

## 7. Markets Audit Action Plan - Update

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### Purpose of the Report

This report details work undertaken on the markets draft action plan.

### Report Detail

There has been substantial progress on the Markets Action Plan. Of the 18 actions, 13 have been completed and 5 have yet to be completed.

The market improvement plan is being worked up by the Area Development Manager – South in conjunction with the Area Development Manager – West. This work has been delayed because of capacity issues particularly in South brought about by the new Area Development Manager starting and coming up to speed on a variety of issues and tasks.

Importantly however District Executive have approved a new budget income forecast for markets, which means that markets have now a realistic budget to achieve and have a good prospect of breaking even and remaining viable. This was a key recommendation of the original audit report and provides a sound basis for improvement measures.

There remain complex issues in trying to relocate Crewkerne market and it seems inevitable that in the light of highway objections the preferred location in front of the market house will not be viable. Other locations have been explored but have as yet not proven possible. This remains an issue for the Area West regeneration team.

The table indicating progress towards achieving the recommendations of the audit report is attached at pages 13-17.

### Financial Implications

None arising from this report

### Corporate Priority Implications

Markets contribute to the economic vitality of our towns

### Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)

Markets provide opportunity for local produce to be sold and bought; reducing food miles

### Equality and Diversity Implications

Markets often promote diversity. They enable all sections of the community, especially those on low incomes, to shop and to set up business.

**Background Papers:** Market Audit