

**TEESDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Report To: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
6 October 2008**

**From: Lead Member for Resources, Councillor GK Robinson**

**Ward Member: All**

**Subject: ASSET TRANSFERS**

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**1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The attached report was approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17 September 2008 and referred to the Executive Committee for consideration. The recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny are contained in Section 2 of the attached report.
- 1.2 This covering report presents the Executive Committee's response to the Overview and Scrutiny report.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**2.1 It is recommended that**

- 2.1.1 The current position relating to asset management is noted;**
- 2.1.2 Town and parish councils are provided with information relating to assets within their area owned by the District Council as soon as this information has been verified.**

**3.0 LINK TO CORPORATE KEY PRIORITIES/AMBITIONS**

- 3.1 Priority: Improving together
- 3.2 Ambition: Maximisation of resources
- 3.3 Outcome: The approved policy for the transfer of assets to town and parish councils and other organisations is implemented.

**4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Considerable progress has been made over recent months in respect of asset management following the completion of property surveys. This provided the information required to revise the Capital Strategy and Asset Management Plan (approved by the Council in August 2008) and produce detailed repairs and maintenance plans.

- 4.2 Asset management was self-assessed as performing adequately for the Use of Resources Key Lines of Enquiry 2008 in August and, although the Audit Commission's Use of Resources assessment is not yet complete, the Council's auditors have assessed the asset management arrangements as adequate as a part of their Value for Money conclusion. Asset management is no longer considered to be an outstanding significant control issue.
- 4.3 Two new policies for dealing with asset transfers in respect of town and parish councils and community organisations have also been approved by the Council in April and May 2008 respectively. These were incorporated into the revised Capital Strategy and Asset Management Plan.

## **5.0 CURRENT POSITION**

- 5.1 Although a comprehensive asset register has been in place for many years for accounting purposes, work is currently underway to produce a full register for asset management purposes that includes all of the minor items contained in the property terrier that are de minimis for accounting purposes. This information is essential if the Town and Parish Councils are to be provided with complete details of all assets in each area.
- 5.2 Temporary staff resources have been engaged to assist with this work but information is required from other sources both internally and externally to complete this task and more time is therefore required.

## **5.0 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 5.1 Financial Implications: No additional budget implications.
- 5.2 Risk:

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implications</b>
Town and parish councils are not provided with accurate information regarding assets in each area	Financial Legal Reputation	Assets may not be considered for transfer that would be most effectively used locally, transfers may be pursued of assets that are not owned by the Council or their use is restricted wasting the time and resources of both parties

- 5.3 Equality and Diversity: The policies for asset transfers ensure that all community organisations and town and parish councils have the opportunity to apply and all applications will be considered equally
- 5.4 Human Resources: None
- 5.5 Community Safety: None

5.6 Legal Issues: As set out in the asset transfer policies.

**Background papers:** Council reports referred to.

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