1. In December 2007/8 the Government announced that Chelmsford and Braintree Councils had been awarded growth area funding for the period 2008 to 2011. The funding is to support the delivery of new housing, employment and associated infrastructure. The initial award was based on a Programme of Development submitted in October 2007 with a requirement that a Revised Programme of Development be submitted in October 2008 to act as the basis for confirmation of funding for the whole period. The total amount available to the two authorities was confirmed in December 2008.

2. Chelmsford and Braintree Councils have agreed a memorandum of understanding which, amongst other things, sets out the apportionment of the funding between the two authorities. The total amount available to Braintree for the period 2008 to 2011 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Braintree GAF Funding 2008 – 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital – £4,676,102.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue - £231,876.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total - - £4,907,978.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The Council has established a Programme Board to determine priorities for the expenditure of the funding, to oversee the delivery of projects financed through the fund and to monitor growth and outcomes. The priorities and projects supported should be in accordance with the Programme of Development. Priorities agreed by the Board to date are:

**Capital Expenditure:**

 o Delivering Employment Growth – Purchase of employment land and provision of infrastructure Braintree

 o Delivering Housing Growth - Purchase of land

 o Infrastructure to Support Housing and Employment Growth:

   o Freeport Braintree – Foot/Cycle Bridge

   o Witham Station Footbridge extension

   o John Ray Park, Braintree – Greenspace Improvements

   o Town Centre Regeneration – Purchase of land
Revenue Expenditure:

- Water Cycle Study
- Revised Development Brief for Land East of High Street, Halstead
- Braintree Rail Study

The Programme Board will give further consideration to priorities for 2009/11 now that the Government has confirmed the total funding that will be available.

Further reports will be presented to the Partnership Board as the projects progress.

Head of District Development
9th February 2009