audit Committee had been set at six.
7. The number of Councillors on the Grants Sub-Committee had been set at nine.

The recommended seat allocations in respect of those Outside Bodies to which the proportionality rules had been applied and in respect of Forums, Working Groups and Panels had been attached as an Appendix to the Chief Executive's report.

It had been recommended that the Council delegated to Committees the power to make appointments to outside bodies etc. appropriate to their terms of reference.

It was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Williams and

RESOLVED:- (i) That the size of Committees and the allocation of seats and substitute seats in accordance with details below be agreed:-

<u>Committees</u>	<u>Cons</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>SPP</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>BBI</u>	<u>Total Seats</u>
Executive	6	3	1	1	1	12
Planning	6	3	1	1	1	12
Licensing	6	3	1	1	1	12
Overview and Scrutiny – Corporate Services	3	1	1	1	0	6
Overview and Scrutiny – Regeneration and Community Services	3	1	1	1	0	6

Audit	3	1	1	1	0	6
Total Seat Allocation	---	---	--	--	--	
	27 (26)	12	6	6	3	
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Under this option Conservatives should lose a place. The Conservatives opted to forego a seat on the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee allocation was therefore as follows:-

<u>Committees</u>	<u>Cons</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>SPP</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>BBI</u>	<u>Total Seats</u>
Audit	2	1	1	1	0	5
<u>Sub-Committees</u>	<u>Cons</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>SPP</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>BBI</u>	<u>Total Seats</u>
Grants Sub	4	2	1	1	1	9
Licensing Sub	2	1	0	0	0	3
Total Seat Allocation	--	--	--	--	--	
	6	3	1	1	1	
	--	--	--	--	--	

- (ii) To agree the allocation of seats on Outside Bodies, the number of seats and allocations in respect of Forums, Panels, Workings Groups etc. in accordance with Appendix 3 to the Chief Executive's report and (with the exception of the Housing Management Forum) delegate to the appropriate Committees, the power to make the necessary appointments; and
- (iii) To agree that five Members of the Council be appointed to serve on the Standards Committee as follows:-

Councillors Dawes, Guselli, Waiting, R. Hamezeian and Solloway (2 Conservative: 1 Labour: 1 Socialist People's Party: 1 Independent).

15 – Nominations and Appointment of Councillors (and Substitutes) to Serve on Committees and Sub-Committees

It was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Williams that Councillors be appointed to serve as ordinary and substitute Members of Committees and Sub-Committees in accordance with the nominations made by the Political Groups as shown on the schedule which had been circulated.

RESOLVED:- That the Members and Substitute Members for each of the Committees as notified by the respective Groups in accordance with the seat allocations be agreed as follows:-

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Councillors Barlow, Flitcroft, Guselli, J. Hamezeian, Marcus, Millar, Pemberton, Pidduck, Richardson, Stephenson, Waiting and Williams.

Substitute Members

Conservative – Councillors Bell, English, Heath, Maltman, Murray and Unwin.

Labour – Councillors Callister, Garnett and Irwin.

Independent – Councillor Solloway.

Socialist People's Party – Councillor McEwan.

Barrow Borough Independent Group – Councillor Wood.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillors Bleasdale, Dawes, Heath, Husband, Irwin, Jefferson, McClure, McEwan, Maltman, Murray, M. A. Roberts and Wood.

Substitute Members

Conservative – Councillors Bell, English, Flitcroft, James, Richardson and Williams.

Labour – Councillors Garnett, Pidduck and Waiting.

Independent – Councillor Stephenson.

Socialist People's Party – Councillor Begley.

Barrow Borough Independent Group – Councillor Millar.

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Councillors Callister, English, Garnett, R. Hamezeian, Irwin, James, McClure, Millar, Murray, D. Roberts, Stephenson and Unwin.

Substitute Members

Conservative – Councillors Bleasdale, Dawes, Heath, Marcus, Murray and Williams.

Labour – Councillors Barlow, Husband and Pidduck.

Independent – Councillor Jefferson.

Socialist People's Party – Councillor McEwan.

Barrow Borough Independent Group – Councillor Wood.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Councillors Barlow, Begley, Heath, Jefferson and Unwin.

Substitute Members

Conservative – Councillors Pemberton and Richardson.

Labour – Councillor Waiting.

Independent – Councillor Solloway.

Socialist People's Party – Councillor McEwan.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – REGENERATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Councillors Dawes, Hammond, McEwan, Maltman, Pemberton and Waiting.

Substitute Members

Conservative – Councillor Bleasdale, Heath and Richardson.

Labour – Councillor Pidduck.

Independent – Councillor Solloway.

Socialist People's Party – Councillor Begley.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE SERVICES

Councillors Bell, Bleasdale, Callister, Flitcroft, R. Hamezeian and Solloway.

Substitute Members

Conservative – Councillors Maltman, Marcus and Williams.

Labour – Councillor Garnett.

Independent – Councillor Jefferson.

Socialist People's Party – Councillor McEwan.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Councillors Dawes, Guselli, R. Hamezeian, Solloway and Waiting.

Substitute Members

Conservative – Councillors Pemberton and D. Roberts.

Labour – Councillor M. A. Roberts.

Independent – Councillor Jefferson.

Socialist People's Party – Councillor Begley.

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillors Callister, D. Roberts and Unwin.

Substitute Members

Conservative – Councillors English, James, McClure and Murray.

Labour – Councillors Garnett and Irwin.

Independent – Councillor Stephenson.

Socialist People's Party – Councillor R. Hamezeian.

Barrow Borough Independent Group – Councillor Millar.

GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillors Begley, Flitcroft, Guselli, Husband, Irwin, Maltman, Stephenson, Williams and Wood.

Substitute Members

Conservative – Councillors McClure, Pemberton, Richardson and Unwin.

Labour – Councillors Pidduck and Waiting.

Independent – Councillor Jefferson.

Socialist People's Party – Councillor McEwan.

Barrow Borough Independent Group – Councillor Millar.

16 – Appointment of Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of Committees

It was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Williams that the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees be appointed in accordance with the nominations made by the political groups as shown on the schedule which had been circulated.

RESOLVED:- That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the under-mentioned Committees be as follows:-

Executive Committee – Chairman, Councillor Guselli and Vice-Chairman, Councillor Williams.

Planning Committee – Chairman, Councillor McClure and Vice-Chairman, Councillor Wood.

Licensing Committee – Chairman, Councillor D. Roberts and Vice-Chairman, Councillor Unwin.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Regeneration and Community Services – Chairman, Councillor Dawes and Vice-Chairman, Councillor Pemberton.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Corporate Services – Chairman, Councillor Callister and Vice-Chairman, Councillor Flitcroft.

Audit Committee – Chairman, Councillor Heath and Vice-Chairman, Councillor Unwin.

Standards Committee – Independent Chairman, Mr Mark Ratcliffe and Vice-Chairman, Mr Norman Hird.

17 – Appointment of Chairman and Members of the Housing Management Forum

(a) It was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Williams that Councillor James be nominated as the Council's Chairman of the Housing Management Forum.

RESOLVED:- That Councillor James be appointed the Council's Chairman of the Housing Management Forum for 2009/2010. Councillor James had been appointed as the Member Chairman for the purpose of the Housing Management Forum to recognise responsibility but the Housing Management

Forum were free to appoint an alternative Chairman at their first meeting in 2009/2010 for its management if they so wished.

- (b) It was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Williams that the Members appointed to the Housing Management Forum be those shown on the schedule which had been circulated.

RESOLVED:- That the Council Members appointed to the Housing Management Forum be Councillors Dawes, Flitcroft, James, Maltman, Irwin, Waiting, J. Hamezeian and Hammond (Conservative 4: Labour 2: Socialist Peoples Party 1: Independent 1: Barrow Borough Independent 0).

18 – Appointment of Official Spokespersons

It was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Williams and

RESOLVED:- That the following spokespersons be appointed for the services indicated:-

1. Cultural Heritage – Councillor Marcus
2. Economic Development/Regeneration – Councillor Richardson
3. Environment and Planning – Councillor McClure
4. Housing – Councillor James
5. Licensing – Councillor D. Roberts
6. Member Development and Human Resources – Councillor Marcus
7. Children and Young People – Councillor Heath
8. Equalities and Diversity – Councillor Williams
9. Health and Safety – Councillor Bell.

19 – Common Seal

RESOLVED:- That the Council authorises the affixing of its Common Seal to any documents to give effect to the Minutes and proceedings of the Committees submitted to or approved by this meeting and any other matters dealt with at this meeting.

The meeting closed at 2.34 p.m.

COUNCIL	Agenda Item 4(A)(1)
Date of Meeting: 21st July, 2009	
Reporting Officer: Chief Executive	
<p>REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE (Report of the meetings held on 19th May, 16th June and 7th July, 2009)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>There were no recommendations referred to Council from the above meetings.</p> <p><u>Delegated Decisions</u></p> <p>The matters determined by the Planning Committee in exercise of the powers which have been delegated to the Committee will be detailed in the Minutes of the meetings noted above reproduced in Volume 1 of the printed Minutes.</p>	

COUNCIL	Agenda Item 4(A)(2)
Date of Meeting: 21st July, 2009	
Reporting Officer: Chief Executive	

**REPORT OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE
(Report of the meetings held on 27th April and 18th June, 2009)**

Recommendations:

There were no recommendations referred to Council from the above meetings.

Delegated Decisions

The matters determined by the Licensing Committee in exercise of the powers which have been delegated to the Committee will be detailed in the Minutes of the meetings noted above reproduced in Volume 5 2008/09 and Volume 1 2009/10 of the printed Minutes.

COUNCIL	Agenda Item 4(A)(3)
Date of Meeting: 21st July, 2009	
Reporting Officer: Chief Executive	

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
(Report of the meeting held on 8th July, 2009)**

Recommendations:

The following recommendations have been referred to Council.

Executive Committee – 8th July, 2009

1.0 Housing Management Forum: Recommendation

Maintenance Contract

1.1 The Housing Manager submitted a report to agree an extension to the Maintenance Contract with Integral.

1.2 Recommendation:-

To recommend the Council:-

To agree to an extension of the current contract arrangements from 5th November, 2009 for a further two years.

2.0 Free Access to “Pay to Play” Leisure Activities for Looked after Children

2.1 The report of the Director of Regeneration and Community Services informed the Committee that in early 2009 all Cumbria Districts had been contacted by Cumbria County Council's Children's Services Department who were enquiring whether Districts would participate in a joint scheme to provide free or discounted leisure passes or vouchers for Looked after Children.

2.2 Recommendation:-

To recommend the Council:-

- (i) To approve participation in the scheme to allow free access to pay to play activities for Looked after Children and to provide a 50% discount for nominated carers;**
- (ii) To agree that the scheme be entered into for one year from 1st August, 2009 and that the Community Services Manager be instructed to monitor the take-up and cost implications, reporting back to the Executive Committee to enable a decision to be taken to decide whether to extend the scheme beyond one-year; and**
- (iii) To request the Chief Executive to investigate the provision of discounted leisure prices for carers of disabled people who use the Council's Leisure Facilities.**

3.0 Application of Funding received from Department of Health

3.1 The report of the Director of Regeneration and Community Services informed the Committee that in 2007, the Borough had signed up to the Department of Health's "Communities for Health" programme.

3.2 Recommendation:

To recommend the Council:-

- (i) To agree to allocate £100,000 to the capital refurbishment scheme for the Cooke's Building, 104 Abbey Road;**
- (ii) To agree to allocate £100,000 to a range of interventions aimed at improving the health and well-being of residents of the Borough and instruct the Community Services Manager to work with the Healthy Communities and Older People Group of the Local Strategic Partnership to develop these interventions for your approval;**
- (iii) To note that the £70,000 grant to publicise and raise awareness of the Department of Health's new online tool – "NHS Lifecheck" be applied in an innovative range of interventions as required by the Department for Health; and**
- (iv) To approve £25,000 from the above fund to provide a portable dance-mat exercise system which would be used as an outreach mechanism from the Leisure Centre to schools and community groups.**

4.0 Conversion of All-weather Pitch into a Soccer Centre

4.1 The report of the Director of Regeneration and Community Services informed the Committee on a proposal to convert and upgrade the all weather pitch and associated buildings at the Park Leisure Centre into a Soccer Centre.

4.2 Recommendations:

To recommend the Council:-

- (i) To approve the conversion and upgrade of the all weather pitch and associated buildings at the Park Leisure Centre into a Soccer Centre through the establishment of a partnership agreement with Pulse Ltd, subject to Officers of the Council negotiating suitable contractual arrangements and consents being obtained;**
- (ii) Subject to (i) above to agree the Heads of Terms with Pulse would be reported to the next meeting of the Committee on 29th July, 2009;**
- (iii) To request the Chief Executive to discuss with Furness College and the Academy the provision of pitch facilities for competitive hockey matches; and**
- (iv) To request the Chief Executive to ask Cumbria County Council to liaise with schools to enable use of all weather pitches by the local community.**

5.0 Redevelopment of Land at Greengate Street

5.1 The Chief Executive's report reminded the Committee that the Council had acquired the former Greengate Mill site, and subsequently had agreed to dispose of it to Accent Housing for redevelopment as social housing.

5.2 Recommendation:

To recommend the Council to suspend Contract Standing Orders and approve the appointment of Bramalls to carry out remediation work required on the site.

6.0 Housing Market Renewal Programme – Sutherland Street Group Repair

6.1 The Chief Executive's reported informed the Committee that the first programmed Group Repair Scheme was planned for 2-84 Sutherland Street (even numbers) and 96a and 96b Crellin Street. These properties constituted a single terrace of 44 properties. Provision of £875,000 had been made in the Capital Programme for the work.

6.2 Recommendation:-

To recommend the Council:-

- (i) To note the progress made on the Group Repair Scheme;**
- (ii) To suspend Contract Standing order 6 and approve the proposed tender list for the contract and any future similar contracts; and**
- (iii) To authorise the Chief Executive to award the contract to the lowest tender in consultation with the Chairman of the Executive Committee, in accordance with Contract Standing Orders.**

7.0 Barrow Town Centre Link Road Phase II – Purchase of Land at Cornmill Crossing, Hindpool

7.1 The Chief Executive reported that Phase I of the project funded by Cumbria County Council together with a Developers contribution of £500,000 had been completed. North West Development Agency funding had now been secured to progress Phase II and complete the Link Road project which had been included in the County Council's Transport Capital Programme with a further contribution of £500,000 to the overall cost of Phase II in 2009/10.

7.2 Recommendation:

To recommend the Council:-

- (i) To agree to purchase the Associated British Ports land required for the Barrow Centre Link Road Phase II at the valuation agreed by Peill and Co. Ltd, dated 6th July, 2009; and**
- (ii) To authorise the Director of Corporate Services to enter into dedication agreements for highway purposes to Cumbria County Council in respect of the above land.**

Delegated Decisions

The matters determined by the Executive Committee in exercise of its terms of reference are detailed in the Minutes of the meeting reproduced in Volume 1 of the printed Minutes.

COUNCIL	Agenda Item 4(A)(4)
Date of Meeting: 21st July, 2009	
Reporting Officer: Chief Executive	
REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE (Report of the meeting held on 29th June, 2009)	
Recommendations:	
There were no recommendations referred to Council from the above meeting.	
<u>Delegated Decisions</u>	
The matters determined by the Audit Committee in exercise of the powers which have been delegated to the Committee will be detailed in the Minutes of the meeting noted above reproduced in Volume 1 of the printed Minutes.	

COUNCIL	Agenda Item 4(C)
Date of Meeting: 21st July, 2009	
Reporting Officer: Chief Executive	
<p>REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (Report of the meeting held on 9th July, 2009)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>The following recommendation had been referred to Council.</p> <p>1.0 Annual Report on Ethical Standards</p> <p>1.1 To consider the Annual Report of the Monitoring Officer on Ethical Standards for the period May 2008 – May 2009 a copy of which is attached at Appendix 1.</p> <p>1.2 Recommendation:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">To recommend the Council to note the first Annual Report on Ethical Standards.</p> <p><u>Delegated Decisions</u></p> <p>The matters determined by the Standards Committee in exercise of its terms of reference are detailed in the Minutes of the meeting reproduced in Volume 1 of the printed Minutes.</p>	

COUNCIL	Agenda Item 5
Date of Meeting: 21st July, 2009	
Reporting Officer: Chief Executive	
<p>Title: Review of Representation of Political Groups on Committees</p> <p>Summary and Conclusions:</p> <p>A request for review of arrangements has been received from the Independent Group under the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989.</p> <p>This report deals with that review and the consequent recommendations.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>To recommend the Council :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To agree the size of Committees and the allocation of seats and substitute seats in accordance with the details at Appendix 2; 2. To agree the allocation of seats on Outside Bodies, the number of seats and allocations in respect of Forums, Panels, Working Groups etc. in accordance with the details at Appendix 3 and (with the exception of the Housing Management Forum) delegate to the appropriate committees the power to make the necessary appointments; and 3. To confirm the appointment of Members to Committees by the Conservative and Independent Groups. 	

Report

It is the duty of the Council or of a relevant Committee in performing this function to determine the allocation to different political groups of the seats which fall to be filled by appointments and in making such determinations to give effect, so far as reasonably practicable, to the following principles:-

1. That not all the seats on the body are allocated to the same political group.

2. That the majority of the seats on the body is allocated to a particular political group if the number of members belonging to that group is a majority of the Authority's membership.
3. Subject to Nos. (1) and (2) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary Committees of the Authority which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all seats on the ordinary Committees of that Authority as is borne by the number of Members of that group to the membership of that Authority; and
4. Subject to Nos. (1) and (3) above, that the number of the seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as is borne by the number of Members of the group to the membership of the Authority.

The number of seats held on the Council by each group is:-

Conservative Group	-	16
Labour Group	-	8
Independent	-	5
Peoples Party	-	4
Barrow Borough Independent Group	-	2
Liberal Democrat	-	1

The relevant Regulations require that so far as is reasonable the proportion of the total seats on Committees and on individual Committees held by the Political Groups bear the same proportion to their seats on the Council.

Appendix 2 shows the recommended allocation of seats on Committees and Sub-Committees.

Members are asked to note the following:-

1. The Local Government Act 2000 (Section 53(10)) provides that the Standards Committee is not regarded as a body to which the duty to allocate seats to political groups applies.

Hitherto five Members have been appointed in addition to the Independent Chairman and two other independent members. Those five seats have nevertheless been split on a proportional basis in the past.

2. The number of seats on the Executive, Licensing and Planning Committees will remain at twelve.
3. The seats on the two Overview and Scrutiny Committees will remain at six.

4. The Council's Constitution provides that –
 - (a) Members of the Executive Committee shall not be eligible to be members of the Planning Committee and vice-versa.
 - (b) One Executive Committee member from each political group may be appointed to each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees subject to the proportionality rules. All other Councillors qualify to sit on the Committees and any Sub-Committee established.
5. The number of Councillors on the Housing Management Forum will remain at eight.
6. The number of Councillors on the Audit Committee will remain at six.
7. The number of Councillors on the Grants Sub-Committee will remain at nine.

The recommended seat allocations in respect of those Outside Bodies to which the proportionality rules have been applied and in respect of Forums, Working Groups and Panels are at **Appendix 3**.

It is recommended that the Council delegate to Committees the power to make appointments to outside bodies etc. appropriate to their terms of reference.

Background Papers

Nil



**Barrow-in-Furness Standards
Committee
Annual Report
May 2008 to April 2009**

1. Introduction – Ethical Standards

The Council aims to have the highest possible ethical standards in place across the Council.

2. Period covered by this Annual Report

The period covered by this Annual Report runs for 12 months from the date of the Council Annual Meeting in May 2008.

3. Standards Committee Membership

The Committee currently consists of Barrow Borough (5), Parish Councillors (2) and Independent Members (3,) as follows:-

Barrow Borough Council – Councillors Dorothy Dawes, Ray Guselli, Rosemarie Hamezeian, Philip Solloway and Jean Waiting.

Parish Councillors – Brian Bloom and Wendy Maddox

Independent Members –Norman Hird, Dr Derek Passmore and Mark Ratcliffe.

4. Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Standards Committee

It was a requirement of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act, 2007 that the Chairman of the Standards Committee should be one of the independent members. This had been the practice in Barrow where the Vice-Chairman also is one of the independent members. During 2008/09 the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were Mark Ratcliffe and Norman Hird respectively.

5. Monitoring Officer

The Monitoring Officer is a statutory appointment pursuant to Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The role of the Monitoring Officer rests with the Director of Corporate Services. The Monitoring Officer's duties are to be discharged in accordance with legislative requirements, relevant Government guidance and the Council's Constitution. The Monitoring Officer is required to report to the Standards Committee regarding the arrangements for the discharge of their duties together with any proposals for amendments in the light of any issues that have arisen during the year.

Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 also allows the Monitoring Officer to appoint a Deputy and keep them briefed on any relevant issues that they may be required to deal with in the absence of the Monitoring Officer. The Democratic Services Manager is designated Deputy Monitoring Officer.

6. Advice from the Monitoring Officer

During 2008/09 the Monitoring Officer has provided advice to:-

- Borough Councillors
- Parish/Town Councillors
- Parish/Town Clerks
- Council Officers

Most of these requests for advice related to Code of Conduct and other ethical matters. Advice was also sought on the lawfulness of decisions taken or proposed to be taken, procedural matters and governance issues relating to the Council's Constitution.

Both the Monitoring Officer and the Deputy Monitoring Officer are available to advise Members at all reasonable times.

7. Standards Matters and Investigations

The Monitoring Officer is required to give informal advice and undertake relevant enquiries into allegations of misconduct.

To date 25 complaints had been received. One multiple complaint (eight) and one other complaint was outstanding which had been referred to the Standards Board for England.

A summary of the complaints received was as follows:-

Two complaints required no further action.

One complaint required other action from the Monitoring Officer.

One complaint had been referred to the Monitoring Officer for investigation. The Consideration and Hearing Sub-Committee had considered the investigators report and concluded that there was no failure to comply with the Code of Conduct.

Eleven complaints had been referred to the Monitoring Officer for additional training.

One complaint had been referred to the Standards Board for England where no action had been taken.

Eight complaints had been referred to the Standards Board for England where the decisions were still outstanding.

One complaint referred to the Standards Board for England where the decision was still outstanding.

8. Training for Members

The Monitoring Officer is responsible for ensuring the preparation of any necessary training for Members on ethical standards and Code of Conduct issues.

A co-ordinated training programme for Members has now been developed which encompasses issues of ethical standards and the Code of Conduct. Induction training for new Members forms an important element of the Training Programme, and care was taken to ensure that specific training on ethical standards and Code of Conduct issues were again addressed with new Members as part of their induction training. All Parish Councillors from the three Parish Councils were invited to attend the Induction training.

The Monitoring Officer and Chairman of the Standards Committee attended a number of training courses and conferences during the past year. In January 2009, the Monitoring Officer and Chairman of the Standards Committee attended a training event to look at the new proposed Codes of Conduct for Members and Officers, developments in Standards and any other relevant developments. The purpose of the training event was to bring Members, Chief Officers, Heads of Service and Standards Committee members etc up to date on the above issues.

The Monitoring Officer and the Vice-Chairman of the Standards Committee attended the seventh Annual Assembly of Standards Committees which was held in Birmingham on 12th and 13th October, 2008.

9. Registration of Interests

The Members' Register is maintained and updated as and when members notify changes. In addition, from time to time, all Members are sent a reminder to update their entries and confirm the accuracy of the Register. The Minutes of the various Council and Committee meetings show that interests are regularly declared by Members and the rules appear to be well understood.

Since the adoption of the revised 2007 Code this also now includes gifts and hospitality.

10. Ombudsman Cases – May 2008 – April 2009

During the year the Council has had 15 cases referred to the Ombudsman. Of these cases, 2 were agreed by local settlement, 3 were agreed by the Ombudsman as "no or insufficient evidence of maladministration" and 1 complaint where the Ombudsman decided not to pursue the complaint. The Ombudsman gave advice on 5 and 4 had been dealt with as premature complaints.

The breakdown of Ombudsman's Complaints is as follows:-

Children and Family Services - 1
Housing - 5
Benefits - 2
Public Finance inc. local Taxation - 3
Planning and Building Control - 2
Transport and Highways - 2

There were no findings of maladministration against the Council during the 12 month.

11. Constitution of Standards Committee

The membership and functions of the Standards Committee are in accordance with the requirement of the Local Government Act 2000.

12. Dispensations

Throughout the year the Standards Committee has received no requests for Dispensations.

APPENDIX 2

PAPER "A"

JULY 2009
CALCULATION OF POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES

STAGE 1 – Percentage Representation on the Council:

Party	Membership	Percentage %
Conservative	16	44.44
Labour	8	22.22
Independent	5	13.89
Socialist People's Party	4	11.11
BB Independent	2	5.56
Liberal Democrat	1	2.78

STAGE 1A – Total number of seats on Committees to be Allocated:

Committee	Membership
Executive	12
Planning	12
Licensing	12
Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny	6
Regeneration and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny	6
Audit	6
Total	54

STAGE 2 – Total Allocation of Seats to Each Party

(To ensue as far as reasonably practicable that the numbers of seats allocated to a group in total is in the same proportion as the number of members of the group on the council as a whole)

Party	Number of seats	Seats (rounded up)
Conservative	23.99	24
Labour	12	12
Independent	7.50	8
Socialist People's Party	6	6
BB Independent	3	3

(One seat would remain unallocated because the Liberal Democrat Party cannot be treated as a political group).

STAGE 3 – Percentage Allocation of Total Number of Seats on Committees:

Party	Number of seats	%
Conservative	24	44.44
Labour	12	22.22
Independent	8	13.89
Socialist People's Party	6	11.11
BB Independent	3	5.56

STAGE 4 – Allocations on Individual Committees

To ensure that so far as reasonably practicable the number of seats allocated to a group on each committee is in the same proportion as the number of members of the group on the council as a whole)

Committee	Party	Seats on Committee	Seat Entitlement	Total
Executive	Conservative	12	5.33	5
	Labour		2.67	3
	Independent		1.66	2
	Socialist			
	People's Party		1.33	1
	BB Independent		0.67	1
Planning	Conservative	12	5.33	5
	Labour		2.67	3
	Independent		1.66	2
	Socialist			
	People's Party		1.33	1
	BB Independent		0.67	1
Licensing	Conservative	12	5.33	5
	Labour		2.67	3
	Independent		1.66	2
	Socialist			
	People's Party		1.33	1
	BB Independent		0.67	1
C/S O&S	Conservative	6	2.66	3
	Labour		1.33	1
	Independent		0.83	1
	Socialist			
	Peoples Party		0.67	1
	BB Independent		0.33	0

Committee	Party	Seats on Committee	Seat Entitlement	Total
R&CS O&S	Conservative	6	2.66	3
	Labour		1.33	1
	Independent Socialist		0.83	1
	People's Party		0.67	1
	BB Independent		0.33	0
Audit	Conservative	6	2.66	3
	Labour		1.33	1
	Independent Socialist		0.83	1
	People's Party		0.67	1
	BB Independent		0.33	0
			Total Seats	54
			Conservative	24
			Labour	12
			Independent	9 (8)
			Peoples Party	6
			BB Independent	3

Under this option the Independent Group should lose a place. The Council would need to decide which.

SUB-COMMITTEES

Grants	Conservative	9	4.00	4
	Labour		2.00	2
	Independent Socialist		1.25	1
	Peoples Party		1.00	1
	BB Independent		0.50	1
Licensing	Conservative	3	1.33	2
	Labour		0.67	1
	Independent Socialist		0.41	0
	Peoples Party		0.33	0
	BB Independent		0.17	0

Note 1

For stages 2 and 4 to balance (the allocation of seats per Group must be as per stage 2), the Independent Group would therefore need to forgo one seat.

Note 2

The Liberal Democrat Member is not part of a political group and has no legal entitlement to a seat on a Committee. If the Council wishes to allocate the one residual seat then this would require a resolution of Council against which no Member votes. If this is not possible then the seats would remain unallocated.

21ST JULY, 2009

OUTSIDE BODIES ETC.

	<u>SEATS</u>	<u>NOTIONAL SEAT ALLOCATIONS</u>					<u>SEE NOTES ON CATEGORIES</u>
		<u>CON</u>	<u>LAB</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>SPP</u>	<u>BBI</u>	
Allotments Liaison Committee	9	4	2	1	1	1	(1)
Barrow Local Committee – Highways Advisory Group	3	2	1	0	0	0	(2)
Cumbria Branch, L.G.A.	3	2	1	0	0	0	(2)
Local Joint Consultative Committee	9	4	2	1	2	0	(1)
Cemeteries and Crematorium Liaison Committee	5	2	1	1	1	0	(1)
Health and Safety Joint Sub-Committee	9	3	1	3	1	1	(1)
Barrow Borough Sports Council	3	2	1	0	0	0	(2)
Wildlife and Countryside Advisory Committee	9	3	2	2	1	1	(2)
Furness Strategic Partnership	2	1	1	0	0	0	(2)
	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	52	23	12	8	6	3	= 52
	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Categories

- (1) A body established to advise on a particular matter or administer a particular budget allocated by the Council and as such, subject to the Proportionality Rules.
- (2) A Committee on which the Local Authority is represented, which is advisory and which deals with matters which may have a bearing on a Local Authority's functions or makes representations on its behalf and which, on balance, are subject to the Proportionality Rules applied so far as reasonably practicable.
- (3) A Committee either established (or not) by this Local Authority, although it has representatives appointed to it, and is not subject to the Proportionality Rules.
- (4) An advisory body the representation on which has been determined by the Local Authority on a Ward basis.

FORUMS, WORKING GROUPS, PANELS ETC.

	<u>SEATS</u>	<u>NOTIONAL SEAT ALLOCATIONS</u>					<u>SEE NOTES ON CATEGORIES</u>
		<u>CON</u>	<u>LAB</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>SPP</u>	<u>BBI</u>	
Housing Management Forum	8	4	2	1	1	0	(1)
Renovation Grants Panel	4	2	1	1	0	0	(1)
*Medical Assessment/Housing Applications Appeals Panel	*3	-	-	-	-	-	(1)
*Review Board - Housing Register/Homeless Applicants	*3	-	-	-	-	-	(1)
Planning Policy Working Group (3 Members Executive Committee and 3 Members Planning Committee)	6	3	1	1	1	0	(1)
Planning Panel	4	2	1	1	0	0	(1)
*Appeals Panel	*4	-	-	-	-	-	(1)
Early Retirement Panel	4	2	1	1	0	0	(1)
Grading Appeals Panel	4	2	1	0	1	0	(1)
Tenant Compact Working Group	3	1	1	0	0	1	(1)
Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group	3	1	0	1	0	1	(1)
Homelink Service Review Group	3	1	0	1	0	1	(1)
*Private Rented Accommodation Group (Accredited Letting Scheme and Proposed Licensing)	*3	-	-	-	-	-	(1)
Cultural Services Board	4	2	1	0	1	0	(1)
Licensing Policy Consultation Working Group	4	1	1	1	1	0	(1)
Homelessness Funding Working Group	3	1	1	0	1	0	(1)
Member Training Working Group	4	2	1	1	0	0	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Excluding	*54	24	12	9∇	6	3	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

* Selected by Chief Executive in accordance with proportionality rules when required

∇ Independent Group to be reduced by one to maintain proportionality.

One seat vacant.

Set up a work group to review the council's arrangements for setting, monitoring and communicating progress of the "key Priorities"

Discussion Document for Overview and Scrutiny (Corporate Services) committee – 17th June 2009. - Prepared by Cllr Bell

Introduction

Cllr Bell represents Dalton and is the present Chair of the Dalton Development Partnership (DDP). As the Borough Health and safety Spokesperson, Cllr Bell has been the member H&S Spokesperson for the recent updates to the Boroughs Health and Safety Management arrangements to ensure they align with the enforcing Authorities (HSE) expectations.

Important aspects of Safety Management are **effective planning and communications**. Cllr Bell can see a correlation with these Mgt. skills that can now be extended to review the present policy of setting annual "Key priorities" for the Borough, how these Key priorities are objectively planned and how progress with them is clearly communicated.

The Boroughs "Key priorities" for 2009 – 2011 (fig 1) drive the **financial planning framework** (fig 2) and the Performance Mgt. of the Council to support the **community plan** (fig 3) .

Cllr Bell does not consider this review a Political issue for any one party to score points but as a way forward to a better managed Borough which the Public would expect in today's politics. Cllr Bell has illustrated in Figure 4 the communications relationship between present committees, members, staff and the Key Priorities that enables internal communications and creates a direct link to the "Key priorities" for members to input their own initiatives on which to base structured discussions.

The **Key Priorities** will present the opportunity for members to:-

1. Identify and include members **innovations and election pledges**
2. To **identify challenges and resources** required.
3. To **realize funding and investment opportunities**
4. To put the council on a proper **managed and planned schedule**.
5. **Reduce political arguments** and provide a common focus for members

6. To **communicate progress** and invite comments
7. To gain **confidence of the public** in that we are properly managing the Key priorities.
8. To include **all wards priorities and rural areas** not just a main focus on heart of Barrow wards where the large capital projects envisaged.
9. To incorporate other strategies like “**A Sustainable community strategy for barrow and Furness**” recently circulated to members.

More comprehensive detailing of the Key Priorities will hopefully reduce the number of complaints to the Standards board between members by acting as a communication platform for members of all political groups to identify areas where they can work together and support the committee system.

1. Aims of this discussion paper

- To request a full review of the Management of the Boroughs system of setting “Key Priorities” and how progress can be illustrated.
- Appoint champions and a spokesperson to progress the review.
- To communicate the Boroughs challenges and planned progress clearly.
- To demonstrate to the public that the Key priorities are being managed effectively and encourage greater member participation by frequently referring to the Key Priorities as part of the managed solution.
- To make monitoring and audit of progress more visible
- To include rural areas like Dalton.
- To engage all members and make as a topic at the next “open forum”.

2. Scope to review the Key Priorities and the opportunities that could be realized from a review

Below are some thoughts and examples based on Cllr bells Experience with Dalton and the Borough, a review will no doubt come up with its own recommendations.

- There is considerable scope to add **more detailed objectives** driving each of the 6 Key Priorities. For example KP 4 – support economic regeneration, there is no mention of a strategy to liaise and support small businesses and incorporate them in the community plan as part of the community. This is clearly not a political issue but a Mgt. issue.

- Ward Priorities as identified for example with **Dalton's Strategic priorities** (fig 5) in the 2005 strategic review at a cost of some £15,000 in consultant's fees. Dalton's priorities were accepted by the Borough and should have been incorporated into the relevant "Key priorities".
- Include the **Health and Safety 3 year work plan** (fig7).
- Consider additional Key priorities like "**Town Management**" where professional support can be contracted to review issues like parking, integrated transport policy, Marketing (fig 6), improving the social culture, supporting and liaising with traders, developing a strategy to maintain standards in our Conservation areas and preserve built heritage.
- **Support grant applications**, it remains a fact that Dalton was unable to apply for grants under the NWDA MTI initiative simply because they were not applied for, whereas, Ulverston received up to £4.5 million over the same 5 year period the scheme was operated.
- Consider **separating out Major capital projects** like the waterfront and Dalton rd and build a separate schedule for major capital projects. I.e. achievement of the Borough should not be realized against major projects but the **cumulative community effect**.
 - Recently allocating £121,000 of the rural capital funding to the Ship Inn – Piel Island has effectively **cut in halve funding for the rural areas for community projects**. The decision to transfer funds to the Ship Inn does not appear to fit the detail of any present Key priority or the eligibility criteria of the fund. The Ship Inn is not mentioned as a specifically detailed objective of any of the Key priorities and yet has taken up exhaustive amounts of officer's time and the £680,000 of Borough's fund which may well have been better spent supporting other priorities and should be seen in context.
 - Victoria Hall – Rawlinson St. was a missed opportunity for an investment / community facility, this building sold at auction for just £120,000 when it had received £million in grants. This was a significant omission by members and the Mgt. team as the economic prosperity and the community value of Rawlinson St., as a lower rated shopping area, is simply not considered a priority?

3. Conclusion

As the Key Priorities drives the way Barrow Borough Council achieves its community plan, they should be regularly reviewed and enabled to be an effective management tool to realize opportunities as and when they come along. For example, a new objective may be become achievable if there is a new grant available! For a recent example the proposed Theatre block at Dowdales is an example where the Government is looking at bringing forward capital projects for schools and there are specific grants to encourage the arts for the Olympic year.

4. Recommendations

It is suggested that the Key Priorities are perceived and deployed to demonstrate our Management standards and performance as a team. A working sub group of the O/S Corporate service – lead by the chair or a member of O/S Corporate with a member of the Audit Cttee, cross party members, and staff (including IT) is set up to:-

1. Set out the terms to of the review.
2. Employ independent management Consultant to write a review against the points raised in this discussion document and assess the performance and effectiveness of our present management of the Key Priorities.
3. Make comparisons with the performance Mgt of other Councils.
4. Call independent experts to sit on the sub group.
5. Develop illustrations to demonstrate financial performance and success at grant applications more effectively against each Key priority.
6. To have **progress reports illustrated against timelines** for each Key Priority. A planning system like Microsoft Project could be used as the standard planning methodology for consistency. Increase the timelines to 5 and 10 and 20 years to encourage longer term planning.

There is no doubt that National and local politics is changing and the public will expect to see their elected members to carry out their pledges and to manage the council's key priorities and resources effectively. A commitment now would potentially realize opportunities and improve member relations.

Attachments:-

Fig 1- Present Key Priorities and their objectives

Fig 2 - Figure Page 56 corporate business plan

Fig 3 - page 76 corporate business plan

Fig 4 - Flow diag – BBC communications

Fig 5 - Dalton's Strategic priorities

Fig 6 - Daltons "Borough owned" marketing initiatives

Fig 7 - Health and safety Work plan.

My thanks to Cllr Swatridge – Leader of Harborough Council and Andy James – Director – "Performance Development Consultants" Lindal, for their support.

Fig 1- Present Key Priorities and their objectives

Key priorities 2008-2011

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Introduction

A fundamental part of the Council's Performance Management Framework is to identify annual Key Priorities to support the corporate aims of the Council. To ensure effective delivery of the Key Priorities they need to be aligned to the budget process.

Corporate Aims

The Council's declared corporate aims are as follows

- o To enhance the economic and social future of the borough to meet the needs and aspirations of the community through:
- o Effective community leadership
- o Investing in our economic future
- o Creating an enhanced quality of life for local residents
- o Developing safe, confident and socially inclusive communities
- o Delivering high quality accessible services

Following consultation with key stakeholders, management Team recommend that the six Key Priorities that were identified for 2007/08 are still appropriate and should be retained for 2008/11. This will make the process more robust by providing continuity and stability.

Key priorities and the proposed annual objectives for 2008/9 are recommended as follows:

Key Priorities and Objectives for 2009/10

KP1: Create a safer, cleaner, greener Borough and reduce the gaps between the priority wards and the average.

Objective to support this Key priority are:

- Reduce household waste to landfill
- Reduce environmental crime

KP2: Meet the Housing needs of the Borough and make decent housing more accessible

Objective to support this Key priority are:

- Ensure a supply of specialist accommodation and support service to vulnerable people
- Target available resource appropriately to tackle non decent housing and create sustainable communities.
- Deliver year 3 Housing Market Renewal Programme.

KP3: Provide easier access to our services

Objective to support this Key priority are:

- Achieve Level 2 of the Equalities Standard
- Improve general accessibility
- Measure access to and satisfaction with services
- Strengthen links with PCT to improve access to health

KP4: Support economic regeneration

Objective to support this Key priority are:

- Progress implementation of Urban Design Framework
- Progress implementation of marina village and Waterfront Barrow
- Progress the development of the Mall and Dockside Gateway

KP5: Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of your Council

Objective to support this Key priority are:

- Deliver energy efficiency savings
- Improve business continuity arrangements
- Achieve connection to Government Secure Intranet
- Improve management of allotments
- Progress Pay Review
- Improve procurement

*** KP6: Expand facilities and activities for young people**

Objective to support this Key priority are:

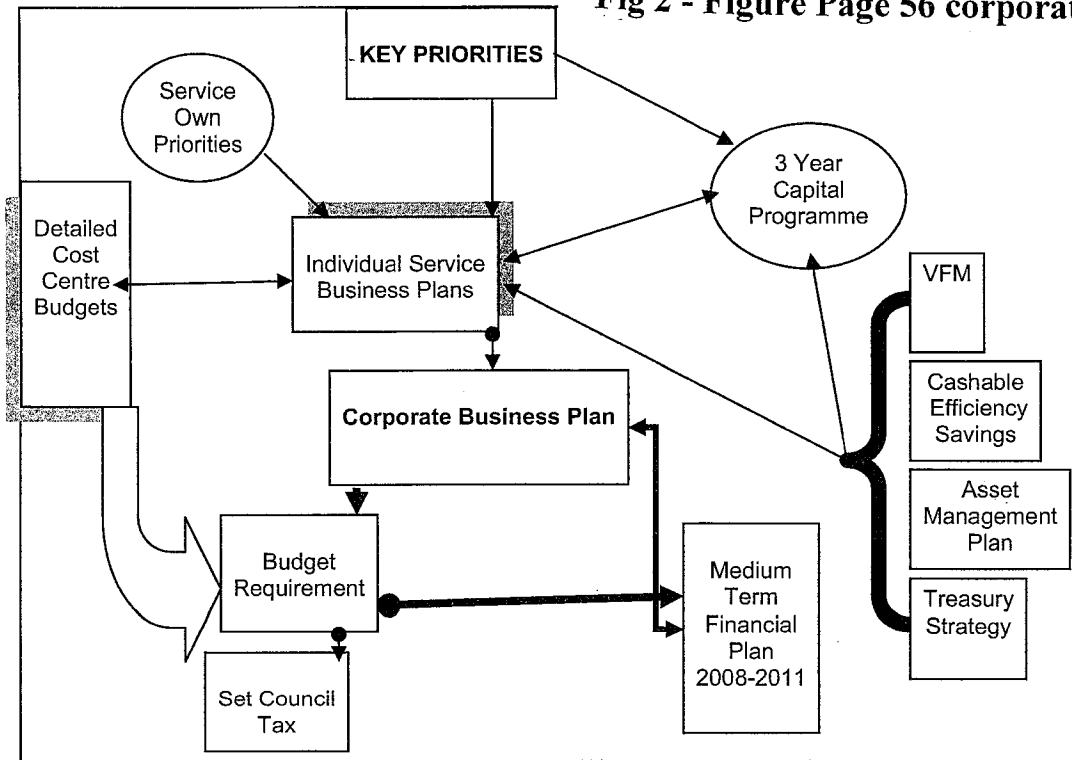
- Expand recreational facilities for young people
- Continue to encourage health and fitness for youths
- Improve all weather sports facilities

Appendix 1 details specific activity and targets to achieve these objectives, in line with current practice these will be monitored by Overview and Scrutiny Committees on an exception basis. Some additional work is required by officers to complete these targets and a full schedule will be included with the Annual Budget report.

Appendix 2 summarises risk assessments that have been undertaken with regard to achieving our objectives

The overall financial planning framework for the Council is depicted in the diagram below, showing the linkage between the main corporate documents.

Fig 2 - Figure Page 56 corporate business plan



Performance Management

To make sure that the Councils vision becomes a reality, the performance management framework below has been developed to give a stronger focus to the short-term plans and how they relate to the overarching vision.

Fig 3 - page 76 corporate business plan

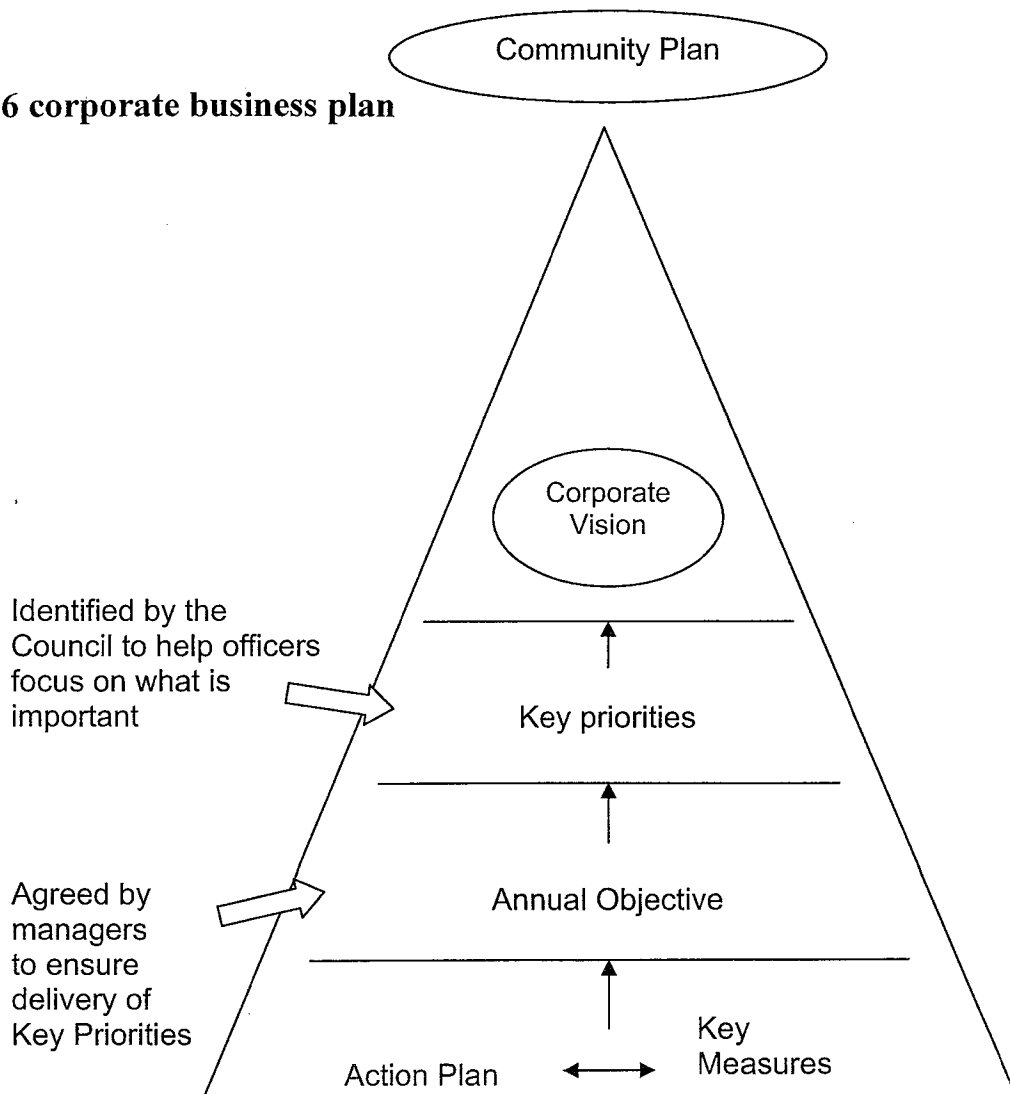
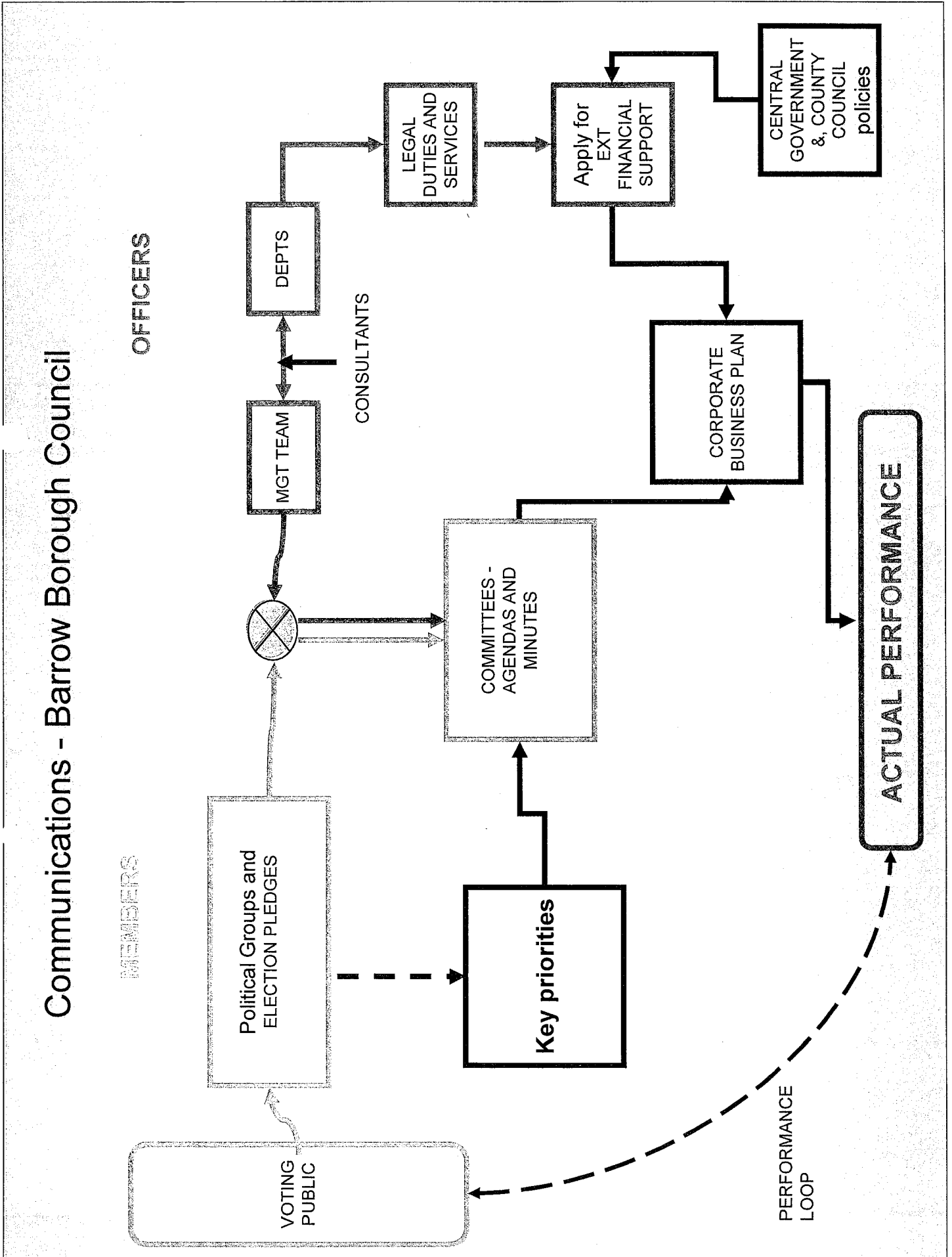


Fig 4 - Flow diag - BBC communications



**Dalton Development Partnership
Priorities**

High Priority

Youth Provision – MUGA - Possible Capital

(2. D) Parks and Gardens

*To maintain and enhance existing informal recreation areas throughout the town.
Also consider the development of a dedicated playing field*

(4. D) Community Facilities

Review and look to improve existing community facilities – in particular look at youth provision in the area

Gateways – Improve Station – Possible Capital

(2. O) Gateways

To explore opportunities for greater use of flags and banners throughout the town centre

(3. C) Public Transport

To support the Quality Partnership to deliver better services on key routes and pursue the delivery of real time passenger information throughout the town

Publicity

(1. H) Marketing and Promotion and Strategic Communication.

Get the strategic communication and local publicity engaged with local residents

Public Spaces – Lobby Service Provider

(2. I) Litter and Street Cleaning

To continue to maintain high standards of housekeeping within the town

(2. E) Public Spaces

To maintain and enhance existing public realm within the town

(2. F) Pedestrian Friendly

Enhance pedestrian activity – the need for better footpath routes and the need to create parts of the Station Road area as a pedestrian area

Medium Priority

Cultural Plan

(1. B) Promote the Growth of the festival related culture that is linked to the restaurants and public houses

Develop a cultural action plan that is agreed locally and actively publicised within Dalton

(4. B) Performing Arts

To explore appropriate venues and links locally

(4. E) Cultural Events

To support existing events within the town centre but more importantly encourage new and exciting events to be held in the future

(2. P) Public Art

Incorporate public art within the town centre

Other Possible Projects

(2. R) Shop Fronts and Shop Signs

Review local shop frontage and ensure greater coordination

(3. B) Car Parking

Develop a car parking strategy for the town which reviews need, access and charging

(4. F) Playing Field

Research opportunities for a Dalton Playing Field

(4. H) Disabled Access

Encourage further developments of the Shopmobility initiative and improvements to wider accessibility for the mobility impaired

Low Priority

(1.F) Focussed "Town Celebration" development – Tudor Square

Consider the development of a dedicated public/open space that will act as the Town Square – managed through local action plan of themed community events and festivals

(2.J) Lighting

To review the quality and design of future street lighting throughout the town centre and seek to provide a high quality standard design which could also incorporate banners

(2.C) Conservation Area/Listed Buildings

Raise awareness of built heritage

Set up a work group to review the council's arrangements for setting, monitoring and communicating progress of the "key Priorities"

Discussion Document for Overview and Scrutiny (Corporate Services) committee – 17th June 2009. - Prepared by Cllr Bell

Introduction

Cllr Bell represents Dalton and is the present Chair of the Dalton Development Partnership (DDP). As the Borough Health and safety Spokesperson, Cllr Bell has been the member H&S Spokesperson for the recent updates to the Boroughs Health and Safety Management arrangements to ensure they align with the enforcing Authorities (HSE) expectations.

Important aspects of Safety Management are **effective planning and communications**. Cllr Bell can see a correlation with these Mgt. skills that can now be extended to review the present policy of setting annual "Key priorities" for the Borough, how these Key priorities are objectively planned and how progress with them is clearly communicated. The Boroughs "Key priorities" for 2009 – 2011 (fig 1) drive the **financial planning framework** (fig 2) and the Performance Mgt. of the Council to support the **community plan** (fig 3) .

Cllr Bell does not consider this review a Political issue for any one party to score points but as a way forward to a better managed Borough which the Public would expect in today's politics. Cllr Bell has illustrated in Figure 4 the communications relationship between present committees, members, staff and the Key Priorities that enables internal communications and creates a direct link to the "Key priorities" for members to input their own initiatives on which to base structured discussions.

The **Key Priorities** will present the opportunity for members to:-

1. Identify and include members **innovations and election pledges**
2. To **identify challenges and resources** required.
3. To **realize funding and investment opportunities**
4. To put the council on a proper **managed and planned schedule**.
5. **Reduce political arguments** and provide a common focus for members

6. To **communicate progress** and invite comments
7. To gain **confidence of the public** in that we are properly managing the Key priorities.
8. To include **all wards priorities and rural areas** not just a main focus on heart of Barrow wards where the large capital projects envisaged.
9. To incorporate other strategies like “**A Sustainable community strategy for barrow and Furness**” recently circulated to members.

More comprehensive detailing of the Key Priorities will hopefully reduce the number of complaints to the Standards board between members by acting as a communication platform for members of all political groups to identify areas where they can work together and support the committee system.

1. Aims of this discussion paper

- To request a full review of the Management of the Boroughs system of setting “Key Priorities” and how progress can be illustrated.
- Appoint champions and a spokesperson to progress the review.
- To communicate the Boroughs challenges and planned progress clearly.
- To demonstrate to the public that the Key priorities are being managed effectively and encourage greater member participation by frequently referring to the Key Priorities as part of the managed solution.
- To make monitoring and audit of progress more visible
- To include rural areas like Dalton.
- To engage all members and make as a topic at the next “open forum”.

2. Scope to review the Key Priorities and the opportunities that could be realized from a review

Below are some thoughts and examples based on Cllr bells Experience with Dalton and the Borough, a review will no doubt come up with its own recommendations.

- There is considerable scope to add **more detailed objectives** driving each of the 6 Key Priorities. For example KP 4 – support economic regeneration, there is no mention of a strategy to liaise and support small businesses and incorporate them in the community plan as part of the community. This is clearly not a political issue but a Mgt. issue.

- Ward Priorities as identified for example with **Dalton's Strategic priorities** (fig 5) in the 2005 strategic review at a cost of some £15,000 in consultant's fees. Dalton's priorities were accepted by the Borough and should have been incorporated into the relevant "Key priorities".
- Include the **Health and Safety 3 year work plan** (fig7).
- Consider additional Key priorities like "**Town Management**" where professional support can be contracted to review issues like parking, integrated transport policy, Marketing (fig 6), improving the social culture, supporting and liaising with traders, developing a strategy to maintain standards in our Conservation areas and preserve built heritage.
- **Support grant applications**, it remains a fact that Dalton was unable to apply for grants under the NWDA MTI initiative simply because they were not applied for, whereas, Ulverston received up to £4.5 million over the same 5 year period the scheme was operated.
- Consider **separating out Major capital projects** like the waterfront and Dalton rd and build a separate schedule for major capital projects. I.e. achievement of the Borough should not be realized against major projects but the **cumulative community effect**.
 - Recently allocating £121,000 of the rural capital funding to the Ship Inn – Piel Island has effectively **cut in half funding for the rural areas for community projects**. The decision to transfer funds to the Ship Inn does not appear to fit the detail of any present Key priority or the eligibility criteria of the fund. The Ship Inn is not mentioned as a specifically detailed objective of any of the Key priorities and yet has taken up exhaustive amounts of officer's time and the £680,000 of Borough's fund which may well have been better spent supporting other priorities and should be seen in context.
 - Victoria Hall – Rawlinson St. was a missed opportunity for an investment / community facility, this building sold at auction for just £120,000 when it had received £million in grants. This was a significant omission by members and the Mgt. team as the economic prosperity and the community value of Rawlinson St., as a lower rated shopping area, is simply not considered a priority?

3. Conclusion

As the Key Priorities drives the way Barrow Borough Council achieves its community plan, they should be regularly reviewed and enabled to be an effective management tool to realize opportunities as and when they come along. For example, a new objective may be become achievable if there is a new grant available! For a recent example the proposed Theatre block at Dowdales is an example where the Government is looking at bringing forward capital projects for schools and there are specific grants to encourage the arts for the Olympic year.

4. Recommendations

It is suggested that the Key Priorities are perceived and deployed to demonstrate our Management standards and performance as a team. A working sub group of the O/S Corporate service – lead by the chair or a member of O/S Corporate with a member of the Audit Cttee, cross party members, and staff (including IT) is set up to:-

1. Set out the terms to of the review.
2. Employ independent management Consultant to write a review against the points raised in this discussion document and assess the performance and effectiveness of our present management of the Key Priorities.
3. Make comparisons with the performance Mgt of other Councils.
4. Call independent experts to sit on the sub group.
5. Develop illustrations to demonstrate financial performance and success at grant applications more effectively against each Key priority.
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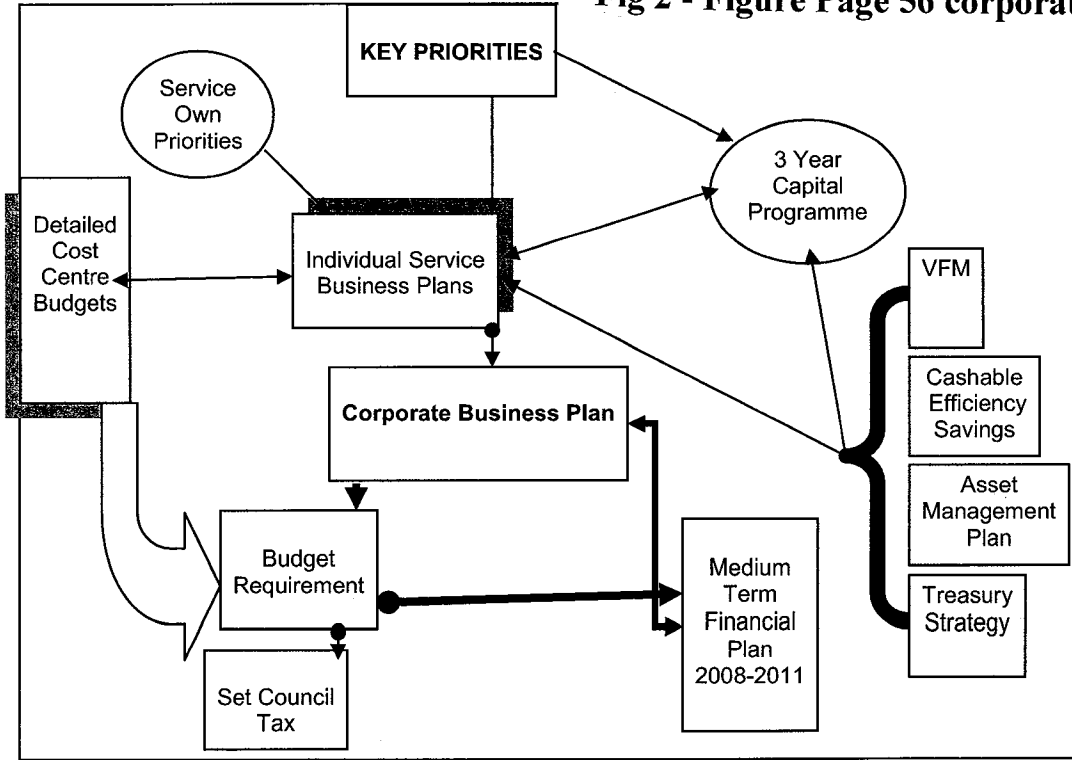
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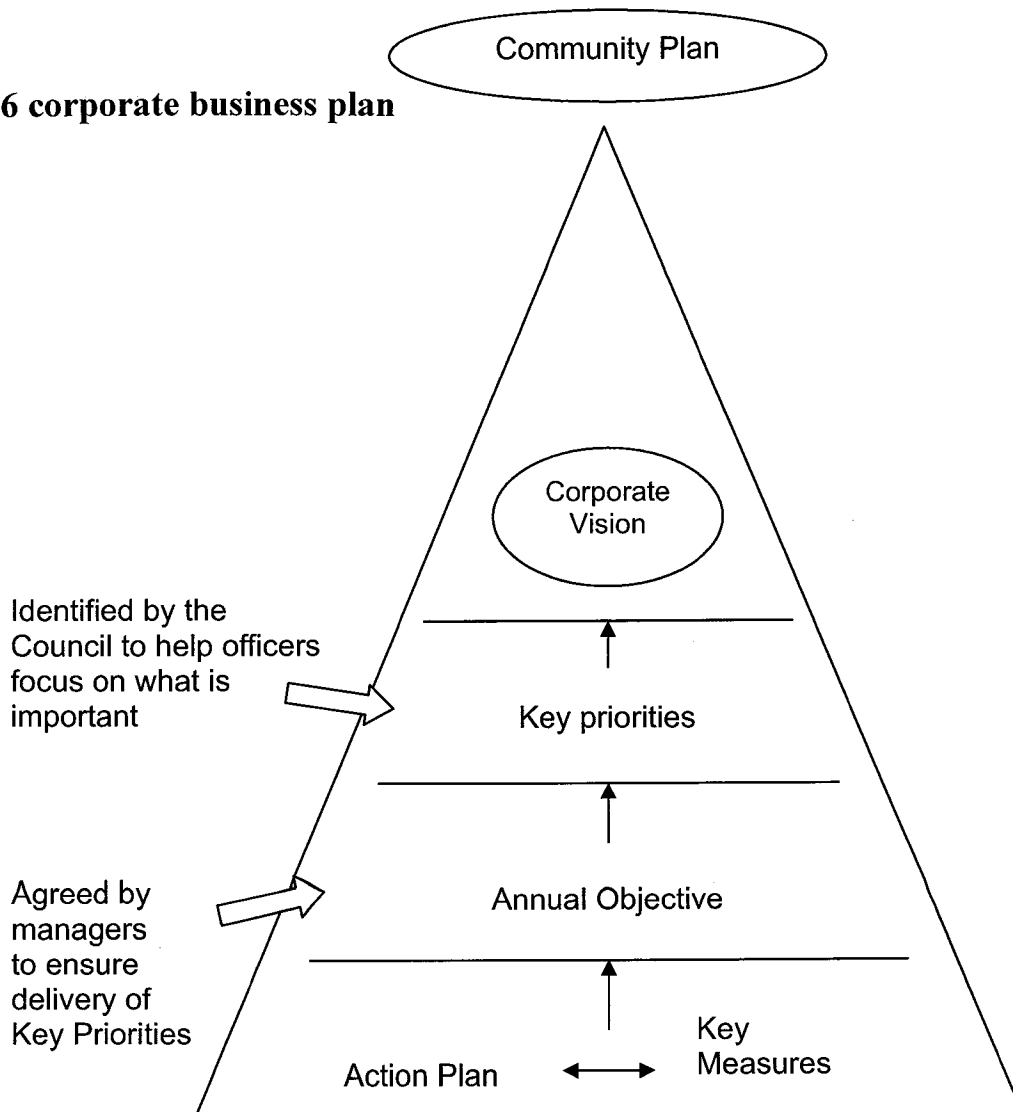
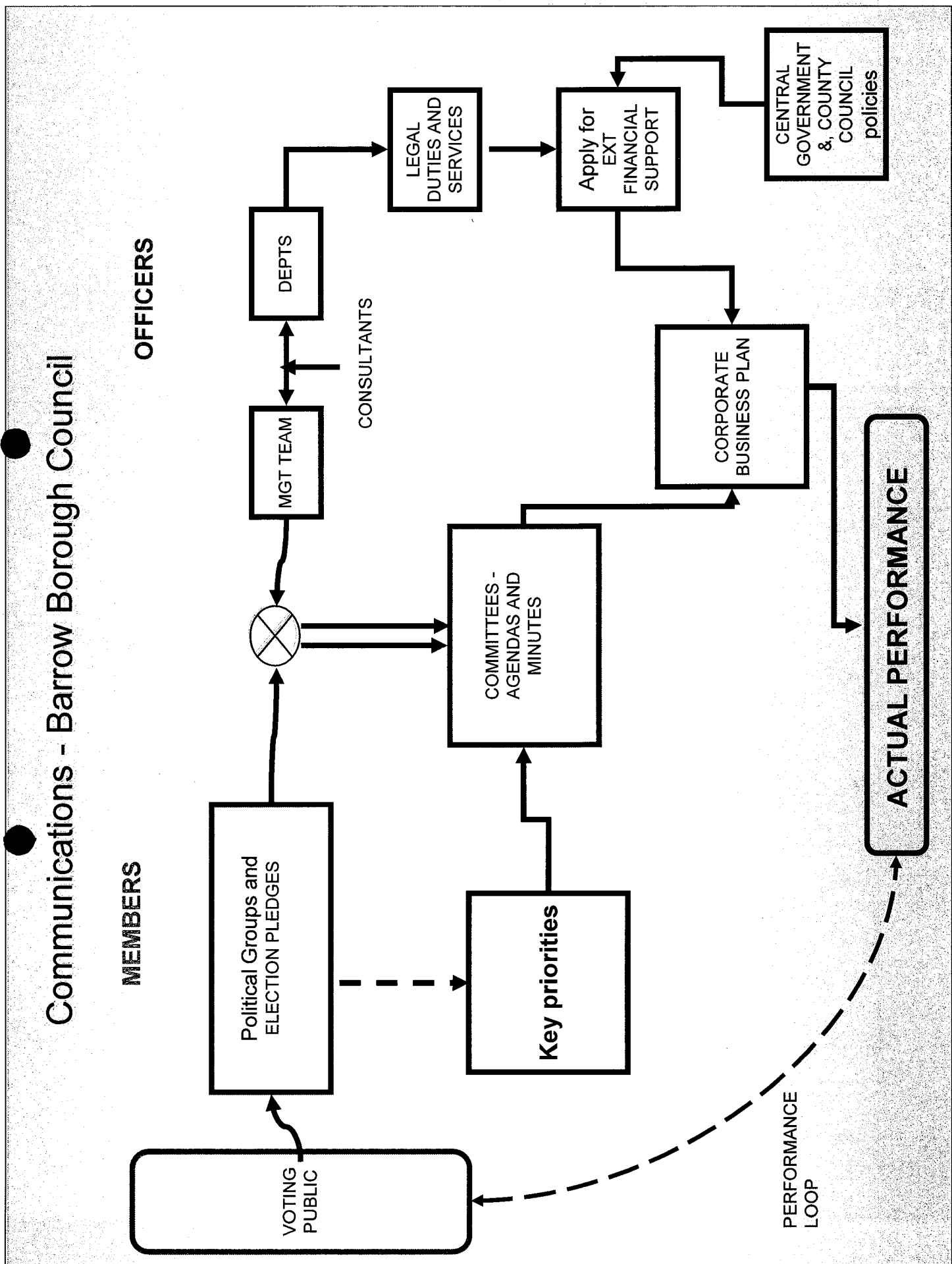


Fig 4 - Flow diag - BBC communications



Dalton Development Partnership Priorities

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(2.C) Conservation Area/Listed Buildings

Raise awareness of built heritage

Fig 6 - Daltons "Borough owned" marketing initiatives

BBC – Barrow Borough

**suggested Timescale
(months)**

Management

- 1.3 Support the DDP to carry out its own priorities in the Dalton Strategic Review and monitor progress of the DDP to achieve these priorities. **Continuous**
- 1.4 Take advice from Cumbria Tourism and LDPTP as recommended in the BBC policy report "Tourism". Be consulted on Regional tourism Strategies. **Continuous**

Highways and built Environment

- 2.8 Upgrade the footpath from the castle to the Abbey suitable for use by including Disabled users and parents with prams. (joint with DDP) **24**

Environmental

- 3.1 Town centre Management Support and expertise required on a regular basis **Continuous**
- 3.2 Repair and paint street furniture, repair and regularly clean signage. **Continuous**
- 3.4 Entrance Signs to the "Dalton Conservation area" (4 off) **12**
- 3.5 Improve quality of Conservation areas – better information for property owners and identification of grants available. Improve shop fronts. **12**
- 3.7 Designate a handyman to make minor repairs and report defects and HSE issues **Continuous**
- 3.8 Encourage exterior Public art. **Continuous**

Visitor Information

- 4.2 Commission a short promotional video of Dalton and CD postcard **12**
- 4.5 Produce a Dalton Leaflet with town map, Events attractions and services. **12**

Promotion , Media and internet

- 6.1 Develop a strategy to promote events through the media.(joint with DT&BA/LDPTP/CT) **6**
- 6.4 Promoting Dalton as a Historic Market Town with quality, friendly services. **Continuous**

