

FOR THE FUTURE - KEY AIM: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Dacorum Borough Council is seeking to ensure that we can share a cleaner, healthier environment, with better public transport and access to open spaces.



**Herbert Chapman
Cabinet member –
Environmental Services**

Last year we made some significant strides towards the future refuse & recycling service with a range of pilot schemes. These have helped us achieve 10.4% recycling of all household waste and set the wheels in motion for significant further increases in line with the County-wide waste strategy.

We also did significant work to prepare for the new car parking strategy by completing an assessment of the parking problems in the Borough.

This year will be exciting on a number of fronts. We are fundamentally changing our refuse collection practices to meet tough recycling targets. We will also be taking a tougher line on litter, fly-tipping and dog fouling.

More consultation on car parking will help us toward the implementation of our car parking strategy, and we will also be helping people give their views to local public transport companies.

We will have regular meetings with members of Management Team and relevant Heads of Service to keep up to speed with progress. The new performance management system will also ensure that we are able to celebrate achieving our commitments and to work with officers to find ways to help meet targets where we are not doing so.

We will:

- Work with the community to produce less waste by re-using and recycling as much as we can.



**Peter Ginger
Cabinet member –
Planning**

Last year we worked hard on the new Borough Local Plan with a major public inquiry making many demands on the Planning Department. This was the longest public inquiry we have had. Against this background we continued to work to protect the level of green space we have in the Borough.

This year we will be developing a way forward after the result of the Local plan inquiry. On a practical level we will also be looking at how we deal with planning applications to improve the process.

We will also be looking at how we protect our heritage with a major review of conservation areas.

- Working together we can also reduce litter, vandalism and mess in the streets.
- Improve the quality of the air we breathe.
- Plan for our future housing, employment and leisure needs by controlling new development and protecting green spaces.

How we did in 2001/2

In this section we tell you what we said we would do last year and update you on our progress.

Increase the percentage of household waste that is recycled from 9.26% to 9.5%. We will try out new recycling schemes in Warners End, Berkhamsted, Tring and Kings Langley to help achieve this.

The pilot schemes are underway. We expect our recycling rate for 2001/2 to be about 10.4%.

Collect over 380 kilograms of household waste per head of the population, an increase of 10 kilograms on last year.

Our collection figures show that we are on course to achieve this.

Try to keep the area of green space per 1,000 of the population at the same level (4.56 hectares).

We are on target to achieve this.

Improve the cleaning of the roads we are responsible for so that 46% are of a high level of cleanliness.

We are currently achieving a level of 36%, but are taking steps to try to improve in the year ahead.

Co-host a major community event in Gadebridge Park in July.

The Environmental Fair took place alongside the Hemel Hempstead Carnival on July 15th, and attracted thousands of people with a variety of stands. It was followed by a day specially for schools on July 16th.

Complete an assessment of the parking problems in Dacorum by December. This will be the first stage of a car parking strategy for Dacorum.

The first stage of the Car parking review was completed in December 2001. Further stages are now underway.

Adopt a strategy for dealing with contaminated land before July.

The contaminated land strategy was completed and adopted. You can see it on our website - www.dacorum.gov.uk.

We have set ourselves specific targets to achieve these aims. In 2002/03 we will:

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CORPORATE SPONSOR – JAN HAYES-GRIFFIN
THEME LEADERS – BRIAN SCOTT, PETER ABLETT, GRAHAM WINWRIGHT, JONATHAN FOSTER (FOR THE FUTURE GROUP)
PORTFOLIO HOLDER –ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

		Tasks/Milestones							
Key Service Aim	Lead Officer	1 st Quarter April-June 2002	2 nd Quarter July –September 2002	3 rd Quarter October – December 2002	4 th Quarter January – March 2003	Performance Indicator (incl. Ref.)	Outcomes	Targets 2002/3 (2005 if necessary)	
1. Waste Services									
1.1	To ensure effective input to the Herts Joint Waste Strategy	David Austin	Support Countywide Consultation Strategy	Adoption of final strategy by WSDG	Endorsement by DBC		BVPI 82a / 84 / 86/ 91	Adopted Joint HCC/District Waste Strategy for Hertfordshire	25% recycling 2005/6 50% recycling 2012
1.2	To complete the review of Cupid Green and implement the Action Plan arising from that	Brian Scott/Jan Hayes-Griffin	Adopt new Management Structure - appoint to posts	Review recycling pilots and refuse kerbside scheme	Reconfigure Refuse, Recycling and Street Cleansing Service	Begin to prepare for BVR in 2003/4	Reduced level of sickness and Industrial Injury Increased recycling rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Cupid Green report • New Management Team in place • Better match of resources to future service needs 	25% recycling rate by 2005/6. Compliance with Herts Waste Strategy
1.3	To establish a dedicated 'Hit Squad' to deal with fly-tipping, litter and Abandoned Vehicles	David Austin/ Brian Scott	Acquire new vehicles and staff	Publicity and launch of new service			Quicker response to fly tipping problems	Improved level of street cleanliness and customer satisfaction	
1.4	To implement an Environmental Management System for Cupid Green Depot and secure the Waste Transfer Licence	David Austin/ Jon Foster	Secure Waste Transfer Licence		Certification Audit - ISO14001			Cupid Green complies with key Environmental Standards	

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2. Highways									
2.1	To ensure effective input to the new Highways Partnership arrangements at local level in order that Dacorum’s needs and views are made known	Brian Scott	Clarify Terms of Reference of Local Joint Member Body	Report to members on new arrangements and agree representation			BVPI 85	Effective input to HCC/Strategic Highway Partnership on local needs, priorities and resources	Local Joint Member Panel established and meeting regularly by Autumn 2002
2.2	To negotiate revised agency agreements in relation to - Rights of Way - Car Parks - Verge Maintenance	Brian Scott Peter Snow	Report to Members on draft proposals - June 2002	Enter into new agreement August 2002				New Agency agreements in place to support Car Parking Strategy and Landscape Maintenance Service	
3. Car Parking									
3.1	To implement a car parking strategy for Dacorum	Brian Scott/ Nick Edlin	Development of proposed scheme	Public consultation. Negotiations with WBC re joint enforcement.	Report to members on consultation. Reassess financial feasibility. Agency with HCC secured. Apply for Decrim powers to DTLR.	Amend scheme. Formal advertisement. Begin to implement the scheme.		Phase 2 and 3 of Car Parking Strategy completed.	Introduction of car park charges, CPZ and SPA by Autumn 2003

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4. Sustainable Transportation								
4.1 To re-focus the work of the Sustainable Transport Team and to establish clear priorities for future work	Nick Edlin	Gain member approval to new work priorities/ refocus resources	Engage with T&PC's on local transport issues	Input to HCC LTP process			Better focus on core priorities to deliver Car Parking Strategy and voice for DBC in new HCC Highway arrangements	Increasing share of LTP funding
4.2 To establish a Local Transport Forum in Dacorum	Nick Edlin	Review best practice; establish terms of reference	Seek Forum partners - hold first meeting			Effective feedback to DBC/HCC/ providers on transport issues	Better relations/partnership with local bus and rail operators and voice for local people	Local Transport Forum established
5. Building Control Best Value Review								
5.1 To implement the improvements set out in the Best Value Review of Building Control	John Gavin	Establish quarterly reporting on Improvement Plan. Submit Chartermark application	Seek new partnering opportunities. Establish Joint LA Working Group to explore partnership		New IT system in place. Report on partnership discussions		Award of Chartermark Two new partnering schemes On-line applications	Inspection of BV Review

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6. Environmental Health Best Value Review									
6.1	To complete the Best Value Review of Environmental Health and to implement the improvement plan	Peter Ablett	Report to Cabinet on BVR and Improvement Plan and establish quarterly maintaining of targets	Promote service to T&PC's	EH Open Day for Members	Develop policies for referral to other Agencies	BVPI 166 BVPI 62 BVPI 64	Completed BVR	Inspection of BV Review
			Establish a proactive approach to dog fouling and litter enforcement	Secure Chartermark	Publicise and implement scheme		Achievement of Chartermark		
				Report to Cabinet			Better public awareness of dog fouling and littering issues		
				Develop improved co-ordination of services to business			Joint working with Regeneration Team and better links with business		

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7. Planning								
7.1 To undertake a Best Value Review of the Planning Service and develop improvement plan	Graham Winwright	Scoping/ Challenge Workshop	Environment Policy Panel consideration of draft Improvement Plan		Second EFQM Assessment Environment Policy Panel/ Overview & Scrutiny Consideration	BVPI 107 BVPI 188	Best Value Review Report. Improvement Plan for Planning Services	Complete review in 2002/03 Meet targets in the Improvement Plan following (and during) the Review
7.2 To improve the performance Development Control in relation to:	David Noble	Ongoing improvement as part of Best Value Review				BVPI 109 (current indicator)	Improve D/C performance in line with Planning Green Paper Objectives	Targets to be established as part of BVR
7.2.1 Major planning applications		Regular performance management monitoring			→	7.2.1 60% within 13 weeks		
7.2.2 Minor planning applications					→	7.2.2 65% within 8 weeks		
7.2.3 Other applications						7.2.3 80% within 8 weeks		
7.2.4 Householder applications						7.2.4 90% within 8 weeks		

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7. Planning (cont'd)								
7.3 To implement a Conservation Strategy for Dacorum	Emma Adams	Finalise Conservation Strategy and establish work programme				Local (to be established)	More proactive approach to the protection and enhancement of our Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings	To have an agreed Conservation Strategy
7.4 To respond to the Local Plan Inspectors Report and adopt the plan as soon as possible	Richard Blackburn		Receive Inspectors Report		Council consideration of Inspectors Recommendations/ approval of modifications	BVPI 106 BVPI 108	To provide a clear framework for the future development of Dacorum up to 2011	To adopt the final Local Plan for Dacorum as soon as possible (depends on need for second Public Inquiry)
7.5 To ensure effective input to the County Structure Plan Review to ensure that Dacorum's views and needs are addressed	Graham Winwright	Respond to consultation	Respond to deposit draft (dependent on the County Council)	Respond to EiP timetable (dependent on the County Council)			Effective input to ensure Dacorum's future housing and employment needs are met	Meet Structure Plan Timetable

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8. Environmental Action and Best Value Review								
8.1 Develop a revised/new LA21 Strategy in consultation with key community stakeholders	Jonathan Foster	Initiate community dialogue and produce draft LA21 framework	Launch revised LA21 Strategy as an interactive web based document at the 2002 Environmental Fair	Revise and update live strategy document	Revise and update live strategy document		Live web based LA21 Strategy with comprehensive monitoring and review mechanism	Revise and update live strategy document
8.2 Initiate Phase Two Environmental Management Programme (ISO 14001)	Jonathan Foster	Identify Phase 2 area		Initiate Phase 2 Review			Comprehensive Environmental Management System for Phase 2 area	Full compliance with ISO 14001 for all Council services that have an impact on the environment
8.3 Plan and deliver Environmental Fair	Leanne Mariani	Complete planning stage	Environment al Fair				Environmental Fair on 14/15 July 2002	