

# **F O R W A R D   P L A N**

## ***FOR THE PERIOD: 1 JANUARY 2009 TO 30 APRIL 2009***

### ***What is the Forward Plan?***

The Forward Plan is a list of the key decisions the Authority intends to take during a four month period. The Plan is updated monthly and is available to the public 14 days before the beginning of each month.

### ***What is a Key Decision?***

Key decisions are defined as any executive decision which is likely

- to result in expenditure or savings which are significant in the context of the budget for the service or function in question; or
- to be significant in terms of its effects on the communities living or working in two or more wards in the area.

### ***What does the Forward Plan tell me?***

The Plan gives information about:

- what key decisions are coming forward in the next four months;
- when those key decisions are likely to be made;
- who will make those decisions;
- what consultation will be given;
- who you can make representations to, and how;
- what documents will be considered; and
- who you can contact for further information.

### ***Who takes Key Decisions?***

Under the Authority's Constitution, Key Decisions are taken by the Council, the Executive Board (and its Sub-Committees/Sub-Boards) or individual officers acting under delegated powers.

Most Key Decisions are taken at public meetings of either the Council or the Executive Board. Council meets at 6.30 pm at the Town Hall, Runcorn and the Executive Board meets at 2.00 pm in the Municipal Building, Widnes.

### ***How to make representations and by when***

Names of contact officers are included in the Plan and can be reached via (0151) 907 8300. If you are unsure, please ring Committee Services via the same number and staff there will be able to assist you.

Key Decision	Decision-maker <i>[For details, see notes on final page]</i>	Date decision to be taken	Those to be consulted & how	Relevant reports <i>[i.e. any document relating to the decision which are available at the time of publication of the Forward Plan]</i>	Lead Officer (to whom representations should be made)
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Recommendation to Council that Core Strategy (Preferred Option Stage) Document is approved for public consultation.	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Part of on-going consultation, previous Issues and Options consultation stage with general public and key internal and external stakeholders. A wide variety of consultation and community involvement methods will be used.	PPS12: Local Development Frameworks; Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West; Halton Core Strategy Issues and Options Papers (and accompanying documentation); Halton Local Development Scheme 2006/07; Halton Unitary Development Plan - all from Nathan Renison, Rutland House	Phil Watts
To decide the Borough's	Executive Board	Not before 1st	Traders will be	Runcorn Old	Mick Noone

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future policy on parking management in the town centre		January, 2009	consulted via the Traders Forum. Representations should be in writing by 31 October 2008.	Town Pakring and Access study; Widnes and Halton Lea Parking study (to be completed Sept 2008) - Both available from Jonathan Farmer at Rutland House, Runcorn	
Approval of publication of Draft Design of New Residential Development Supplementary Planning Document for public consultation	Executive Board Sub Committee	Not before 1st January, 2009	Previous 'Partnership Consultation' with selected Council officers. Following the decision, there will be public consultation during May and June 2007. Documents will be on display at various locations	Halton UDP (from Neil Macfarlane); Draft Design of New Residential Development SPD; Draft Design of New Residential Development SPD Partnership Consultation Stage;	Phil Watts

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			around the Borough and on the Council's web site for a six week period.	Sustainability Appraisal Pre Production Scoping Report - from Perran Baragwanath at Rutland House	
Environmental Protection Act 1990 Part IIA - Contaminated Land - to consider the first four year review of the strategy for inspection of contaminated land published in 2001.	Strategic Director - Environment	Not before 1st January, 2009	Management Team, Safer Halton PPB, Urban Renewal PPB, Contaminated Land Working Panel. Via reports.	Report on findings so far, DETR Circular 02/2000 Contaminated Land, Contaminated Land: Strategy for Inspection (July 2001), Part IIA Environmental Protection Act 1990.	Dick Tregear
Adoption of Draft Town Centre Strategy	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Public consultation has taken place	Halton UDP; Runcorn Old	Phil Watts

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Supplementary Planning Documents for Halton Lea and Runcorn Old Town			between 1 February and 15 March 2007. Documents were on display at various locations around the Borough and on the Council's website for a six week period. Selected Council Officers and stakeholders in each town centre have also been consulted.	Town and Halton Lea Draft Town Centre Strategies (Feb 2007); Runcorn Old Town and Halton Lea Town Centre Strategies Partnership Consultation Stage (Nov 2005); Sustainability Appraisal Pre Production Scoping Reports (June 2005) - all from Neil Macfarlane at Rutland House, Halton Lea	
Decision on the provision of new grave space in Halton for 2015 onwards.	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Clergy, funeral directors, memorial masons, cemetery	None.	Dwayne Johnson

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			users, residents, Members and bereavement service officers will be consulted via meetings and/or surveys.		
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Agreement on Phase 3 of the Children's Centre Development	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	The Alliance Board, children and families, and other strategic partnerships will be consulted verbally and in writing.	Sure Start Children's Centres: Phase 3 Planning and Delivery; and Childcare Act 2006 - both available from Geraldine Derby at Grosvenor House	Gerald Meehan
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Decision on approaches to tackling underlying	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Consultation has taken place with children and	Child Health Profiles and Child Health in Halton - available on <a href="http://www.nwph.net/cayp/hi/profile.aspx">http://www.nwph.net/cayp/hi/profile.aspx</a>	Gerald Meehan
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causes of poor health of children in the Borough			young people's partnership, headteachers and the Primary Care Trust through presentations, meetings, workshops and discussions.		
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Decision to approve the use of a Compulsory Purchase Order for land assembly for land at Eddarbridge/West Bank Dock Estate	Council	Not before 1st January, 2009	The pre-CPO consultation is currently taking place with the owners and occupiers of Eddarbridge/West Bank Dock Estate. 3MG's private sector partner "The Stobart Group" are leading on these discussions and	3MG Masterplan - available from Sally McDonald, Municipal Building	Sally McDonald
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			have appointed agents G L Hearn to open negotiations. Every effort will be made to secure all the land and property required for 3MG without resorting to a CPO. However, in the event a CPO is necessary, a report will be taken to Executive Board to seek a formal resolution. All the statutory consultation requirements will be complied with.		
Children's Trust Arrangements including Section 75 - Memo of	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	PCT Acute Trusts, Children's Trust, Voluntary Sector,	Children Act 2004; Statutory Guidance on	Gerald Meehan



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Understanding			PPB, NHS Staff, Children and Young People Directorate and Health and Community Directorate will all be consulted via partnership meetings and special events.	Inter-Agency Co-operation to Improve the Wellbeing of Children: Children's Trusts (DfES2005); Section 75 Agreements - available from Tilly Heigh. National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services (DoH 2004); Facing the Future: A Review of the Role of Health Visitors (DH2007) - available from Michelle Bradshaw, Halton and St Helens	
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				PCT	
Whether to support proposals to invest in a children in care placement strategy that will result in the development of a greater range of placements for children in care	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Children in care, foster carers, the PCT, schools, PPB, chief officers' management team, and the Budget Planning Sub Committee will all be consulted. There will be formal presentation of the options and business case. Representations should be made to Christine Taylor by the end of September.	JAR Action Plan - available from Tony Crane. Children in Care Strategy - available from Christine Taylor.	Chris Taylor
Approval to commence primary school re-	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Schools and Diocesan	Primary Strategy for Change - June	Gerald Meehan

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organisation			Authorities will be consulted through meetings and briefings.	2008, available from Ann McIntyre, Grosvenor House, Runcorn	
Decision on BSF Funding and Procurement	Executive Board	Not before 1st February, 2009	BSF Strategic Board, BSF Finance and Procurement Workstream, Partnership for Schools, and secondary and secondary special governing bodies will all be consulted via meetings and reports. Representations should be made to Gerald Meehan, Strategic Director – Children and Young	Funding Guidance; Strategy for Change Part 2 Guidance; BSF Strategic Board - Minutes; Outline Business Case for Guidance (for approval to procure a LEP to deliver investment in the Secondary School Estate) - all available from Ann McIntyre, Business Support and	Gerald Meehan

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			People, in writing by 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2009.	Commissioning	
Capital Programme for the Children and Young People's Department for 2009/2010	Council	Not before 1st January, 2009	Asset Management Working Group and Schools will be consulted via meetings and reports. Representations should be made in writing by 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2008.	Primary Capital Strategy; Grant Allocation Letters for Schools Capital and Children's Centre Capital Grant Allocation - available from Lorraine Cox at Grosvenor House	Gerald Meehan
Adoption of the Ditton Strategic Rail Freight Park Supplementary Planning Document	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Public consultation took place during November and December 2005. Documents were on display at various locations around	Saved Policies of the Halton UDP - available from Neil Macfarlane at Rutland House; Draft Ditton Strategic Rail	Phil Watts

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			the Borough and on the Council's website for a six week period. Representations should be made in writing by mail, fax or telephone.	Freight Park SPD (September 2005) and the Ditton Strategic Rail Freight Park SPD draft Sustainability Appraisal - both available from Andrew Pannell at Rutland House, Halton Lea	
Introduce a Choice Based Lettings Scheme (CBL) in line with the DCLG guidance	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Registered Social Landlords and Elected Members will be consulted via the Halton Housing Partnership and an Elected Members' Seminar.	None at this stage. A report will be submitted following costs being available for the potential options.	Joanne Sutton
To review Special Educational Needs Unit	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Schools, parents, and children and	The Establishment of	Gerald Meehan

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Provision in the Borough following finalisation of consultation			young people in the Borough, PCT and Health Service providers will all be consulted via staff and public consultation meetings and written responses.	the Halton Special Educational Needs (SEN) Service; Developing Mainstream Resourced Provision in Halton - both available from Jennifer John at Halton Lea: BSF School Organisation Consultation and Notes - available from Ann McIntyre at Halton Lea	
Public Arts Strategy	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	The Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board and the Cultural Partnership will be	Draft Strategy - available from Howard Cockcroft at Runcorn Town Hall	Howard Cockcroft

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			consulted via meetings.		
Approve the Arts Strategy for Halton	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	The Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board and the Cultural Partnership will both be consulted via meetings.	Draft Strategy - available from Howard Cockcroft at Runcorn Town Hall	Howard Cockcroft
Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax for 2009/10	Council	4 March 2009	Consultation will be via Policy and Performance Board meetings and Area Forum meetings.	Committee Report to be available in due course.	Bill Dodd
BSF Secondary Re-organisation	Executive Board	Not before 1st April, 2009	Secondary and special schools, Trade Unions, BSF	Halton Strategy for Change Part 2 - available from Daniel Hennessy,	Gerald Meehan

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			Strategic Board and BSF Programme Board will be consulted via meetings and reports. Any representations should be made to Gerald Meehan, Strategic Director – Children and Young People, in writing by 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2009.	BSF Programme Director, at Grosvenor House	
Approval to disestablish the Play Service and reconfigure provision of services through children's centres and extended schools	Executive Board	Not before 1st January, 2009	Play staff, Trade Unions, schools, parents and carers will all be consulted via meetings and written consultation.	Play Review; Fair Play; Halton Play Plan - all available from Geraldine Derby at Grosvenor House	Gerald Meehan
Adoption of the Mersey Gateway Sustainable	Executive Board	12 February 2009	There has been wide ranging	Mersey Gateway Sustainable	Steven Nicholson



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Transport Strategy (MGSTS)			<p>consultation undertaken with stakeholders including local authorities, residents associations and community forums, police, fire and rescue services, train operators, transport interests, primary care trusts etc. The Draft MGSTS was posted to consultees requesting comments and feedback. The MGSTS that will be presented to the Executive Board will take account of the feedback received.</p> <p>Representations</p>	Transport Strategy - available from David Owen at Rutland House	
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			should be made to Steve Nicholson, Mersey Gateway Project Director, in writing by 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2009.		
Approval of Service Plans for Council Services for the period 2009-12	Executive Board	Not before 12th February, 2009	All Policy and Performance Boards will be consulted. Any other person who wishes to make representations to the Executive Board about the matter should contact the Chief Executive in writing.	None.	David Parr
Updated Local Area Agreement	Executive Board	Not before 5th March, 2009	Halton Strategic Partnership through consideration at	None.	Rob Mackenzie

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			Board meetings and specialist strategic partnerships; residents through 2007 telephone survey "Consulting the Communities of Halton".		
Mid Term Review of Sustainable Community Strategy	Executive Board	Not before 12th February, 2009	Halton Strategic Partnership Board will receive a presentation prior to the decision being made. Any person who wishes to make representations to the Executive Board (or decision taker) about the matter should	Draft Revised Sustainable Community Strategy - available from Rob Mackenzie, Municipal Buildings, Kingsway, Widnes  State of the Borough Report 0 Draft Revised	Rob Mackenzie

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			contact Rob MacKenzie on 0151 471 7416 in writing 31 January 2009	Sustainable Community Strategy - available from Rob Mackenzie, Municipal Buildings, Kingsway, Widnes	
Consideration of OFSTED Annual Performance Assessment (APA) of Service to Children in Halton	Executive Board	15 January 2009	Any other person who wishes to make representations to the Executive Board about the matter should contact the Strategic Director, Children and Young People in writing.	None.	Gerald Meehan

**NOTE**

***The following Members comprise the Executive Board:***  
 Leader – Councillor McDermott

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Deputy Leader and Planning, Transportation, Regeneration and Renewal Portfolio Holder – Councillor Polhill  
 Children and Young People Portfolio Holder – Councillor McInerney  
 Health and Social Care Portfolio Holder – Councillor Gerrard  
 Environment, Leisure and Sport Portfolio Holder – Councillor Harris  
 Community Portfolio Holder – Councillor Wright  
 European Affairs Portfolio Holder – Councillor D Cargill  
 Corporate Services Portfolio Holder – Councillor Wharton  
 Quality and Performance Portfolio Holder – Councillor Swain  
 Neighbourhood Management and Development Portfolio Holder – Councillor Nelson