

## **BRECKLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **POLICY DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW PANEL 2: 20 JUNE 2007**

#### **REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS MANAGER – PEOPLE FIRST**

(Author: Mark Broughton, Scrutiny Officer)

### **REVIEW OF THE BRECKLAND COUNCIL WEBSITE**

#### Summary

This report details the evidence gathering sessions undertaken by the Panel as part of the Review and presents appropriate recommendations.

## **1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

1.1 The Council, in conjunction with its website partners Amaze, undertook a major revamp of the Council's website at the end of 2005. Having identified a number of initial teething problems with the new system early in 2006, it was agreed by the OSC to schedule a through review of the website towards the end of 2006.

1.2 At its meeting on 23 November 2006, the Overview & Scrutiny Commission agreed that a Review of the Council Website be undertaken by Policy Development & Review Panel 2.

1.3 The Panel met on the 15 January 2007 to undertake a practical examination and appraisal of the website and again on 13 April 2007 to consider documentary evidence relating to the website's performance and effectiveness and how this compared with other local authorities.

## **2. KEY DECISION**

2.1 This is not a key decision.

## **3. COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

3.1 The matters raised in this report fall within the following Council priorities:

- A well planned place to live which encourages vibrant communities

## **4. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL WEBSITE**

4.1 The Panel's Review is attached at Appendix 1.

## **5. OPTIONS AVAILABLE**

5.1 To agree the recommendations

5.2 To not agree the recommendations and offer alternative recommendations.

## **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 Overview & Scrutiny best practice recognises the primacy of well evidenced approaches in leading to effective and robust scrutiny, where lessons for improvement can be learned to ensure that improvement takes place to the benefit of the Council as an organisation.

## **7. RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 To agree the recommendations contained in the accompanying report.

Where appropriate this report has taken account of the need for compliance with:

The Council's Equal Opportunities Policies and Gender Equality Scheme

S.17, Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Human Rights Act 1998

S.40, Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006