



## Buckinghamshire County Council

# *Report to Overview and Scrutiny*

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<b>Committee</b>	<b>Community and Environment</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>14 December 2005</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Audit Commission Environment Inspection Improvement Plan</b>
<b>Author</b>	<b>Neil Gibson</b>
<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Jackie Copcutt</b>

### **Introduction and Summary**

The Environment Inspection took place over 2 weeks in August and September of this year covering the Council's transport, strategic planning and waste services. The inspectors rated the service as 'good 2 star' with promising prospects for improvement and stated that the Council has clear aims and works well with its partners. This is an excellent result for the services and reflects well on the leadership and workforce of the services and the significant change they have experienced the past 2/3 years.

The inspectors made only 3 main recommendations, with timescales for resolution, but did raise a number of other issues. A draft Improvement Plan has been prepared to respond to both the issues and recommendations by the Inspection. This is attached as Appendix A. Many of these actions have already been incorporated by the relevant services within their existing service plans and strategies. This "mainstreaming" will ensure delivery of a response.

The Inspectors Report and our Improvement Plan will be considered by a LAG meeting on 9 January 2006. One of the Inspectors and our Audit Commission link officer will be present at the meeting to discuss their report and our Improvement plan. LAG will be asked to debate in particular Recommendation 1 that challenges the Council to take a more strategic corporate approach to sustainable development.

### **Recommendation**

The Committee is asked to comment on the Draft Improvement Plan and their views will be reported to the LAG meeting on 9 January 2006.

### **Background information**

The full report can be found at:

<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/reports>