



Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey  
Chief Operating Officer

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26 March 2024

**TO: COUNCILLORS**     **Y GAGEN,     G DOWLING,     C COUGHLAN,     V CUMMINS,**  
**A FENNELL, N FUREY, R MOLLOY, N PRYCE-ROBERTS AND**  
**A YATES**

Dear Councillor,

Please find attached late information for the meeting of the **CABINET** being held in the **CABINET/COMMITTEE ROOM, 52 DERBY STREET, ORMSKIRK L39 2DF**, this evening, **TUESDAY, 26 MARCH 2024 at 7.00 PM.**

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JS", written over a horizontal line.

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey  
Chief Operating Officer

**AGENDA**  
**(Open to the Public)**

6a	<b>Council Performance Delivery – Q3 2023/24</b>	191 -
	Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee	192
6b	<b>Corporate Performance Reporting 2024/25</b>	193 -
	Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee	194
6c	<b>2023-24 GRA Revenue Q3 Monitoring Report</b>	195 -
	Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee	196

6d	<b>GRA Capital Programme Q3 Monitoring Report</b>	197 -
	Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee	198
6e	<b>2023-24 HRA Revenue and Capital Q3 review</b>	199 -
	Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee	200
6f	<b>Housing Policies - Recharge Policy, Empty Homes Policy &amp; Domestic Abuse Policy</b>	201 -
	Minute of Landlord Services Committee (Cabinet Working Group)	202
6g	<b>Financial Inclusion Strategy 2024-2029</b>	203 -
	Minutes of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Landlord Services Committee (Cabinet Working Group)	206
6h	<b>Draft Homelessness &amp; Rough Sleepers Strategy 2024-29</b>	207 -
	Minutes of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Landlord Services Committee (Cabinet Working Group)	210
6i	<b>Revised Anti Social Behaviour Policy</b>	211 -
	Minute of Landlord Services Committee (Cabinet Working Group)	212

**We can provide this document, upon request, on audiotape, in large print, in Braille and in other languages.**

For further information, please contact:-  
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Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 14 March 2024

74 **QUARTERLY COUNCIL PERFORMANCE DELIVERY: Q3 2023/24**

The Council Performance Lead outlined the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing and Resources as contained on pages 567 to 580 of the Book of Reports, which presented performance monitoring data for the quarter ended 31 December 2023.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- R1 - % Council Tax collected (current year) – Why is Council Tax collection still down post-covid?  
This is due to numerous considerations; Members were advised that comparing West Lancs to other Lancashire Councils, we have a positive increase. It was also noted that requirements of delivering Support Schemes have not been factored in.
- How much Council Tax is 'written off' each year?
- It was requested that a copy of the Council Tax - Scheduled Recovery Plan be circulated to Members.
- Costs of Bailiff / Court and the VFM of this – Can this information be provided?  
The Head of Corporate and Customer Services informed that the information and response to the above comments and questions will be provided to Members following the meeting.

The Chairman thanked Officers for their work on this difficult transition from Covid.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council's performance for its key performance indicators for the quarter ended 31 December 2023 be noted.

(Note: Councillor N Hennessy arrived at the commencement of this item)



Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 14 March 2024

## 73 **CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORTING: 2024/25**

The Head of Corporate and Customer Services outlined the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing and Resources as contained on pages 557 to 566 of the Book of Reports, which was to seek approval for the Council Priorities Delivery Plan for 2024/25.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- It was suggested that it would be useful to have a column in the tables of Appendix 1, that sets out the annual target indication measure to show if low or high is good.
- Green Flag Awards can be costly /are there other ways of assessing quality of parks?

The Head of Corporate and Customer Services thanked Members for their comments and suggestions and advised that these would be addressed.

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee considered and noted the draft delivery plan for the Council Priorities as attached at Appendix 1.



Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 14 March 2024

**77      2023/24 GRA REVENUE Q3 MONITORING**

The Finance Manager outlined the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Services as contained on pages 623 to 626 of the Book of Reports, which was to provide a summary of the General Revenue Account (GRA) position for the 2023/24 financial year at quarter 3.

RESOLVED: That the 2023/24 GRA position be noted.





Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 14 March 2024

## 76 **GRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME Q3 MONITORING REPORT**

The Finance Manager outlined the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Services as contained on pages 603 to 622 of the Book of Reports, which was to agree a Revised General Revenue Account (GRA) Capital Programme for 2023/24 and provide an update on progress on capital schemes.

A question was raised in respect of the location of changing places facility. The Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing and Resources advised that this would be in Coronation Park, Ormskirk.

The Finance Manager responded to a question in respect of the following:

- What is the Environmental Services - Webaspx Project?

It was explained that this is digital software for routing optimisation of the bin lorries.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be considered and noted.



Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 14 March 2024

78      **HRA REVENUE AND CAPITAL QUARTER THREE (Q3) REVIEW**

The Principal Finance Business Partner outlined the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Services as contained on pages 627 to 632 of the Book of Reports, which was to provide a summary of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Housing capital programme positions for the 2023/24 financial year.

RESOLVED: That the 2023/24 HRA and Housing capital programme positions be noted.

The Chairman thanked all for their good work at the conclusion of the meeting.



Minute of Landlord Services Committee (Cabinet Working Group) – 20 March 2024

38(a) **Housing Policies - Recharge Policy, Empty Homes for Housing Policy, Domestic Abuse Policy**

The Working Group discussed the following new or revised policies to be submitted to Cabinet on 26 March 2024 from the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources, as contained on pages 33-70 of the Book of Reports, and considered whether any comments should be made for Cabinet consideration:

- Empty Homes for Council Owned Housing Policy
- Income Recharge Policy
- Domestic Abuse Policy

Comments and questions were raised focussing on training for customer services and housing staff, acts of vandalism as a form of domestic abuse and whether councillors use Patch Problems to flag these up.

AGREED: That the policies were self-explanatory, that they be noted and that no further comments were necessary for Cabinet consideration.



Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 14 March 2024

75      **FINANCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY 2024-2029**

The Income and Financial Inclusion Manager outlined the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources as contained on pages 581 to 602 of the Book of Reports, which was to request approval of the new five-year Financial Inclusion Strategy 2024 -2029.

Comments and questions raised in respect of the following:

- Health and Wellbeing.
- 4.1% of residents in West Lancs are unemployed – can this information be broken down to show number of vacancies and the skills required by employers.

The Income and Financial Inclusion Manager informed Members that he would liaise with DWP, to provide this information following the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be considered and noted.





**38(c) Draft Financial Inclusion Strategy**

The Working Group considered a report, to be submitted to Cabinet on 26 March 2024, from the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources, as contained on pages 83-104 of the Book of Reports requesting approval of the new five-year strategy: Financial Inclusion 2024-2029.

With the agreement of the Chairman, the Income and Financial Inclusion Manager presented the report.

**AGREED:** That subject to the correction of some typographical errors, the new five-year strategy: Financial Inclusion 2024-2029 be approved for consideration by Cabinet.



Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 14 March 2024

72      **DRAFT HOMELESSNESS & ROUGH SLEEPERS STRATEGY 2024-29**

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources as contained on pages 527 to 556 of the Book of Reports, which was to consider and agree the Homelessness & Rough Sleepers Strategy 2024-29 subject to consultation.

Comments and questions raised in respect of the following:

- Areas where there is homelessness (rough sleeping) – there are reports of this happening in the Skelmersdale and Ormskirk areas of the Borough.
- Excellent report

RESOLVED: That the report be considered and noted.



**38(d) Draft Homelessness & Rough Sleepers Strategy 2024-29**

The Working Group considered a report to be submitted to Cabinet on 26 March 2024, from the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources, as contained on pages 105-134 of the Book of Reports, providing an update on the activities undertaken by involved tenants and leaseholders since the refresh of the Tenant Involvement Framework.

With the agreement of the Chairman, the Tenancy Services Manager presented the report.

Comments and questions were raised concerning the duty to refer arrangements, no fault evictions, landlords not accepting tenants on benefits and Tawd Valley Developments.

AGREED: That the report be noted.



Minute of Landlord Services Committee (Cabinet Working Group) – 20 March 2024

**38(b) Revised Anti-Social Behaviour Policy**

The Working Group discussed the revised Anti-Social Behaviour Policy to be submitted to Cabinet on 26 March 2024 from the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources, as contained on pages 71-74 of the Book of Reports, and considered whether any comments were necessary for Cabinet consideration.

The Chairman invited the Neighbourhood Team Leader to introduce himself and present the policy.

A question was raised about who to bring Anti-Social Behaviour to the attention of – the Council or the Police – and what action the Council could take.

**AGREED:** That the Anti-Social Behaviour Policy be noted and that no further comments were necessary for Cabinet consideration.

