

Appendix A

Draft Environment Inspection Improvement Plan December 2005

Recommendations		Impact Expected	Implementation Date	Response/Action
1	Develop an overarching corporate strategy for sustainable development that articulates short, medium and long term priorities	High	July 2006	Our response to be discussed at LAG 9.1.06
2	Introduce a systematic approach to programme management to coordinate, monitor and control initiatives to improve waste management	Medium	December 2005	A Programme Board has been established with senior BCC members, BCC and DC officers to co-ordinate, direct and implement the Waste Procurement project, Waste Strategy Review and Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework.
3	Use the re-negotiation of the memorandum of understanding on the County Waste Forum to develop the Council's relationship with district councils to secure a coordinated response to the European landfill directive	High	June 2006	The memorandum of understanding will be re-negotiated in March 06.
Other issues 1	The Council's joint waste strategy agreed with its partners does not effectively address the impact of landfill diversion targets	High	Autumn 2006	The Waste Strategy is being reviewed. The timescales are challenging with adoption expected in Autumn 2006 but there is full member and officer commitment as well as a robust project plan.
2	Household waste recycling centres have limited capacity and are not effectively meeting customer needs	High	Legal issues mean a 6 month delay on High Heavens. Beaconsfield – contractor delay	A 2005 on-site survey of 4700 users gives overall satisfaction rate of 95.8%. There is a "spend to save" capital scheme to replace the Beaconsfield site and improvements planned at High Heavens as well as a new site identified at Aston Clinton.
3	The Council cannot demonstrate that its waste minimisation initiatives are having an impact on reducing waste growth in the county	Medium	Ongoing	We have monitoring and evaluation programmes in place for each initiative ie real nappies, home composting, schools and recycling. Looking at historical waste arisings the average waste growth is 1.67%

				well below the stated national average of 3%.
4	The overall proportion of cycling journeys as a mode of travel has fallen in main urban areas	High	Commenced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased capital and revenue funding directed toward cycling infrastructure and promotional activities • Implement Second Local Transport Plan 'Tackling Congestion' Strategy and cycling initiatives contained within it • Implementation of actions associated with the Aylesbury Cycling Demonstration Town award bid • Increased allocation of staff resource from establishment of cycling and walking team
5	Overall satisfaction levels with public transport are low and the quality of bus services are not meeting the needs of all users, particularly young and older people	Medium	April 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to utilise a customer focussed approach to development of key urban and interurban QBPs in the Second LTP, to match public transport services to customer needs • Work with communities to develop local accessibility action plans and improved public transport that addresses local accessibility needs, especially for young and older people (Accessibility Strategy of Second LTP)
6	Improving congestion remains a high priority for local people and the Council is not effectively assessing if its efforts to reduce journey delays are successful	High	April 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the delivery of the 'Tackling Congestion' strategy in the Second LTP using the indicator measuring journey time reliability - baseline to be set February/March 2006 • Surveys will measure journey

				time reliability on the priority congestion management corridors in the county to enable us to monitor our congestion reduction activities at a small scale
7	The corporate framework for procurement is still developing and does not support the Council's activities to protect the environment and promote sustainability	Medium	Commenced	Being addressed by Corporate Contracts and will be overseen by the Procurement Board. Jacobs Babbie have been approached to provide expert advice.
8	There is a lack of clarity about the funding of waste disposal facilities to meet the European landfill directive and infrastructure improvements to support housing growth	Medium	Commenced	There is a project timetable, which shows when funding decisions will need to be made. The Project Board monitors this.
9	We are not monitoring the impact of S106 agreements against our policy objectives	High	Commenced November 2005	Now have a S106 officer corporately funded whose job is doing this as well as to negotiate S106 agreements across the County Council.
10	We do not have a strategic funding framework for the development of infrastructure	High	Ongoing	Work on tariffs and infrastructure is more advanced in Bucks than most places in the country. ODPM must approve this method of financing which has yet to be granted.
11	We do not monitor the effect of planning policies against the plan outcomes and our corporate objectives	Medium	Ongoing	Planning conditions are routinely monitored by the Enforcement Team on a range of major Waste and Minerals sites.