



Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey
Chief Operating Officer

52 Derby Street
Ormskirk
West Lancashire
L39 2DF

Tuesday, 18 February 2020

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to a meeting of the **COUNCIL** to be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, 52 DERBY STREET, ORMSKIRK L39 2DF** on **WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2020** at **7.30 PM** at which your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully

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

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey
Chief Operating Officer

AGENDA
(Open to the Public)

1. **PRAYERS**
2. **APOLOGIES**
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** 1089 -
If a member requires advice on Declarations of Interest, he/she is 1092
advised to contact the Legal and Democratic Services Manager in
advance of the meeting. (For the assistance of members a checklist
for use in considering their position on any particular item is included at
the end of this agenda sheet.)
4. **MINUTES** 1093 -
To receive as a correct record, the minutes of the previous meeting 1100

held on Wednesday, 11 December 2019.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**
 6. **TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.2**
 7. **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**
To receive the minutes of the following meetings, to confirm, if appropriate, such of the minutes as require confirmation and to pass such resolutions as the Council may deem necessary:
 - 7a Licensing & Gambling Committee - Tuesday, 3 December 2019 1101 - 1102
 - 7b Licensing & Appeals Committee - Tuesday, 3 December 2019 1103 - 1106
 - 7c Chief Officers Committee - Monday, 23 December 2019 1107 - 1108
 - 7d Planning Committee - Thursday, 9 January 2020 1109 - 1112
 - 7e Audit & Governance Committee - Tuesday, 28 January 2020 1113 - 1116
 - 7f Licensing & Appeals Committee - Tuesday, 11 February 2020 1117 - 1118
 8. **PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2020/21 AND INTRODUCTION OF HOLIDAY PAY PERCENTAGE SUPPLEMENT** 1119 - 1142
To consider the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources.
 9. **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2020/21 AND APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL & PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE** 1143 - 1156
To consider the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources.
 10. **SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 13.4**
To enable the Portfolio Holder / Shadow Portfolio Holder / Spokesperson for OWL to present their budget statement it will be necessary to suspend Council Procedure Rule 13.4 for Agenda Items 11 and 14. (This Rule limits the length of a speech to 5 minutes.)
- * IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (STANDING ORDERS) (ENGLAND) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2014, A RECORDED VOTE WILL BE TAKEN ON THESE ITEMS.**
11. ***BUDGET REQUIREMENT 2020/21** 1157 - 1186
To consider the report of Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property.
 12. ***DETERMINATION OF COUNCIL TAX 2020/21** 1187 - 1210
To consider the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation &

Resources.

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| 13. | MEDIUM TERM GRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020-21
To consider the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement & Commercial Property. | 1211 -
1224 |
| 14. | HOUSING ACCOUNT - REVENUE AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME
To consider the report of the Corporate Director of Place & Community. | 1225 -
1244 |
| 15. | CAPITAL FINANCIAL AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
To consider the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement & Commercial Property. | 1245 -
1266 |
| 16. | PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER RENEWAL
To consider the report of the Corporate Director of Place & Community. | 1267 -
1434 |
| 17. | WEST LANCASHIRE ELECTORAL REVIEW
To consider the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources. | 1435 -
1444 |
| 18. | PUBLIC SPEAKING PROTOCOL - REVISION
To consider the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources. | 1445 -
1458 |
| 19. | TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS OF COUNCIL, CABINET & COMMITTEES - 2020/21
To consider the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources. | 1459 -
1462 |
| 20. | MAYOR ELECT 2020/21
To consider the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources. | 1463 -
1464 |
| 21. | EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC
It is recommended that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 (Financial/Business Affairs) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and as, in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption under Schedule 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. | |

PART 2 - NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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| 22. | DEVELOPMENT COMPANY BUSINESS PLAN
To consider the report of the Chief Operating Officer. | 1465 -
1496 |
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PART 3 - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

23. MOTIONS

To consider the following Motions included on the agenda at the request of the Members indicated:

24. JACOB'S REPORT ON DRAINAGE - MOTION INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA BY COUNCILLOR CYNTHIA DERELI ON BEHALF OF THE LABOUR GROUP

Recognising how crucial the Jacob's Report on drainage may be to the future of housing development in Burscough as well as to the future of agriculture in our area, this Council expresses its concern at the delay in publishing the Jacob's report and agrees to write to LCC urging them to put the report findings into the public domain as a matter of urgency, to enable public scrutiny and debate as new applications for housing in the area are considered.

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

FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE: Please see attached sheet.

MOBILE PHONES: These should be switched off or to 'silent' at all meetings.

For further information, please contact:-

Jacky Denning on 01695 585384

Or email jacky.denning@westlancs.gov.uk

**FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE FOR:
COUNCIL MEETINGS WHERE OFFICERS ARE PRESENT
(52 DERBY STREET, ORMSKIRK)**

PERSON IN CHARGE: Most Senior Officer Present
ZONE WARDEN: Member Services Officer / Lawyer
DOOR WARDEN(S) Usher / Caretaker

IF YOU DISCOVER A FIRE

1. Operate the nearest **FIRE CALL POINT** by breaking the glass.
2. Attack the fire with the extinguishers provided only if you have been trained and it is safe to do so. **Do not** take risks.

ON HEARING THE FIRE ALARM

1. Leave the building via the **NEAREST SAFE EXIT**. **Do not stop** to collect personal belongings.
2. Proceed to the **ASSEMBLY POINT** on the car park and report your presence to the **PERSON IN CHARGE**.
3. **Do NOT** return to the premises until authorised to do so by the **PERSON IN CHARGE**.

NOTES:

Officers are required to direct all visitors regarding these procedures i.e. exit routes and place of assembly.

The only persons not required to report to the Assembly Point are the Door Wardens.

CHECKLIST FOR PERSON IN CHARGE

1. Advise other interested parties present that you are the person in charge in the event of an evacuation.
2. Make yourself familiar with the location of the fire escape routes and inform any interested parties of the escape routes.
3. Make yourself familiar with the location of the assembly point and inform any interested parties of that location.
4. Make yourself familiar with the location of the fire alarm and detection control panel.
5. Ensure that the zone warden and door wardens are aware of their roles and responsibilities.
6. Arrange for a register of attendance to be completed (if considered appropriate / practicable).

IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE, OR THE FIRE ALARM BEING SOUNDED

1. Ensure that the room in which the meeting is being held is cleared of all persons.
2. Evacuate via the nearest safe Fire Exit and proceed to the **ASSEMBLY POINT** in the car park.
3. Delegate a person at the **ASSEMBLY POINT** who will proceed to **HOME CARE LINK** in order to ensure that a back-up call is made to the **FIRE BRIGADE**.
4. Delegate another person to ensure that **DOOR WARDENS** have been posted outside the relevant Fire Exit Doors.

5. Ensure that the **ZONE WARDEN** has reported to you on the results of his checks, **i.e.** that the rooms in use have been cleared of all persons.
6. If an Attendance Register has been taken, take a **ROLL CALL**.
7. Report the results of these checks to the Fire and Rescue Service on arrival and inform them of the location of the **FIRE ALARM CONTROL PANEL**.
8. Authorise return to the building only when it is cleared to do so by the **FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE OFFICER IN CHARGE**. Inform the **DOOR WARDENS** to allow re-entry to the building.

NOTE:

The Fire Alarm system will automatically call the Fire Brigade. The purpose of the 999 back-up call is to meet a requirement of the Fire Precautions Act to supplement the automatic call.

CHECKLIST FOR ZONE WARDEN

1. Carry out a physical check of the rooms being used for the meeting, including adjacent toilets, kitchen.
2. Ensure that **ALL PERSONS**, both officers and members of the public are made aware of the **FIRE ALERT**.
3. Ensure that **ALL PERSONS** evacuate **IMMEDIATELY**, in accordance with the **FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE**.
4. Proceed to the **ASSEMBLY POINT** and report to the **PERSON IN CHARGE** that the rooms within your control have been cleared.
5. Assist the **PERSON IN CHARGE** to discharge their duties.

It is desirable that the **ZONE WARDEN** should be an **OFFICER** who is normally based in this building and is familiar with the layout of the rooms to be checked.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOOR WARDENS

1. Stand outside the **FIRE EXIT DOOR(S)**
2. Keep the **FIRE EXIT DOOR SHUT**.
3. Ensure that **NO PERSON**, whether staff or public enters the building until **YOU** are told by the **PERSON IN CHARGE** that it is safe to do so.
4. If anyone attempts to enter the premises, report this to the **PERSON IN CHARGE**.
5. Do not leave the door **UNATTENDED**.

Agenda Item 3

MEMBERS INTERESTS 2012

A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter considered at a meeting must disclose the interest to the meeting at which they are present, except where it has been entered on the Register.

A Member with a non pecuniary or pecuniary interest in any business of the Council must disclose the existence and nature of that interest at commencement of consideration or when the interest becomes apparent.

Where sensitive information relating to an interest is not registered in the register, you must indicate that you have an interest, but need not disclose the sensitive information.

Please tick relevant boxes

Notes

	General		Notes
1.	I have a disclosable pecuniary interest.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 below</i>
2.	I have a non-pecuniary interest.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You may speak and vote</i>
3.	I have a pecuniary interest because it affects my financial position or the financial position of a connected person or, a body described in 10.1(1)(i) and (ii) and the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice my judgement of the public interest or it relates to the determining of any approval consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to me or a connected person or, a body described in 10.1(1)(i) and (ii) and the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice my judgement of the public interest	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 or 6 below</i> <i>You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 or 6 below</i>
4.	I have a disclosable pecuniary interest (Dispensation 20/09/16) or a pecuniary interest but it relates to the functions of my Council in respect of: (i) Housing where I am a tenant of the Council, and those functions do not relate particularly to my tenancy or lease. (ii) school meals, or school transport and travelling expenses where I am a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or are a parent governor of a school, and it does not relate particularly to the school which the child attends. (iii) Statutory sick pay where I am in receipt or entitled to receipt of such pay. (iv) An allowance, payment or indemnity given to Members (v) Any ceremonial honour given to Members (vi) Setting Council tax or a precept under the LGFA 1992	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i>
5.	A Standards Committee dispensation applies (relevant lines in the budget – Dispensation 20/09/16 – 19/09/20)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>See the terms of the dispensation</i>
6.	I have a pecuniary interest in the business but I can attend to make representations, answer questions or give evidence as the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You may speak but must leave the room once you have finished and cannot vote</i>

'disclosable pecuniary interest' (DPI) means an interest of a description specified below which is your interest, your spouse's or civil partner's or the interest of somebody who you are living with as a husband or wife, or as if you were civil partners and you are aware that that other person has the interest.

Interest

Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation

Sponsorship

Prescribed description

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by M in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of M.

	This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to M's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to M's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

"body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest" means a firm in which the relevant person is a partner or a body corporate of which the relevant person is a director, or in the securities of which the relevant person has a beneficial interest; "director" includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society;

"land" excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for the relevant person (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income; "M" means a member of a relevant authority;

"member" includes a co-opted member; "relevant authority" means the authority of which M is a member;

"relevant period" means the period of 12 months ending with the day on which M gives notice to the Monitoring Officer of a DPI;

"relevant person" means M or M's spouse or civil partner, a person with whom M is living as husband or wife or a person with whom M is living as if they were civil partners;

"securities" means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

'non pecuniary interest' means interests falling within the following descriptions:

- 10.1(1)(i) Any body of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by your authority;
- (ii) Any body (a) exercising functions of a public nature; (b) directed to charitable purposes; or (c) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union), of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management;
- (iii) Any easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.
- 10.2(2) A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting your well-being or financial position or the well-being or financial position of a connected person to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward, as the case may be, affected by the decision.

'a connected person' means

- (a) a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association, or
- (b) any person or body who employs or has appointed such persons, any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors;
- (c) any person or body in whom such persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or
- (d) any body of a type described in sub-paragraph 10.1(1)(i) or (ii).

'body exercising functions of a public nature' means

Regional and local development agencies, other government agencies, other Councils, public health bodies, council-owned companies exercising public functions, arms length management organisations carrying out housing functions on behalf of your authority, school governing bodies.

A Member with a personal interest who has made an executive decision in relation to that matter must ensure any written statement of that decision records the existence and nature of that interest.

NB Section 21(13) of the LGA 2000 overrides any Code provisions to oblige an executive member to attend an overview and scrutiny meeting to answer questions.

COUNCIL
26 FEBRUARY 2020

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations were received:

1. All Members present declared a pecuniary interest in item 9 'Members' Allowances Scheme 2020/21 and in relation to item 12 'Determination of Council Tax 2020/21', but were entitled to speak and vote by virtue of an exemption.
 2.
 - a) Councillors Ashcroft, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Dereli, Gordon, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Moran, Owen, Pope, Ms Sutton and Whittington declared a pecuniary interest in relation to relevant lines in the budget in respect of item 11 'Budget Requirement 2020/21' and item 13 'Medium Term Capital Programme 2020-21' in relation to Parish Council matters in view of their membership of a Parish Council and indicated they would not participate in any detailed discussions which affected the finances of those bodies specifically.*
 - b) Councillors Aldridge, O'Toole and Pope declared a pecuniary interest in relation to relevant lines in the budget in respect of item 11 'Budget Requirement 2020/21' and item 13 'Medium Term Capital Programme 2020-21', as Members of Lancashire County Council (LCC) as did Councillors Coughlan and Gagen as employees of LCC, and indicated that they would not participate in any detailed discussions which affected LCC.*
 - c) Councillor Coughlan declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in relation to relevant lines in the budget in respect of item 11 'Budget Requirement 2020/21' and item 13 'Medium Term Capital Programme 2020-21' in respect of his appointment to West Lancashire Community Leisure.*
 - d) Councillor Whittington declared a pecuniary interest in relation item 11 'Budget Requirement 2020/21' in respect of the 'Community Grants' as his wife is a trustee of Citizens Advice Lancashire and this body had been recommended to receive funding for 2020/21.*
- * By virtue of a dispensation granted by the Standards Committee all Councillors who have disclosable pecuniary or pecuniary interests in relation to relevant lines in the budget may participate and vote in the budget debates but not engage in detailed discussions about matters which affect those interests.
3. Councillors Ashcroft, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Dereli, Gordon, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Moran, Owen, Pope, Ms Sutton and Whittington declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to item 12 'Determination of Council Tax 2020/21' in view of their membership of a Parish Council.
 4. Councillors Aldridge, O'Toole and Pope declared a non pecuniary interest in relation to item 12 'Determination of Council Tax 2020/21', item 24(a) 'Jacobs

Report on Drainage Motion', as Members of Lancashire County Council, as did Councillors Coughlan and Gagen as an employee of Lancashire County Council.

5. Councillors Delaney, Devine, Owen, Nixon, West J Wilkie and K Wilkie (Tenant of a Council flat/house) Aldridge, Gregson (Tenants of a Council garage) declared disclosable pecuniary interests in relation to item 13 'Medium Term Capital Programme and item 14 'Housing Account – Revenue and Capital Programme' for the reasons indicated but were entitled to speak and vote by virtue of an exemption (nothing in these reports relates particularly to their respective interests arising from the tenancy or lease).
6. Councillors Aldridge, Blane, R Cooper, Gregson, Mee and Wright declared non-pecuniary interests in relation to item 13 'Medium Term Capital Programme and item 14 'Housing Account – Revenue and Capital Programme' as they have a connected person who is a tenant of rented Council accommodation. Insofar as that interest becomes a pecuniary interest (as it would affect the financial position of their relative and a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard this as so significant that it is likely to prejudice their judgement of the public interest) they declared that interest but considered that they were entitled to speak and vote by virtue of an exemption as nothing in these reports relates particularly to the relevant tenancy or lease.
7. Councillors Pope and Moran declared a non pecuniary interest in item 8 'Pay Policy Statement 2020/21' as members of the Lancashire County Council Pension Fund Committee.
8. Councillor O'Toole declared a non pecuniary interest in relation to item 12 'Determination of Council Tax 2020/21' as a Member of Lancashire Combined Fire & Rescue Authority and Councillor Wilkie as an employee.
9. Councillor Wright declared a non pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 12 'Determination of Council Tax 2020/21' as a member appointed to the Police and Crime Panel.

Agenda Item 4

COUNCIL

HELD: Wednesday, 11 December 2019

Start: 7.30 pm

Finish: 8.05 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: G Owen (Mayor)

T Aldridge (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors:

I Ashcroft

Mrs P Baybutt

Mrs M Blake

A Blundell

J Cairns

R Cooper

C Coughlan

V Cummins

I Davis

C Dereli

N Delaney

T Devine

G Dowling

D Evans

S Evans

J Finch

S Gregson

N Furey

Y Gagen

J Gordon

G Johnson

Mrs J Marshall

J Mee

M Mills

K Mitchell

J Monaghan

I Moran

M Nixon

P O'Neill

D O'Toole

A Owens

E Pope

A Pritchard

I Rigby

N Pryce-Roberts

Mrs D Stephenson

A Sutton

J Thompson

D West

Mrs M Westley

D Whittington

J Wilkie

K Wilkie

K Wright

A Yates

Officers:

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey, Interim Chief Operating Officer

Heidi McDougall, Corporate Director of Place & Community

Chris Twomey, Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources

Marc Taylor, Head of Finance, Procurement and Property Services

Ian Gill, Head of Growth & Development Services

Simon Burnett, Head of Wellbeing & Leisure Services

Michelle Williams, Head of Environmental Services

Matthew Jones, Legal & Democratic Services Manager

Jacky Denning, Member & Executive Services Manager

56 **PRAYERS**

The Mayor's Chaplain for the evening, Rev Pauline Bicknell, led Members and officers in prayer.

57 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors T Blane, S Currie, Mrs C Evans, G Hodson, C Lockie, Mrs J Marshall, D Westley and Mrs J Witter.

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Sue Gregson to the Council, following the By-Election held on 21 November 2019 in the Birch Green Ward and advised that the Election results could be found on the Council's website.

Members paid tribute to former Councillor and Chairman, Cyril Ainscough who had recently died and passed on their thoughts and prayers to his family and friends.

58 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations were received:

1. Councillors Aldridge and O'Toole declared a non pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 8 'Approval of revised Statement of Licensing Policy Required by the Licensing Act 2003' and agenda item 12 'Parish and Town Council Charter for West Lancashire - Review', as Members of Lancashire County Council (LCC), as did Councillors Coughlan and Gagen as employees of LCC, and indicated that they would not participate in any detailed discussions which affected LCC.
2. Councillors Ashcroft, Mrs Blake, Dereli, Gordon, Mee, Moran, Owen, Pope, Ms Sutton and Whittington declared a pecuniary / non pecuniary interest in relation to Agenda Item 11 'Revised Capital Programme', agenda item 12 'Parish and Town Charter and item 8 'Approval of revised Statement of Licensing Policy Required by the Licensing Act 2003' as Members of a Parish Council and indicated they would not participate in any detailed discussions which affected the finances of those bodies specifically.*

* By virtue of a dispensation granted by the Standards Committee all Councillors who have disclosable pecuniary or pecuniary interests in relation to relevant lines in the budget may participate and vote in the budget debates but not engage in detailed discussions about matters which affect those interests.

3. Councillors Delaney, Devine, Owen, Nixon, West and J Wilkie (Tenant of a Council flat/house) Aldridge and Coughlan (Tenant of a Council garage) declared disclosable pecuniary interests in relation to item 9 'HRA Revenue and Capital Mid-Year Review' for the reasons indicated but were entitled to speak and vote by virtue of an exemption (nothing in these reports relates particularly to their respective interests arising from the tenancy or lease).
4. Councillors Aldridge, Mee and Wright declared non-pecuniary interests in relation to item 9 'HRA Revenue and Capital Mid-Year Review' as they have a connected person who is a tenant of rented Council accommodation. Insofar as that interest becomes a pecuniary interest (as it could affect the financial position of their relative and a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard this as so significant that it is likely to prejudice their judgement of the public interest) they declared that interest but considered that they were entitled to speak and vote by virtue of

an exemption as nothing in these reports relates particularly to the relevant tenancy or lease.

59 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, 16 October 2019, were received as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

60 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

The Mayor announced the following Charity evens being held:

- Prize Bingo Night at 'The Hut' Crawford Village – Saturday 1 February 2020
- The Mayor's Charity Ball at Holland Hall Hotel, Up Holland – Friday 27 March 2019

The Mayor also gave special thanks to Councillor Maureen Nixon for the assistance she had given to the Mayor baking cakes for many of her events.

61 **TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.2**

The following Question and Response from the Leader were circulated:

"Purchase of cleaning equipment - Question from Councillor Kate Mitchell:

At the Council meeting on 27th February, approval was given to spend £5,000 on the purchase of a pressure washer and water bowser for use in deep cleaning in the Borough.

- On what date was the order placed to purchase this equipment?

Response: 17 June 2019

- On what date was delivery of this equipment taken?

Response: 4 July 2019

- Would the Council Leader provide details of what areas have been cleaned with this equipment to date?

Response:

The equipment was purchased to enable the Council to undertake ad-hoc graffiti removal on Council owned structures as required, it will also be utilised for chewing gum removal on areas of high footfall (town centres / shopping parades) in addition to cleaning signage as resources allow. Additionally, it will be utilised to clean litter bins that are still in a viable condition and will be

retained but need to be improved aesthetically so that will be built into the litter bin replacement/improvement programme. The Clean & Green resources are fully committed to the grass cutting schedules during the April – October season and, although tested, and training provided, the pressure washer equipment will now be utilised during the winter programme."

62 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Consideration was given to the minutes of the undermentioned meetings of the Committees shown.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the undermentioned meetings and any recommendations contained in them, be approved:

- A. Chief Officers Committee – Tuesday 8 October, Thursday 31 October and Tuesday 26 November 2019.
- B. Licensing & Appeals Committee – Tuesday 8 October 2019.
- C. Planning Committee – Thursday 17 October and 28 November 2019.
- D. Audit & Governance Committee – Tuesday 29 October 2019.

(Note: Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey left the meeting during consideration of the minutes of the Chief Officers Committee 26 November 2019 as they included a recommendation to appoint her as the Chief Operating Officer.)

63 APPROVAL OF REVISED STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY REQUIRED BY THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Place and Community, as contained on pages 967 to 1030 of the Book of Reports, which sought approval of the revised Statement of Licensing Policy as required by the Licensing Act 2003.

Members were advised that Appendix E, the minute of the Licensing & Gambling Committee held on 3 December 2019 had been circulated.

- RESOLVED:**
- A. That the Statement of Licensing Policy 2020, attached at Appendix C to the report, be approved.
 - B. That the Corporate Director of Place and Community be given delegated authority to publish and operate the Statement of Licensing Policy 2020, attached at Appendix C to the report.
 - C. That the Corporate Director of Place and Community be given delegated authority to make any minor/inconsequential amendments to the Statement of Licensing Policy.

64 HRA REVENUE AND CAPITAL MID-YEAR REVIEW

Consideration was given to the joint report of the Corporate Director of Place & Community and the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources, as contained on pages 1031 to 1044, which provided a summary of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Housing capital programme positions for the 2019/20 financial year.

- RESOLVED: A. That the 2019/20 HRA and Housing capital programme positions be noted.
- B. That the proposed budget adjustments, identified in Appendix 1 and Appendix 3 of the report, be approved.

65 GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property, as contained on pages 1045 to 1050 of the Book of Reports, which provided an update of the General Revenue Account (GRA) budget position for the current year and issues for the next financial year.

- RESOLVED: A. That the financial position of the GRA be noted including the position on reserves and balances.
- B. That the projected level of exit costs arising from the SORP be noted and that the costs of HRA staff are met from the projected favourable HRA budget variance in the current year and the costs of GRA staff are met from available capital receipts.
- C. That the proposed costs to buy in additional consultancy support to enable work to continue on implementing the Sustainable Organisation Review Project (SORP) be noted.
- D. That the existing Council Tax Support Scheme be continued for the next financial year.

66 CAPITAL MID YEAR MONITORING AND REVISED PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement & Commercial Property, as contained on pages 1051 to 1060, which sought approval of a Revised General Revenue Account (GRA) Capital Programme for 2019/2020 and provided an update on progress on capital schemes.

Revised recommendations were displayed on the screens.

- RESOLVED: A. That the revised Capital Programme, including the re-profiling, virements and budget adjustments contained within Appendix A to the report, be approved, subject to the reference to the

"Playgrounds Improvements" scheme being amended to "Leisure Facilities".

- B. That progress against the Revised Capital Programme at the mid-year point be noted.

67 **PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CHARTER FOR WEST LANCASHIRE - REVIEW**

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources, as contained on pages 1061 to 1082 of the Book of Reports, which set out the revised 'Parish and Town Council Charter for West Lancashire'.

- RESOLVED: A. That the revised 'Parish and Town Council Charter for West Lancashire' attached at Appendix A to the report, be endorsed and approved.
- B. That the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources be authorised to make any minor changes/updates to the Charter.
- C. That it be noted, that the 'Parish and Town Council Charter for West Lancashire' will be reviewed every 2 years by the Parish Clerks Liaison Group, with any significant changes reported to Council and any minor changes being reported via the Corporate & Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Members Update.
- D. That the request received from LALC (West Lancs Area Committee), detailed at paragraph 3.3 of the report, to extend the time limit for Parish Council representatives to speak at Planning Committee from 3 minutes to 5 minutes, be referred to Planning Committee for consideration.

68 **EXECUTIVE DECISIONS - SPECIAL URGENCY**

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources, as contained on pages 1083 to 1086 of the Book of Reports, which advised that, for the period 1 December 2018 to 30 November 2019, one decision was taken under Access to Information Procedure Rule 16 (Special Urgency).

- RESOLVED: That it be noted that Access to Information Rule 16 (Special Urgency) was exercised once during the period 1 December 2018 to 30 November 2019 at the Cabinet meeting held on 12 March 2019 in relation to the item "Local Plan Review Preferred Options – Initial Feedback".

69 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources, as contained on pages 1087 to 1088 of the Book of Reports, which

sought to appoint the Vice-Chairman of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Maureen Nixon be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

70

MOTION - REDUCING SINGLE USE PLASTIC (SUP) USE IN THE BOROUGH OF WEST LANCASHIRE

The following Motion, included on the agenda at the request of Councillor Adrian Owens, on behalf of the Our West Lancs Group, was considered:

"Recent research shows eight million metric tonnes of plastic ends up in the world's oceans each year, endangering marine life while it is estimated that plastics in landfill can take hundreds of years to decompose.

300 million tons of plastic are produced around the globe each year. Of this, 50% is for disposable applications such as packaging.

The Government has previously considered a possible tax on single use plastics, but this Council believes that we should eliminate their use as soon as possible wherever practicable.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Develop a robust strategy to make West Lancashire Borough Council a 'single-use plastic free' authority by the end of 2020 including an end to the purchase and procurement of SUPs through the Council's supply chain and the transition to the use of compostable bags for litter collection by the Council's Clean and Green teams;
- End the provision of SUP products such as cups and cutlery in council buildings and at council run events;
- Work with tenants and operators in commercial properties owned by West Lancashire Borough Council to encourage the phasing out of SUP cups, bottles, cutlery and straws;
- Encourage the Borough's businesses, organisations and residents to go 'single-use plastic free' working with best practice partners to provide business support, practical guidelines and advice to help local businesses transition from SUPs to sustainable alternatives."

An Amendment to the Motion, as circulated prior to the meeting, was accepted by the mover and seconder of the Motion and with the consent of the meeting.

A vote was taken on the Altered Motion, which was CARRIED.

RESOLVED: A. That whilst this Council accepts that the use of single use plastics is a major global issue, it also recognises that this is simply one environmental issue out of an abundance which we

all have a responsibility to address. This was reflected in the actions of July 2019 when, following the IPCC Report which declared a Climate Emergency, Cllr Dereli submitted a Climate Change Emergency motion, which saw this council sign a joint pledge (with other councils). Following this, the Council has started to develop a Carbon Neutrality Plan with the aim to reduce and off-set the carbon footprint of West Lancashire Borough Council in its day to day activities, carrying on the work already started through the Solar PV installations on residential and commercial premises, the removal of single use plastic cups, and the installation of electric vehicle charging points at council car parks.

- B. That this Council notes the development of the Carbon Neutrality Plan and recommends that the following actions in relation to the elimination of Single Use Plastics, be considered as part of that plan, with input from members when the report is presented in Spring 2020:
1. The development of a robust strategy to make West Lancashire Borough Council a 'single-use plastic free' authority by the end of 2020 including an end to the purchase and procurement of SUPs through the Council's supply chain and the transition to the use of compostable bags for litter collection by the Council's Clean and Green teams;
 2. End the provision of SUP products such as cups and cutlery in council buildings and at council run events;
 3. Work with tenants and operators in commercial properties owned by West Lancashire Borough Council to encourage the phasing out of SUP cups, bottles, cutlery and straws;
 4. Encourage the Borough's businesses, organisations and residents to go 'single- use plastic free' working with best practice partners to provide business support, practical guidelines and advice to help local businesses transition from SUPs to sustainable alternatives.

.....
THE MAYOR

LICENSING & GAMBLING COMMITTEE

HELD: Tuesday, 3 December 2019

Start: 7.00 pm

Finish: 7.10 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: N Delaney (Chairman)

Councillors:	T Devine	S Evans
	J Gordon	G Johnson
	J Mee	M Mills
	P O`Neill	A Owens
	D West	A Yates

In attendance: Councillor T Blane

Officers: Kirsty Breakell, Member Services / Civic Officer
Paul Charlson, Commercial, Safety and Licensing Manager
Michaela Murray, Senior Licensing Officer
Judith Williams, Assistant Solicitor

9 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

10 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, the Committee note the termination of Councillor Hodson and the appointment of Councillor Yates for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the Political Groups.

11 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

12 DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip

13 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

14 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2019 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

15 MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2019 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

16 **APPROVAL OF REVISED STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY REQUIRED BY THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Place and Community as contained on pages 73 to 136 of the Book of Reports. The purpose of which was to endorse the revised Statement of Licensing Policy, as required by the Licensing Act 2003, prior to submission to Council.

The Commercial, Safety and Licensing Manager outlined the report, comments received and amendments to the draft policy.

RESOLVED: That the Statement of Licensing Policy 2020, as attached as appendix C to the report be endorsed, prior to submission to Council for final approval and publication.

.....
Chairman

LICENSING & APPEALS COMMITTEE

HELD: Tuesday, 3 December 2019

Start: 7.30 pm

Finish: 9.20 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: T Devine (Chairman)

Councillors: N Delaney Mrs C Evans
G Johnson J Mee
M Mills J Monaghan
P O'Neill A Yates
T Blane

In attendance: William Dickinson – Kearney and Company

Officers: Paul Charlson, Commercial, Safety and Licensing Manager
Michaela Murray, Senior Licensing Officer
Kirsty Breakell, Member Services / Civic Officer
Judith Williams, Assistant Solicitor

35 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence received.

36 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, the Committee noted the termination of membership of Councillors G Hodson and J Witter, and the appointment of Councillors A Yates and T Blane for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the political groups.

37 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

38 DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip.

39 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

40 MINUTES OF SUB - COMMITTEES OR WORKING GROUPS

There were no minutes to receive.

41 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2019 be received

as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

42 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 2 (Identity of an individual) and Paragraph 7 (Criminal Matters) part 1 of Schedule 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

43 APPLICATION FOR PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE - WK/000254111

Members were asked to consider an application for a Private Hire Driver Licence Number WK/000254111, having regard to the content of the Statutory Declaration that accompanied the Application Form and any other relevant information.

The Applicant attended the meeting and was interviewed by the Committee, during which time he was advised of his right to appeal to the Magistrate's Court if he was aggrieved by the decision.

RESOLVED: That Private Hire Driver Licence Number WK/000254111 be GRANTED

(Note: The Officers from Place and Community Services left the meeting as Members considered their decision in this case)

44 APPLICATION FOR PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE - WK/000254079

Members were asked to consider an application for a Private Hire Driver Licence Number WK/000254079, having regard to the content of the Statutory Declaration that accompanied the Application Form and any other relevant information.

The Applicant attended the meeting and was interviewed by the Committee, during which time he was advised of his right to appeal to the Magistrate's Court if he was aggrieved by the decision.

RESOLVED: That Private Hire Driver Licence Number WK/000254079 be DEFFERED ONE CYCLE.

(Note: The Officers from Place and Community Services left the meeting as Members considered their decision in this case)

45 PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE - DETERMINATION OF EXISTING LICENCE LN/000007560

Members were asked to consider an existing Private Hire Driver Licence Number LN/000007560, having regard to offences recorded against the Driver

The Applicant attended the meeting and was interviewed by the Committee, during which time he was advised of his right to appeal to the Magistrate's Court if he was aggrieved by the decision.

RESOLVED: That Private Hire Driver Licence Number LN/000007560 continue and that a warning letter be issued regarding future conduct.

(Note: The Officers from Place and Community Services left the meeting as Members considered their decision in this case. Councillor O'Neil left the meeting at the conclusion of this item)

46

PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE - DETERMINATION OF EXISTING LICENCE LN/000005202

Members were asked to consider an existing Private Hire Driver Licence Number LN/000005202, having regard to offences recorded against the Driver

The Applicant attended the meeting and was interviewed by the Committee, during which time he was advised of his right to appeal to the Magistrate's Court if he was aggrieved by the decision.

RESOLVED: That Private Hire Driver Licence Number LN/000005202 continue and that a warning letter be issued regarding keeping the Private Hire Vehicle plate affixed to the vehicle at all times.

(Note: The Officers from Place and Community Services left the meeting as Members considered their decision in this case)

.....
Chairman

CHIEF OFFICERS COMMITTEE

HELD: Monday, 23 December 2019

Start: 5.30 pm

Finish: 5.35 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: Y Gagen (Chairman)
Councillors: I Moran (Vice-Chairman) I Davis

Officers: Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey, Chief Operating Officer
Sharon Lewis, Head of Human Resources and Organisational
Development
Jacky Denning, Member & Executive Services Manager

45 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor I Ashcroft.

46 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no changes to the membership of the Committee.

47 URGENT BUSINESS, IF ANY, INTRODUCED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no items of urgent business.

48 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

49 MINUTES

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2019 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

50 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) 1, 2 & 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of that Act and as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption under Schedule 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

51 RECRUITMENT TO PERMANENT POST OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF TRANSFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Operating Officer, as contained on pages 475 to 490, which sought approval for the appointment of the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources.

Members considered the one application form received, following the internal advertisement of the permanent post.

The Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development confirmed that the application was suitable for consideration and that all essential criteria had been met.

The Committee agreed that a further interview was not required by the applicant, Chris Twomey, Interim Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources, as the Job Description and Person Specification for his current interim post was identical to the permanent one now under consideration (with the exception of the fixed term to permanent status) and given that the applicant had already been interviewed for that position at a meeting of the Committee held on 8 October 2019,

Consequently the Committee agreed that the scores and comments the applicant received at the meeting held on 8 October 2019 would be taken as proof of his suitability to be appointed to the post on a permanent basis, given the short period between the original interview on 8 October 2019 and 23 December 2019.

RESOLVED: That Chris Twomey be offered the permanent appointment to the Corporate Director Transformation and Resources, from 24 December 2019.

.....
Chairman

PLANNING COMMITTEE

HELD: Thursday, 9 January 2020

Start: 7.00 p.m.

Finish: 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT:

Councillor: G. Dowling (Chairman)
A Pritchard (Vice Chairman)

Councillors: I Ashcroft
A Blundell
C Coughlan
V Cummins
C Dereli
T Devine
D Evans
S Evans
J Finch
D O Toole
E Pope
N Pryce-Roberts
J Thompson
Mrs M Westley
Mrs J Witter

Officers: Ian Gill, Head of Growth and Development Services
Catherine Thomas, Development, Heritage & Environment Manager
Matthew Jones, Legal and Democratic Services Manager
Eileen Woollacott, Planning Appeals Officer
Jill Ryan, Member Services/Civic Officer

84 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs P Baybutt.

85 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, the Committee noted the termination of Councillor Delaney and the appointment of Councillor Pryce-Roberts for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the Political Groups.

86 URGENT BUSINESS, IF ANY INTRODUCED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no items of urgent business.

87 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In relation to item 8, Procedure for the public and applicants who wish to speak at the Planning Committee, it was noted that in accordance with para 10.2(3) of the Member's Code of Conduct, members of the Planning Committee, who are also Parish Councillors, need only declare a non-pecuniary interest if they chose to address Committee in connection with that item.

88 DECLARATIONS OF PARTY WHIP

There were no Declarations of Party Whip.

89 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 28 November 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

90 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Corporate Director of Place and Community submitted a report on planning applications (all prefixed 2019 unless otherwise stated) as contained on pages 559 to 622 of the Book of Reports and on pages 629 to 632 of the Late Information Report.

Notes:-

1. The Parish Clerk to Aughton Parish Council spoke in connection with planning application 0516/FUL relating to Land to the Rear of the Dog and Gun, Long Lane, Aughton.
2. An Objector and the Agent spoke in connection with planning application 0516/FUL relating to Land to the Rear of the Dog and Gun, Long Lane, Aughton.

91 **2018/1190/FUL - THE BAY LEAF, LIVERPOOL ROAD, TARLETON, LANCASHIRE**

RESOLVED: That it be noted that planning application 2018/1190/FUL relating to The Bay Leaf, Liverpool Road, Tarleton had been withdrawn by Officers.

92 **2019/0211/FUL - FORMER PLAYING FIELDS, BARNES ROAD, SKELMERSDALE**

RESOLVED: That planning application 0211/FUL relating to the former Playing Fields, Barnes Road, Skelmersdale be approved subject to the conditions as set out on pages 590 to 595 of the Book of Reports and with the amendment to Condition 9 and an additional condition as set out below:-

Amended Condition 9

Prior to any part of the development hereby permitted taking place, a scheme showing the areas for a site compound including the siting of office, storage of plant and materials, areas for the parking of construction workers' vehicles and measures to prevent the transfer of mud out of the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. All works which form part of the approved scheme shall be implemented while any demolition/constructions works are in operation.

Additional Condition 23

No development shall commence until the developer together with a member of staff from the Highway Authority completes an inspection of the local highway network (full length of Barnes Road) to establish the structural integrity of the highway. This survey shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. A similar survey shall be carried out within one month of the completion of the last house, and the developer shall make good any damage to the road to return it to the pre-construction situation.

Reason

To maintain the condition of the local highway network in the interest of highway safety.

93 **2019/1032/FUL - BRIARS HALL HOTEL, 156 BRIARS LANE, LATHOM, ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE**

RESOLVED: That planning application 2019/1032/FUL relating to Briars Hall Hotel, 156 Briars Lane, Lathom be approved subject to the conditions as set out on pages 605 to 608 of the Book of Reports.

94 **2019/0516/FUL - LAND TO THE REAR OF THE DOG AND GUN INN, LONG LANE, AUGHTON**

RESOLVED: That planning application 0516/FUL relating to Land to the Rear of the Dog and Gun Inn, Long Lane, Aughton be approved subject to the conditions as set out on pages 613 to 617 of the Book of Reports but with the amendment to Condition 2 as set out on page 632 of the Late Information Report.

95 **2019/1070/WL3 - LAND ADJACENT TO 47-63 SUMNER AVENUE, HASKAYNE, DOWNHOLLAND, LANCASHIRE**

RESOLVED: That planning application 1070/WL3 relating to Land Adjacent to 47 – 63 Sumner Avenue, Haskayne be approved subject to the conditions as set out on pages 621 to 622 of the Book of Reports.

96 **PROCEDURE FOR THE PUBLIC AND APPLICANTS WHO WISH TO SPEAK AT THE PLANNING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS THAT MIGHT AFFECT THEM**

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources as set out on pages 623 to 628 of the Book of Reports. The purpose of which was to consider a request received from LALC (West Lancs Area Committee), to extend the time limit for Parish Council representatives to speak at Planning Committee from 3 minutes to 5 minutes.

- RESOLVED:**
- A.** That the time limit for Parish Council representatives to speak at Planning Committee remain at 3 minutes.

 - B.** That the procedure for public speaking at Planning Committee be amended as set out on page 635 of the Additional Late Information report.

.....
Chairman

AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

HELD: Tuesday, 28 January 2020

Start: 6.35 pm

Finish: 7.15 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: N Furey (Chairman)

Councillors: T Blane I Davis
C Dereli J Gordon
J Mee M Nixon
P O'Neill D West

In attendance: Andrew Smith and Stuart Basnett from Grant Thornton

Officers: Marc Taylor, Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Services
Jacqueline Pendleton, Internal Audit Manager
Tom Dickinson, Principal Solicitor
Adam Spicer, Assistant Solicitor
Kirsty Breakell, Member Services / Civic Officer

39 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor P. O'Neill was appointed Chair for the start of the meeting and Councillor Furey assumed the Chair upon his arrival.

40 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Pope.

41 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, the Committee note the termination of membership of Councillor N Pryce-Roberts and the appointment of Councillor D West for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the political groups.

42 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

43 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

44 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 29 October 2019, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

45 PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no items under this heading.

46 **GRANT THORNTON ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER**

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property as contained on pages 449–464 of the Book of Reports, the purpose of which was to consider the external Auditors, Grant Thornton's, Annual Audit Letter for the year ended 31st March 2019.

The Chairman invited Andrew Smith from Grant Thornton to present the Annual Audit Letter to the Committee.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- Have all previously raised issues been resolved? It was confirmed that the Accounts have been signed off and there are no outstanding issues.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

(Note Councillor Furey arrived during this item)

47 **GRANT THORNTON PROGRESS UPDATE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property as contained on pages 465–473 of the Book of Reports, the purpose of which was to receive an update from the Council's external Auditors, Grant Thornton, on a range of different matters.

The Chairman invited Andrew Smith from Grant Thornton to present the Progress Report to the Committee. He confirmed that all accounts, including the Council's annual Housing Benefit Subsidy claim for 2018/19, have been certified and the audits have been closed. Andrew Smith advised of changes which will affect the 2019/20 audit as a result of changes within the finance industry.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- The impact of the new changes being introduced
- The lack of resources and finances across the industry
- People leaving the profession, making recruitment difficult
- Workloads being spread over longer periods meaning deadlines will be missed.
- Representations made to Government by Representatives of the Finance industry.
- Focus of new regulation being in the wrong direction and not what users need.
- Cost of new regulation being disproportionate to workloads.
- Cost to WLBC of audits under new regulation is likely to rise, but is still likely to be cheaper than previous method of audits.

RESOLVED: That the Grant Thornton Progress Report be noted.

48 REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT - ANNUAL SETTING OF THE POLICY AND REVIEW OF USE OF POWERS

Consideration was given to the report of the Legal and Democratic Services Manager as contained on pages 475–503 of the Book of Reports, the purpose of which was to report on the Council's use of its powers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) and to present an updated RIPA policy document for approval.

The Chairman invited Tom Dickinson, Principal Solicitor, to present the report to the Committee.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- Changes to policy are due to restructure and relate to personnel changes only, no change have been made to the actual policy.
- Process in place if we need to use the Act and the reporting of any use back to the Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Council's RIPA activity and the updated RIPA Policy at appendix 1, be noted.

49 RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND POLICY UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property as contained on pages 505–517 of the Book of Reports, the purpose of which was to set out details of the Risk Management Framework over the last twelve months and to recommend changes to the current Risk Management Policy.

The Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property outlined the report and confirmed there were no significant issues and the framework was working correctly. The proposed changes to the policy were shown as tracked changes in the appendix for approval by Cabinet in March.

RESOLVED:

- That the continuing effective operation of the Risk Management Framework be noted
- That the proposed amendments to the Risk Management Policy set out in the appendix, be endorsed for approval by Cabinet in March 2020.

50 INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITIES - QUARTERLY UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property as contained on pages 519 – 528 of the Book of Reports, the purpose of which was to advise of progress against the 2019/20 Internal Audit Plan.

The Internal Audit Manager, Jacqueline Pendleton, presented the Internal Audit Activities, Quarterly Update Report and gave a full update, to include progress to date and ongoing actions.

RESOLVED: That Members note progress in the year to date.

51 **ANTI MONEY LAUNDERING POLICY**

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property as contained on pages 529–547 of the Book of Reports, the purpose of which was to set out the results of a review of the Council's Anti-money Laundering Policy.

The Internal Audit Manager, Jacqueline Pendleton, presented the Anti-money Laundering Policy and confirmed the same would require amendments once the UK leaves the European Union.

RESOLVED: That the updated Anti-money Laundering Policy as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be endorsed.

52 **WORK PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to the Committee's Work Programme as set out at page 549 of the Book of Reports.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- Members to return to their groups to discuss ideas for Oct 2020 and Jan 2021 briefings sessions.
- Ideas to be passed to Marc Taylor through the Chairman.
- Future proposed briefings could lead to new ideas.
- Councillor Dereli advised she would like a more in-depth training on budget reading.

RESOLVED:

- That the work programme be noted
- That the Chairman provide Marc Taylor with details of future briefings required.

.....
Chairman

LICENSING & APPEALS COMMITTEE

HELD: Tuesday, 11 February 2020

Start: 7.30 pm

Finish: 7.41 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: T Devine (Chairman)

Councillors: N Delaney Mrs C Evans
Mr G Johnson Mr J Mee
M Mills J Monaghan
P O`Neill J Wilkie
Mrs J Witter

Officers: Paul Charlson, Environmental Health Manager
Samantha Jordan, Senior Licensing Officer
Kay Lovelady, Principal Solicitor
Kirsty Breakell, Member Services / Civic Officer

47 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence received.

48 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, the Committee noted the termination of membership of Councillor G. Hodson and the appointment of Councillor J Wilkie for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the political groups.

49 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

50 DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip.

51 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

52 MINUTES OF SUB - COMMITTEES OR WORKING GROUPS

There were no minutes to receive.

53 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2019 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

54 HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY 2019 - VEHICLE PROPRIETOR LICENCES

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Place and Community contained on pages 311-316 of the Book of Reports which makes amendments to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2019, regarding vehicle proprietor licenses.

The Environmental Health Manager outlined the report and the purpose of the proposed amendments to Members.

RESOLVED: That the relevant sections of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2019 be amended, so that the requirement to supply a basic Disclosure and Barring Service report (DBS) relating to the determination of a vehicle proprietor licence, applies to anyone other than national companies instructed by insurance companies or Solicitors for the provision of replacement vehicles. Each Proprietor will only be required to provide a DBS disclosure on application for their first vehicle and not for any additional vehicles the Proprietor licences with this Authority.

55 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 2 (Identity of an individual) and Paragraph 7 (Criminal Matters) part 1 of Schedule 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

56 **APPLICATION FOR PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE - WK/000254079**

Members were asked to consider an application for a Private Hire Driver License Number WK/000254079, having regard to the content of the Statutory Declaration that accompanied the Application Form and any other relevant information.

RESOLVED: That Private Hire Driver License Number WK/000254079 be deferred one cycle, in order to allow the Applicant a further opportunity to attend.

.....
Chairman



COUNCIL: 26 February 2020

Report of: Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources

Contact for further information: Ms. S Lewis (Extn. 5027)
(e-mail: sharon.lewis@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2020/21 AND INTRODUCTION OF HOLIDAY PAY PERCENTAGE SUPPLEMENT

Wards affected: Borough wide.

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To agree a Pay Policy Statement for 2020/21 detailing the Authority's policy on Workforce remuneration, as required by the Localism Act 2011 (the 'Localism Act').
- 1.2 To agree to the implementation of a percentage holiday pay supplement on certain enhanced pay elements.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Pay Policy Statement for 2020/21 attached at Appendix 1 be approved, published on the Council's website and included in the Constitution.
 - 2.1 That with effect from 1 April 2020, the Council will include a percentage supplement on payment of 7.69% on all overtime, Shift Allowances and Shift Pay, Call Out and Standby, Extra Duty and Additional Hours, Honoraria in recompense for holiday pay as noted in the report.
-

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Localism Act refers to 'Pay Accountability' and sets out the requirements for Councils and fire and rescue authorities to prepare and publish annual pay policy statements. The pay policy statement must be approved by full Council, in advance of the financial year to which it relates.
- 3.2 The Council must publish the statement on the Council's website and may choose to expand the publication in other ways as part of its approach towards

transparency. The pay policy statement must set out the Council's policies relating to:

- Chief Officer remuneration (at recruitment, salary, bonus/performance related pay, charges/fees/allowances, benefits in kind, enhancement to pension at termination),
- Remuneration of its lowest paid employees (elements as above), the definition used for this group and the reason for adopting that definition,
- The relationship between Chief Officer Remuneration and that of other staff.

3.3 The Council may amend its pay policy statement during the year but must comply with the statement in force in making decisions on relevant remuneration.

3.4 The definition of Chief Officers is not limited to those on Chief Executive and Chief Officer Terms and Conditions (JNC Conditions). It means Heads of Paid Service, statutory and non-statutory Chief Officers and those who report directly to them.

3.5 The Localism Act sets out the minimum requirements and authorities are encouraged to consider whether they wish to extend the scope of their pay policy statement to include highly paid staff not within the definition of 'Chief Officers'. At West Lancashire the scope of the 'Chief Officer' definition means that it is not necessary to so extend.

3.6 The information set out within the Pay Policy Statement complements the data on pay and reward that the Council is required to publish separately, under the Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data Transparency and by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations and Local Government Transparency Code 2014. This is referred to on the Council's website.

4.0 GUIDANCE ON OPENNESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN LOCAL PAY

4.1 Under Section 40 of the Localism Act the Council must, when preparing and approving pay policy statements, have regard to any guidance issued or approved by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. In February 2012, the Secretary of State issued guidance on openness and accountability in local pay setting out specific expectations including:

- Full council having the opportunity to vote on senior remuneration packages with a value over £100,000 prior to an offer being made in a new appointment;
- Policies explaining the planned relationship between chief officers' remuneration and that of other staff and the ratio between the highest paid and the median salary that the authority aims to achieve or maintain;
- Authorities considering Lord Hutton's recommendations on the value of a system of 'earn back' pay, with an element of their basic pay 'at risk', to be earned back each year through meeting pre-agreed objectives;
- Any decision that an authority takes in relation to the award of severance to an individual Chief Officer, complying with their published policy for that year;

- Authorities having an explicit policy in their pay statement on whether or not they permit an individual to be in receipt of a pension in addition to receiving a salary;
- Policies toward Chief Officers, who have returned to an authority and had received a severance or redundancy payment, returned under a contract for services or are in receipt of a LGPS / firefighter pension.

4.2 Additional supplementary guidance was issued in February 2013 which is summarised below:

- Pay Policy Statements are public documents to be used to hold Councillors to account on pay matters;
- The Pay Policy Statement should be published as soon as reasonably practicable after approval by full Council, it should include the Council's approach to the publication of and access to information on Chief Officer Remuneration.
- Building on existing guidance regarding the need for full Council approval for Senior Officer Appointments on salaries over £100,000, where Councils do not have posts within their structure of over £100,000, local salary thresholds should be set for full Council approval to senior officer appointments.
- There should be published policies on severance for Chief Officers and details of any redundancy payment discretions.
- Full Council should vote on large severance packages beyond a threshold of £100,000, the details should be set out to include all components of the severance, including salary paid in lieu, redundancy compensation, pension entitlement, holiday pay, bonuses, fees and allowances.

5.0 CURRENT APPROACH – PAY POLICY STATEMENT

- 5.1 Members have been mindful for many years of ensuring that the remuneration available to the Chief Officers and senior managers within the Council is appropriate including in terms of ensuring the necessary skills are available to the Council.
- 5.2 The annual Pay Policy Statement provides information about the remuneration package offered by the Council to the Chief Officers within the structure. The salary ratio of highest paid and the average salary across the workforce and the Chief Officers is detailed in the policy statement.
- 5.3 Lord Hutton in his review of public sector pay, Fair Pay in the Public Sector, December 2010, recommended amongst a number of other things that the ratio between the lowest and highest paid officers within a public sector organisation should be no more than 1:20. With this recommendation in mind the Council is well within the boundaries of reasonable and appropriate pay differentials.
- 5.4 In producing the Pay Policy Statement, due consideration has been given to the guidance available and it is considered that the Pay Policy Statement presents a fair and appropriate approach to senior officer remuneration across the Council, which also represents good value for money.

- 5.5 It is Council policy to pay an additional supplement to those Council employees not currently receiving 'a Living Wage Foundation living wage'. This wage level is currently £9.30 per hour and this approach has been accounted for in the Pay Policy Statement 2020/21.
- 5.6 Employees who are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) pay annual contributions into the Scheme based on a banding structure. The LGPS was amended with effect from 1 April 2014 and the current contribution bandings are incorporated into the Pay Policy 2020/21.
- 5.7 The Pay Policy Statement contains the grade structure for the Council, following the National Joint Council 2018/19 two year pay award. The national salary scale is due for the next national award in April 2020 for NJC officers and July 2020 for JNC officers. However these updated figures are not available at this current time. It is unlikely to affect the grade structure, but will affect the actual annual salary offered. Consequently when the pay award negotiations have been settled the annual salaries figures and respective ratios will be amended and the Policy will be updated to reflect those revised annual salaries, as an administrative update to the policy.

6.0 CURRENT APPROACH – HOLIDAY PAY

- 6.1 Historically many employers, including West Lancashire Borough Council, have paid staff their basic pay rate when they are on holiday. However following a series of employment tribunals, case law has now made it clear that holiday pay should correspond to what is "normal remuneration" for the worker, including factors such as overtime and standby allowance where it is worked on a regular basis. This is seen to be a "fairer" approach to take, for example because workers will not be deterred from taking holidays because their pay will reduce.
- 6.2 This basically means that a person should be paid the same amount when they are on holiday as they are paid when at work.
- 6.3 The case law on holiday pay and overtime separates the contractual annual leave allowance that people are entitled to, and the statutory allowance of 20 days a year. It also indicates that overtime need only be taken into account in calculating holiday pay where the overtime is regular, however, there is still no definition of what is "regular".

Additional

7.0 PROPOSALS – PAY POLICY STATEMENT

- 7.1 The Council needs to agree a Pay Policy Statement and is recommended to adopt the Pay Policy Statement 2020/21, as attached at Appendix 1. The Policy will be reviewed annually and further reports prepared for Council each year in order to ensure effective delivery of the Council's objectives. Any national pay award changes will be updated as an administrative update in year.

8.0 PROPOSALS – HOLIDAY PAY

8.1 It is proposed that the Council pays an additional percentage when we make all overtime payments, to compensate staff for any additional holiday pay they may be entitled to. This will be an amount equivalent to 7.69% (20/260) of the overtime payment. This percentage takes into account the number of statutory holidays (20) and typically no more than 260 working days in the year. This is in line with what some of our neighbouring district Councils have implemented. We will also pay this additional percentage for the following claimable pay elements:

- Shift Allowances and Shift Pay
- Call Out and Standby
- Extra Duty and Additional Hours
- Honoraria

8.2 This additional percentage would not be paid on living wage supplements, travel and subsistence claims. Any contractual payments that already attract a holiday-related entitlement will also not change. The basic contractual rates for overtime and other allowances are not changing and remain as set out currently in the Harmonisation Document.

8.3 This change will be implemented from 1 April 2020. The payments will be subject to the normal employee deductions, including tax and national insurance and pension contributions. As the case law is potentially subject to further change, it is also proposed to include a caveat into any contractual amendments that states that, if the legal position changes and it is clear that the Council is not obliged to take overtime and other payments into account when calculating holiday pay, then the additional payments will cease.

8.4 Consideration will also need to be given to backdating these changes, but the legal rulings have placed a time limit on the claims that can be made by employees, which will limit the impact on back pay.

8.5 The trade unions have been consulted on the proposals and their comments will be available for consideration at the meeting.

9.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY

9.1 The report acknowledges the need to be transparent and open about Chief Officer Pay arrangements. The Council has sought to make sure its pay arrangements ensure a suitably qualified and experienced set of Chief Officers are in place to deliver the Council's business, through appropriate remuneration at this senior level, whilst at the same time achieving value for money and being cognisant of the Council's objectives and budgetary circumstances.

10.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The proposed Pay Policy Statement itself will not have any direct effect on the budgetary position of the Council as it encapsulates the current arrangements in relation to Pay and Conditions of its employees. However the revised grading structure that will be effective from 1 April 2020 will detail changes to the salaries budget, which has been accounted for within the Council's overall budget, discussed elsewhere on the agenda.

- 10.2 Annual pay negotiations for both NJC and JNC officer salaries in 2020 have not yet concluded, so the salaries quoted in Appendix 1 are based on levels approved for 1 April 2019.
- 10.3 The cost of implementing the changes to the Holiday Pay arrangements will depend on the level of overtime and other relevant pay elements incurred each year. If these measures had been in place for the 2018-19 financial year it would have resulted in an additional cost of around £45,000 including employer oncosts. There will be potential additional costs associated with any backdating of claims, but this will be limited to a maximum of 2 years, with no more than 12 weeks gap between leave event for it to be considered a continuous period to achieve the full 2 years back pay.

9.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 The publication of a pay statement and introducing measures in relation to holiday pay is a statutory / regulatory requirement.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D (5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a significant direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required and a formal assessment is attached as Appendix 2 to this report, the results of which have been taken into account in the Recommendations contained within this report.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Pay Policy Statement 2020/21
Appendix 2 - Equality Impact Assessment

PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2020/21 (Revised February 2020)

1. Introduction and Purpose

Under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the “power to appoint officers on such reasonable terms and conditions as the authority thinks fit”. This Pay Policy Statement (the ‘statement’) sets out the Council’s approach to pay policy in accordance with the requirements of Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011.

The purpose of the statement is to provide transparency with regard to the Council’s approach to setting the pay of its employees by identifying;

- the methods by which salaries of all employees are determined;
- the details of the remuneration of its most senior staff i.e. ‘chief officers’, as defined by the relevant legislation;
- the relationship between the remuneration of its Chief Officers and other employees

This pay policy statement is effective from 1 April 2020 and will be subject to review on an annual basis, or earlier if required, the policy for the next financial year being approved by 31st March each year.

On 4 November 2019, the Council's Payline was amended and the grade of the Chief Officer WLa was amended. The new payline is detailed at Appendix A.

2. Other legislation relevant to pay and remuneration

In determining the pay and remuneration of all of its employees, the Council will comply with all relevant employment legislation. This includes legislation such as the Equality Act 2010, Part Time Employment (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations 2000 and where relevant, the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Earnings) Regulations. The Council ensures there is no pay discrimination within its pay structures and that all pay differentials can be objectively justified through the use of job evaluation mechanisms, which directly establish the relative levels of posts in grades according to the requirements, demands and responsibilities of the role.

3. Pay Structure

The Council uses the nationally negotiated pay spine(s) (i.e. a defined list of salary points) as the basis for its local pay structure, which determines the salaries of the large majority of its workforce together with the use of locally determined rates where these do not apply.

In April 2018, agreement was reached between the National Employers and the National Joint Council for Local Government Services Trade Union Side on rates of pay applicable from **1 April 2018** and **1 April 2019**.

This resulted in a two year pay deal, which included the revision of the National Pay Spine in April 2019, as well as a minimum 2% pay increase in each of the two years. This 2% pay increase over two years was also mirrored in the Joint National Council Chief Officer and Chief Executive national negotiations, though the pay spine in relation to these posts are locally determined.

The impact of the 2019 revised Pay spine, is that the Council's grading structure has been revised to take account of the pay spine changes. The next national pay award is due from 1 April 2020. However at the time of publication of this Pay Policy Statement, (February 2020) the outcome of these consultations are unknown, so 2019 salary figures are used. Once the National Pay award for NJC and JNC officers is confirmed the Pay Policy Statement will be updated.

The Council's pay scales range from Scale 1 to WLa. Scales 1 to PO4 are in line with the National Pay Spine and senior managers on Grades SM1 to WLa are on a locally determined pay spine. Full details are shown in the Appendices A. Variable additional payments may also be made as appropriate in line with the terms and conditions of employment, which completes the total remuneration package.

The Council pays an additional supplement to those Council employees not currently receiving the Living Wage Foundation 'living wage' (currently an hourly rate of £9.30). This provides a supplementary payment to all staff on spinal column point 1 in addition to their normal salary payment, which has been taken into account within this document.

The Council adheres to the national pay bargaining arrangements in respect of the establishment and revision of the national pay spine, for example through any agreed annual pay increases negotiated with joint trade unions. All other pay related allowances are the subject of either nationally or locally negotiated rates, having been determined from time to time in accordance with collective bargaining machinery.

In determining its grading structure and setting remuneration levels for any posts which fall outside the scope of the national pay spine, the Council takes account of the need to ensure value for money in respect of the use of public expenditure, balanced against the need to recruit and retain employees who are able to meet the requirements of providing high quality services to the community, delivered effectively and efficiently and at times at which those services are required.

New appointments will normally be made at the minimum of the relevant pay scale for the grade, although this can be varied where necessary to secure the best candidate. Where the appointment salary is above the minimum point of the pay scale and is not affected by other council policies, for example promotion, redeployment or flexible retirement, this is approved in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, contained in the Council's constitution, available on the Council's website.

From time to time it may be necessary to take account of the external pay levels in the labour market in order to attract and retain employees with particular experience, skills and capacity. This may lead to the payment of a market supplement or retention payment. Where necessary, the Council will ensure the requirement for such is objectively justified by reference to clear and transparent evidence of relevant market comparators, using data sources available from within the local government sector and outside, as appropriate.

Any temporary supplement to the salary scale for the grade for this purpose is approved in accordance with the locally agreed Market Premia and Retention Payments detailed in the local conditions of service. A decision in relation to any payment of this nature is delegated to the Chief Operating Officer except for officers on JNC Chief Officer terms and conditions which must be determined by the Council.

The Council also employs a number of Apprenticeships throughout the various services. These are paid in line with National Minimum Wage rates for age. These rates do not form part of the overall grading structure for the Council and are presently as detailed below (1 April 2019 figures):

FTE Annual Salary	Apprenticeship Age Rate
£8,166	Age under 18 years
£11,544	Age 18 – 20
£14,454	Age 21 -24
£15,411	Age over 25 years

These national apprenticeship rates are not included in the pay ratios as they are not part of the Council's pay scale structure.

4. Definitions

The Localism Act refers to the position of Chief Officer, which is defined as:

- Head of Paid Service designated under Section 4(1) of the Local Government & Housing Act (LGHA) 1989
- Monitoring Officer designated under section 5(1) of the LGHA 1989
- Statutory Chief Officer mentioned in section 2(6) of the LGHA 1989
- Non statutory Chief Officers mentioned in section 2(7) of the LGHA 1989
- A Deputy Chief Officer mentioned in Section 2(8) of the LGHA 1989

Within the Council structure this includes the following posts:

Chief Operating Officer, Corporate Director of Place & Community, Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources, Head of Growth & Development Services, Head of Wellbeing & Leisure Services, Head of Environmental Services, Head of Housing & Regulatory Services, Head of Finance, Procurement & Commercial Services and Head of Corporate & Customer Services and Legal & Democratic Services Manager which also assumes the role of Monitoring Officer for the Council.

There are a further series of posts which fall within the definition of Chief Officer by virtue of being “Deputy Chief Officers” i.e. via reporting lines, which have not been specifically listed here but salaries range from PO1 to WLe (see the Appendix).

“Lowest Paid Employees” – see Para 14.

5. Terms and Conditions of Employment

There are three officers on JNC Chief Officer terms and conditions of employment are the Chief Operating Officer, Corporate Director of Place & Community and Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources,. All other posts within the Council are employed in accordance with National Joint Council (NJC) terms and conditions for

Local Government Services.

Both two groups of officers are subject to any local variations adopted by the Council and detailed in its policy and procedures.

Where the Council is unable to recruit chief officers, or there is a need for interim support to provide cover for a substantive chief officer post, the Council will, where necessary, consider engaging individuals under a contract for service. These will be sourced through a relevant procurement process ensuring the Council is able to demonstrate the maximum value for money benefits from competition in securing the relevant service. In assessing such it should be noted that in respect of such engagements the Council is not required to make either pension or national insurance contributions for such individuals.

The Council does not currently have any chief officers engaged under such arrangements.

6. Recruitment

The Council's policy and procedures with regard to the recruitment of Chief Officers on JNC Terms and Conditions is set out within the Officer Employment Procedure Rules as set out in Part 13.2 of the Council's Constitution.

When recruiting to all posts the Council will take full and proper account of all provisions of relevant employment law and its own Equality in Employment, Recruitment and Selection and Redundancy and Redeployment Policies as approved by Council.

The relevant policies are:

Recruitment

- Recruitment Advertising protocols
- Recruitment and Selection (see Chief Officer Appointment details by Committee referred to in paragraph 16 below)
- Secondment Policy
- Staff Recruitment Incentive Scheme - guidance

Redundancy and redeployment

Organisational Change Scheme

The determination of the remuneration to be offered to any newly appointed Chief Officer will be in accordance with the pay structure and relevant policies in place at the time of recruitment.

Other relevant HR Policies and Procedures

This Pay Policy Statement should be read in conjunction with the following policies on paid terms and conditions as appropriate:

Conditions of service

Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) for Chief Officers of Local Authorities
 National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services
 Harmonisation and single status: local conditions of service document

Family-friendly documents

Childcare Vouchers - parent information
 Paternal and Maternity Policy

Retirement

Ill-Health Retirement Policy
 Flexible Retirement Policy

Training and Development

Training & Development Strategy
 Staff Development Appraisal Scheme
 Post-Entry Training Policy

All the above Policies are available on the Council's intranet or from the Human Resources Team.

7. Additions to Salary of Chief Officers

The Council does not apply any bonuses or performance related pay to its Chief Officers. Any changes in duties would be covered in the Harmonisation Document.

8. Chief Operating Officer - Remuneration

The current Senior Management structure was approved by extraordinary Council on 10 July 2019. The new structure became effective from 4 November 2019. The post of Chief Operating Officer was created and is designated the Head of the Paid Service and also Returning Officer.

The post is paid at WLa on the attached Appendix A. This is a spot salary and carries no additional annual increments.

Returning Officer fees are based upon a fee calculated periodically by the Cabinet Office, with the fee being based on a sum of money multiplied per every 10,000 of electorate. The Council pays the fees for the local election while the fees for other elections, such as Parliamentary and County Council, are paid for externally.

9. Corporate Directors - Remuneration

There are two posts of Corporate Director reporting to the Chief Operating Officer:

Corporate Director of Place & Community - WLb

Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources – WLb

The Grade for these posts is at WLb as indicated above and detailed on the attached Appendix A. There is a spot salary for this grade, which carries no additional annual increments.

10. Other Heads of Service – Remuneration

There are six further posts of Head of Service:

Head of Growth & Development Services,
Head of Wellbeing & Leisure Services,
Head of Environmental Services,
Head of Housing & Regulatory Services,
Head of Corporate & Customer Services.

The Grade for these posts are WLe, which is a 3 increment grade. Progression through the grade occurs through the payment of an additional annual increment on 1 April each year, up to the maximum spinal column point in each grade range.

Currently a market premium has been applied to the post of Head of Housing and Regulatory Services as a consequence of being unable to recruit to the post at its substantive job evaluated grade. This market premium brings the salary scale of this post to the same level of WLd. This market premium is applied as a temporary measure in line with the Council's policy and will be reviewed every two years to ensure it is still required, and to ensure the Council is compliant with equal pay requirements.

The sixth head of services is:

Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Services (Section 151)

The Grade for this post is WLd, which is a 3 increment grade. Progression through the grade occurs through the payment of an additional annual increment on 1 April each year, up to the maximum spinal column point in each grade range.

11. Other 'Chief Officer' posts as defined within the Localism Act

There are a further series of posts which fall within the definition of Chief Officer by virtue of being "Deputy Chief Officers" i.e. via reporting lines, which have not been specifically listed here but salaries range from PO1 to WLe, as set out in the Appendix.

12. Payments on Termination

The Council's approach to statutory and discretionary payments on termination of employment of the Chief Executive and chief officers and other groups of staff, prior to reaching normal retirement age, is set out within its Organisational Change Scheme, in accordance with Regulations 5 and 6 of the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations 2006 and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014.

Any payments falling outside these provisions or the relevant periods of notice within the contract of employment or £100,000 or more shall be subject to a formal decision made

by full Council.

With effect from 1 April 2016 regulations included in the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 were planned to be introduced for the recovery of termination payments paid to high earning public sector employees. Under these rules, public sector employees will be required to repay a tapering proportion of a 'qualifying exit payment', if they return to the public sector within a period of 12 months and earn an annual salary of £80,000 or more. Currently these regulations have not been brought in, but when they are the Council will apply them as appropriate.

The Council is awaiting the detailed regulations associated with a maximum £95,000 exit costs cap to be applied to Public Sector exit payments. Currently these regulations have not been brought into force, but it is anticipated they will be at some point in time. Once they are in force the Council will apply them appropriately.

13. Publication

This statement will be published on the Council's website and intranet. In addition, for Senior Officer posts where the full time equivalent salary is at least £50,000, the Council's Annual Statement of Accounts will include a note setting out the total amount of

- salary, fees or allowances paid to or receivable by the person in the current and previous year;
- any bonuses so paid or receivable by the person in the current and previous year;
- any sums payable by way of expenses allowance that are chargeable to UK income tax;
- any compensation for loss of employment and any other payments connected with termination;
- any benefits received that do not fall within the above.

The information set out within this pay policy statement compliments the data on pay and reward that the Council is required to publish separately under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 and Local Government Transparency Code 2014. This data includes all Senior Officers on a Salary in excess of £50,000 p.a.

14. Lowest Paid Employees

The lowest paid persons employed under a contract of employment with the Council are employed on full time 36 hours equivalent salaries in accordance with the minimum spinal column point currently in use within the Council's grading structure, plus a voluntary Living Wage supplement, ensuring all employees receive the equivalent of a minimum payment of £9.30 per hour, effective from 1 December 2019. This excludes Apprenticeships, which are paid in line with National minimum wage rates for age and do not form part of the Council's pay scale structure.

The National Joint Council (NJC) pay spine applied by the Council to its grading structure, ranges from Spinal Column Point (Scp) 1, £17,364 and Scp 43 £45,591 p.a. (Scp 1 illustrated with the Voluntary Living Wage Supplement is £17,457 pa) as at 31 January 2020.

The lowest paid grade applied to any Council post is grade Scale 1 which is paid at Scp

1 on a grade Scp 1 to scp 3) on the NJC pay spine, with annual incremental progression (including a Voluntary Living Wage supplement at Scp 1).

The relationship between the rate of pay for the lowest paid and Chief Operating Officer and Chief Officers is determined by the processes used for determining pay and grading structures as set out earlier in this policy statement.

As part of its overall and ongoing monitoring of alignment with external pay markets, both within and outside the sector, the Council will use available benchmark information to ensure that our pay rates are fair, affordable and competitive in the market place.

15. Ratio of Salary Differences

Ratio calculation need to be based on salary point and actual remuneration. The ratio calculations are based on salaries at 31 January 2020. However, the revised structure was only populated from 4 November 2019 and the voluntary living wage supplement, only applied in 1 December 2019. Consequently any remuneration ratios quoted will not take into account full year figures, though actual salary ratios are calculated at revised actual salary rates.

The full revised pay spine for 2020 is detailed at Appendix A, and is pending the 1 April 2020 national pay awards.

The lowest paid employee of the Council is someone employed on Scp 1 on the NJC pay spine including the Living wage supplement. The average annual salary for this grade would be £17,457 (including the Living Wage Supplement).

The Chief Operating Officer and Chief Officer range of salaries (as defined in this policy) spans a minimum of local Scp 53 to 71. This provides an annual mean average Chief Officer salary of £69,991. Consequently, the Chief Officer to lowest paid salary mean average is a ratio of 1:4.16 (or 1:3.94 when expressed as a ratio of total remuneration). This calculation is based on the salaries for Chief Operating Officer and Corporate Directors and Heads of Service only, based on the management structure that was put in place on 1st November 2019.

Using the wider definition of Chief Officer including those that could be considered Deputy Chief Officers by virtue of reporting lines would provide a grade range from Scp 29 to 71. This provides a mean average Chief Officer salary of £41,185 p.a. creating a ratio of 1:2.45 (or 1:2.32 when expressed as a ratio of total remuneration).

The highest salary paid in the Council is £94,500 p.a. This compares to a median average salary of £38,813 p.a. which is a ratio of 1:3.06 (or 1:3.5 when expressed as a ratio of total remuneration). This is well within the recommendations put forward in the Hutton report, Fair Pay in the Public Sector, September 2010, which suggested no more than a ratio of 1:20.

16. Accountability and Decision Making

In accordance with the Constitution of the Council, the following Committees are responsible for decision making in relation to the recruitment, pay, terms and conditions and severance arrangements in relation to employees of the Council:

Recruitment and Dismissal of Head of Paid Service, Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers - Where the Council proposes to appoint and it is not proposed that the appointment be made exclusively from among their existing officers, it will do so as outlined below:

Appointment of Head of Paid Service - The full Council must approve the appointment of the Head of Paid Service before an offer of appointment is made to him/her following the recommendation of such an appointment by the Chief Officers Committee. That Committee will include at least one member of the Cabinet.

Appointment of Chief Officers employed on JNC Terms and Conditions - The Chief Officers Committee will appoint these officers. That Committee will include at least one member of the Cabinet.

Other appointments - Appointment of officers below this level is the responsibility of the Head of Paid Service or his/her nominee, and may not be made by Councillors.

Disciplinary Action - Head of Paid Service - The full Council must approve the dismissal of the Head of the Paid Service before notice of dismissal is given to him/her, following the recommendation of such dismissal by the Investigating Committee. That Committee will include at least one member of the Cabinet.

Disciplinary Action - Dismissal of Chief Officers employed on JNC Terms and Conditions - The Investigating Committee will be responsible for the dismissal of Chief Officers employed on JNC Terms and Conditions and the Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer. That Committee will include at least one member of the Cabinet.

Disciplinary Action - Further Provisions – Suspension - The Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) may be suspended whilst an investigation takes place into alleged misconduct. That suspension will be on full pay and last no longer than two months.

Other Dismissals and Disciplinary Action – The dismissal of and taking disciplinary action against Officers on NJC Terms and Conditions (other than above) must be discharged on behalf of the Council by the Head of the Paid Service or his/her nominee.

Councillors will not be involved in the dismissal of any officer below Corporate Director level except where such involvement is necessary for any investigation or inquiry into alleged misconduct, through the Council's disciplinary, capability and related procedures, as adopted from time to time may allow a right of appeal to Members.

17. Engagement of Former Chief Officers in receipt of Pensions

The Council does not have a policy which prevents former Council employees from applying for and being successfully appointed to any Council job including other Chief Officer jobs, because they are in receipt of a Public Sector or Local Government pension. Normal Recruitment and Selection processes would apply in line with the Council's Equality in Employment Policy.

The Council does not prevent someone being offered a contract for services, e.g. as a consultant or agency worker based on the fact that they are in receipt of a pension. In relation to the appointment of Consultants, normal procurement rules would apply on

value for money. In respect of agency workers, the normal agency procurement processes would apply.

However, in accordance with the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015, regulations relating to the repayment of exit payments, any public sector employees who received an annual salary of £80,000 or above, will be required to repay a tapering proportion of a 'qualifying exit payment', if they return to the public sector and are offered a post within the Council at this Salary level or above within a period of 12 months from the receipt of the original exit payment (subject to this being approved for implementation by the Government).

18. Holiday Pay Supplement

The Council pays an additional percentage on all overtime payments, to compensate staff for any additional holiday pay they may be entitled to. This will be an amount equivalent to 7.69% (20/260) of the overtime payment. This percentage takes into account the number of statutory holidays (20) and typically no more than 260 working days in the year. This additional percentage for the following claimable pay elements:

- Shift Allowances and Shift Pay
- Call Out and Standby
- Extra Duty and Additional Hours
- Honoraria

19. Policy Review

The Pay Policy Statement will be reviewed annually or earlier if required and agreed by Council before 31 March in each year.

20. Employer Pension Contribution

The Council will contribute to the Local Government Pension Scheme in 2020/21 for all its employees who are members based on a rate of 19% of their pensionable pay. Additional contributions will also be made to address the current overall deficit on the Pension Fund. The rate of contribution is set by Actuaries advising the Lancashire Pension Fund and is reviewed on a triennial basis.

21. Employee Pension Contribution

Employees who are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme pay at April 2020 the following annual contributions:

Up to £14,100	5.5%
£14,101 to £22,000	5.8%
£22,001 to £35,700	6.5%
£35,701 to £45,200	6.8%
£45,201 to £63,100	8.5%
£63,101 to £89,400	9.9%
£89,401 to £105,200	10.5%

£105,201 to £157,800

11.4%

Notes

- (1) The salary ratio details shown in this statement are based on the actual earnings in effect at 31st January 2020.
- (2) Total remuneration has been calculated including salary, car expense allowance, over time, extra duties allowance, shift allowance, living wage supplement, standby duty, telephone allowance, election fees and employer's pension contributions. In view of the implementation of the restructure part way through the year, remuneration ratios do not contain full year calculations.

Appendix A

WLBC Grade Bands	WLBC Grade Title	Spinal Column Point	£ per annum wef 1/4/20	
			£8,841.00	Apprentice under 18
			£12,108.00	Apprentice 18-20
			£15,393.00	Apprentice 21-24
			£16,369.00	Apprentice over 25
1	Scale 1	1	£17,364.00	£17,457.00 including Vol Living Wage Sup
		2	£17,711.00	
		3	£18,065.00	
2	Scale 2	3	£18,065.00	
		4	£18,426.00	
3	Scale 3	5	£18,795.00	
		6	£19,171.00	
4	Scale 4	7	£19,554.00	
		8	£19,945.00	
		9	£20,344.00	
		11	£21,166.00	
5	Scale 5	12	£21,589.00	
		14	£22,462.00	
		15	£22,911.00	
		17	£23,863.00	
6	Scale 6	19	£24,799.00	
		20	£25,295.00	
		21	£25,801.00	
		22	£26,317.00	
7	SO1	23	£26,999.00	
		24	£27,905.00	
		25	£28,785.00	
8	SO2	26	£29,636.00	
		27	£30,507.00	
		28	£31,371.00	
9	PO1	29	£32,029.00	
		30	£32,878.00	
		31	£33,799.00	
		32	£34,788.00	
10	PO2	33	£35,934.00	
		34	£36,876.00	
		35	£37,849.00	
		36	£38,813.00	
11	PO3	37	£39,782.00	
		38	£40,760.00	
		39	£41,675.00	
12	PO4	40	£42,683.00	

Constitution 13:1: Pay Policy Statement

	41	£43,662.00	
	42	£44,632.00	
	43	£45,591.00	

WLBC Grade Bands	WLBC Grade Title	Spinal Column Point	£ per annum wef 1/4/19
13	SM1	44	£45,977.00
		45	£46,771.00
		46	£47,566.00
14	SM2	47	£48,545.00
		48	£49,961.00
		49	£51,381.00
15	SM3	50	£51,536.00
		51	£53,548.00
		52	£55,562.00
16	WLe	53	£56,093.00
		54	£56,411.00
		55	£56,943.00
17	WLd	56	£61,026.00
		57	£61,556.00
		58	£62,087.00

WLBC Grade Bands	JNC	Spinal Column Point	£ per annum wef 1/4/18
18	WLc	61	£74,259.00
19	WLb	62	£81,687.00
20	WLa	71	£94,500.00

not used

Equality Impact Assessment Form



Directorate: Transformation and Resources	Service: Corporate and Customer Services
Completed by: S Lewis	Date: January 2020
Subject Title: Pay Policy Statement 2020/21	
1. DESCRIPTION	
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	Yes <i>*delete as appropriate</i>
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	No
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	No
Is a programme or project being planned:	No
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	Yes
Details of the matter under consideration:	<p>The Localism Act refers to 'Pay Accountability' and sets out the requirements for Councils and fire and rescue authorities to determine and publish annual pay policy statements. The full Council must approve the pay policy statement in advance of the financial year to which it relates. It must set out the Council's policies relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Chief Officer remuneration (at recruitment, salary, bonus/performance related pay, charges/fees/allowances, benefits in kind, enhancement to pension, at termination), •Remuneration of its lowest paid employees (elements as above), the definition used for this group and the reason for adopting that definition, •The relationship between Chief Officer remuneration and that of other staff. <p>The Council needs to agree a Pay Policy Statement and is recommended to adopt the Pay Policy Statement 2020/21 as detailed in the report.</p>

If you answered **Yes** to any of the above **go straight to Section 3**
 If you answered **No** to all the above **please complete Section 2**

2. RELEVANCE

Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	Yes <i>*delete as appropriate</i>
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>	This report has an impact on the workforce.
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups: <i>You do not need to complete the rest of this form.</i>	

3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION

Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	The Policy has an impact on the entire Council workforce and as such has an impact on all protected characteristics, as the Council's workforce comprises of all the protected characteristics. A knowledge of the existing workforce profile and equality policies within the Council that are applied to the workforce, including the Recruitment and Selection Policy, Equality in Employment Policy and all other related employment policies, including a recent Equal Pay Audit have been used to assess the impact of the Pay Policy Statement on the workforce.
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	See Above.
Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?	<i>*delete as appropriate</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age Gender Disability Race and Culture Sexual Orientation Religion or Belief Gender Reassignment Marriage and Civil Partnership Pregnancy and Maternity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes

4. DATA ANALYSIS

<p>In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?</p>	<p>The Policy has an impact on the entire Council workforce and as such has an impact on all protected characteristics.</p>
<p>What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?</p>	<p>The Pay Policy Statement is a statement of the Council's current policies in relation to the pay of senior managers and the various ratios between higher and lower paid staff. This is a statement of current practice and does not present any practice changes or policy revision. Consequently, there are no altered impacts envisaged on any particular stakeholder or protected group of stakeholders.</p>
<p>What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?</p>	<p>The Council is part of a national collective bargaining process for all levels of remuneration throughout the Council. The Council itself, however, have determined the grade structure. This structure was last amended in November 2020. Any changes achieved at that time were subject to Trade Union and individual officer consultation and were agreed. Any actual salary amounts changes since that time have been subject to the national negotiating machinery, which also provides for Trade Union contributions to pay award settlements. This is not an area that can be affected locally, other than in the determination of individual grades. Actual grades are arrived at via a joint Trade Union and management agreed Job Evaluation process. A national agreement on the 2018/19 pay award was approved during 2018 as part of a two year deal. The 2019 part of this deal created a revised national spinal column point pay spine. The next National Pay award is due in April 2020, but it is not anticipated to affect the grade structure, but will affect the actual salary assigned to each spinal column point.</p>
<p>What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?</p>	<p>Census Data Profile information available on the Council's website Workforce Profile Equality Policies within the Council Equal Pay Audit</p>
<p>If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:</p>	<p>N/A</p>

5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	The decision is to agree the existing status is reflected in the Pay Policy Statement. It identifies different ratios between groups of staff based on pay levels. As there is no proposed change to actual practice, but rather, a reflection of the impact of the pay award on these ratios, it is envisaged that there will be no impact, negative or positive, upon any particular group with protected characteristics.
6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).)	See above in 5.
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	No further actions on equality impact need to be taken.
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	The Pay Policy Statement is reviewed annually prior to 31 March each year. At that stage, the EIA will also be reviewed to ensure there has been no change to the assessed impact on any protected characteristic group.



COUNCIL: 26 February 2020

Report of: Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources

Contact for further information: Mrs J Denning (Ext. 5384)
(Email: jacky.denning@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2020/21 AND APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL & PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP), agree the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2020/21 and to note and endorse the Membership of the IRP.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the IRP's report for 2020/21, attached at Appendix 2, be received and taken into account when considering the recommendation at 2.2 and 2.3 below.

2.2 That in accordance with paragraph 10 of the IRP's report, a Members Allowance Scheme be made, effective from 1 April 2020 incorporating a Basic Allowance of £4,842 (no increase), provision for SRA payments, as detailed on the Schedule attached as Appendix 1 (no change), including an increase to the Childcare and Dependent Carer's Allowance to be set at the same level as the Living Wage (currently £9.30 per hour) and an allowance of £250 for the year for the two newly elected Parish Council representatives on the Standards Committee.

2.3 That the Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources update and publish the Members' Allowances Scheme for the period commencing 1 April 2020, such scheme to be incorporated into the Constitution and subsequently published.

2.4 That the Membership of the IRP for 2020/21 and the respective terms of office be noted and endorsed as follows:

Mrs G Stanley (Chairman)	1 May 2021
Mr J Boardman	1 May 2023
Mr I Thompson	1 May 2022

2.5 That the appointment of Parish Councillors Justin Stopford and Linda Webster on the Standards Committee for a 3 year term of office ending in May 2023 be noted and endorsed.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council must establish and operate an IRP to consider and make recommendations on various issues relating to the matter of allowances to members of the authority. The Council is required to take into consideration any recommendation made by its IRP when making any new scheme of allowances, revising, or amending any existing scheme.
- 3.2 The Council currently has a scheme for the payment of a Basic Allowance to each Member plus a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) for each of those Members holding a position of special responsibility. The Scheme also provides for the payment of travel and subsistence allowances and, in certain specific circumstances, Childcare and Dependent Carer's Allowance.

4.0 THE COUNCIL'S SCHEME FOR 2020/21

- 4.1 The IRP met on 23 October 2019 to consider the current position in relation to Members' Allowances and the Council's Scheme for 2020/21 and to agree to undertake a review. Details of the information considered as part of the review and the Panel's recommendations are contained in the report attached at Appendix 2, which also contains recommendations for an increase to the Childcare and Dependent Carer's Allowance and a payment of £250 for each of the Parish Council representatives.
- 4.2 At Annual Council on 15 May 2019 it was resolved to appoint 2 Parish Council representatives to serve on the Standards Committee. The procedure for the nomination and appointment of those representatives was agreed at the Standards Committee on 17 September 2019 and provided for Parish/Town Councils to submit nominations and subsequently vote on the nominees. Parish Councillors Justin Stopford and Linda Webster have been appointed for a 3 year term of office ending in May 2023.
- 4.3 Members of the IRP also meet to consider Parish matters as the Parish Remuneration Panel (PRP) and in this respect they did not receive any requests to make amendments to the previous report, the Panel considered there was no need to issue a new report.
- 4.4 The Scheme commences on 1 April in each year in accordance with the legislation, rather than the municipal year. Following the Council's decision, a new scheme for 2020/21 will be prepared, effective from 1 April 2020. A copy of the new scheme will be circulated to all members, incorporated in the Council's Constitution and as a consequence published on the Council's website.

5.0 THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 The IRP Membership is Mrs G Stanley, Mr J Boardman and Mr I Thompson. Terms of office are 3 years, with one position on the Panel being subject to re-selection each year. The Term of Office of Mr J Boardman expires on 1 May 2020.

The Council is required to adopt an appointments process that it considers is best able to provide an Independent Panel that is well qualified to discharge its functions and which is representative of the community. The Council's arrangements for appointing the Panel involved the placing of advertisements in the local press and then interviewing the candidates.

- 5.2 If the Council wished to appoint a replacement member, a full recruitment process would need to be undertaken in accordance with the appropriate Regulations, which would then be reported to Council for approval at a future meeting. Mr Boardman has indicated that he is prepared to serve for a further period of three years. Given the infrequency with which the IRP is required to meet, it takes some time to gain relevant experience and therefore it is sensible to maintain continuity of membership where possible. Mr Boardman has been a member of the Panel since January 2012. It is therefore recommended that Mr Boardman is appointed for a further 3 years.
- 5.3 Regulations provide for Allowances to be paid to IRP members and for 2020/21 each Panel member will be entitled to receive an allowance of £250, with the Chairman receiving an additional £50. These are included as part of the Council's scheme and provision is included in the current budget.
- 5.4 The Panel has also been appointed to serve as the PRP and in this respect considers and reports to the Parish Councils on issues relating to Members' allowances paid by those bodies.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The budget figures for 2020-21 contained elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting include provision to meet the costs of Basic and Special Responsibilities Allowances, together with employer's National Insurance (N.I.) contributions where appropriate.
- 6.2 Provision has also been included in the budget figures for 2020-21 to incorporate the IRP's recommendations to increase the Childcare and Dependent Carer's Allowance and payment of £250 for each of the two Parish Council representatives.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 to this Report).

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees and stakeholders, however there is a direct impact on elected members. Therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report.

Appendices:

1. SRA Payments
2. IRP's report for 2020/21

3. Equality Impact Assessment

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES

The following posts are specified as having special responsibilities in respect of which Special Responsibility Allowances are payable under Paragraph 4, in the amounts shown for each post.

Area of Special Responsibility	Basis of Allowance (as percentage of Basic Allowance)	Amount of Allowance (£)
Leader	250%	12,105
Deputy Leader	150%	7,263
Cabinet Member (up to 8)	100%	4,842
Opposition Group Leader (if Group comprises 5 or more Members)	70%	3,389
Opposition Group Deputy Leader (if Group comprises 5 or more Members)	35%	1,694
Chairman - Overview & Scrutiny Committee	50%	2,421
Chairman - Licensing & Appeals Committee	50%	2,421
Chairman – Licensing & Gambling Committee	50%	2,421
Chairman – Planning Committee	100%	4,842
Chairman – Audit and Governance Committee	50%	2,421



WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL
ON MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES**

20 NOVEMBER 2019

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

**REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES FOR
WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL – 2020/21**

1. Membership

1.1 The Local Government Act 2000 requires local authorities to establish an Independent Remuneration Panel to review and report to the Council on the Members' Allowances Scheme. Following public advertisement and interview we are the current members of the Panel.

1.2 We are: -

- 1 Gail Stanley – Resident of Ormskirk (Chairman of the Panel);
- 2 Jeremy Boardman - HR Business Partner of Burscough; and
- 3 Ian Thompson - retired former police officer now working in the charity sector of Aughton.

1.3 We have been assisted in our deliberations by an external local government consultant, Mike Dudfield.

2. Panel's Terms of Reference

2.1 The Council set us the following terms of reference:

- 1 To make recommendations to the Council as to the amount of basic allowance which should be payable to elected members.
- 2 To make recommendations to the Council about the roles and responsibilities for which a special responsibility allowance should be payable and the amount of each such allowance.
- 3 To make recommendations as to whether the Council's allowances scheme should include an allowance in respect of the expenses of arranging for the care of children and dependents and, if it does make such a recommendation, the amount of this allowance and the means by which it is determined.
- 4 To apply Best Value principles in relation to the allowances under consideration.

3. Legislative Position

- 3.1 The local government legislation requires a full review of Members' allowances to be undertaken at least every four years. This is the fourth year since we last undertook a full review and this report follows a review of all aspects of the current Scheme of Allowances.

4. Background

- 4.1 In undertaking this year's full review we had available all the information that we had at the time of the last full review, December 2015, the information available to us at the review meetings held in 2016-2018, up-to-date information of allowance schemes operated by other Lancashire Districts and replies from each of the current Group Leaders with their views of the present scheme.

5. Basic Allowance

- 5.1 In previous reports we have indicated our acceptance that the principle for the original introduction of a Basic Allowance was to recognise the work undertaken by Councillors in all their roles, rather than just attendance at meetings, which had been the calculator for the previous regime. Whilst it is easy to measure attendance at meetings, we can understand that many members of the public do not appreciate the extent of time that Members do spend on Council duties outside the meeting rooms. The guidance from the Local Government Associations has always been that the allowance was not intended to be an income but was designed to ensure that Councillors did not suffer financial hardship as a consequence of becoming a Councillor. This protects the ability for a cross-section of the public to apply for office as a councillor. Other public sector payment schemes do not show any discount to reflect the voluntary nature of the position whilst maintaining the protection of those who would suffer financial hardship and it is therefore difficult to seek to draw comparisons with such schemes.
- 5.2 Prior to the establishment of the Panel in 2002, the Council had engaged consultants, Don Latham Associates, who reported to the Council in March 2000 on the level of workload of Councillors under the new leadership provisions established by the Local Government Act 2000. Their report recommended a Basic Allowance of £4,725 with inflationary increases in subsequent years and that recommendation was agreed by the Council.
- 5.3 The initial view taken by the Panel was to continue with the principles adopted by the consultants and agreed by the Council at that time. In the intervening years the Panel undertook various exercises and information gathering sessions with Councillors but nothing has suggested to us that it would be appropriate to change the basis of the original principles that had been adopted.

- 5.4 At the beginning, the Panel was aware that the Basic Allowance at West Lancashire was the highest of the Shire Districts in Lancashire and we mentioned this fact in our first report for the year 2002/03. That appears to have been taken into account by the Council as the Panel's initial recommendation of £5,040 (following the Latham recommendation with inflationary uplift) was reduced to £4,610. The current allowance is £4842. We have continued to advise the Council of the fact that the Basic Allowance is still the highest of the Lancashire Shire Districts although the margins have reduced and the current average is much higher than in 2002/03. There appears to be no specific reasons why other authorities have the levels that they do and there are a variety in population levels and the number of Councillors. None of these or the statistics that flow from any sort of comparative exercise lead to any form of justifiable conclusion as to the level of allowance that should be paid.
- 5.5 We asked the three Group Leaders to let us have their views on the present allowances scheme. In respect of the Basic Allowance, Councillor Moran did not feel that any change was required; Councillor Westley felt that the level was appropriate and whilst he acknowledged that the level was higher than neighbouring District Councils, he felt that the apportionment of the allowances scheme as a whole was fairer than in a number of neighbouring districts. Councillor Westley produced details comparing West Lancashire with Chorley, Fylde, Lancaster, South Ribble and Wyre which showed, in all but one case, higher SRAs which brought the overall cost of allowances much closer to that of West Lancashire. Councillor Owens repeated a view, which he had expressed to the Panel in the previous full review, that the Council ought to adopt a system which tracked the average allowance level for all Lancashire Councils and applied the resultant average figure to West Lancashire. He produced a table which resulted in an average of £3924.20.
- 5.6 The Panel does not consider political matters in reaching its conclusions but we are appointed as a public watchdog and have to take into account the fact that many people in the local community are having to deal with the effects of a number of years of Government austerity measures. Councillor Owens' proposal was considered by us four years ago. The Government in 2000 felt that it was for each local authority to establish its own allowances scheme and we were not satisfied then that his proposal properly took into account the rationale for any authority's levels of allowances but that it was just an average which would vary each time any Lancashire authority makes an alteration to its scheme rather than a change relating to the specific circumstances applying in West Lancashire. Nothing in his response has changed our view on that.
- 5.7 Councillor Moran has drawn our attention to an Electoral Review that is to be undertaken and states that a review of allowances should be undertaken following any changes from the Review. We will consider those changes if and when they arise.

5.8 Having considered all of the above, we recommend that, for 2020/21, the Basic Allowance should remain at £4,842 and that the figure should be fixed for four years with the right for the Council, in any year, to request the Panel to consider an increase. The Panel would expect specific reasons to be put forward in support of such a request.

6. Special Responsibility Allowances

6.1 Since the acceptance of the Latham report, SRAs have been calculated as a percentage of the Basic Allowance.

6.2 Councillors Moran and Westley agree with that basis and do not feel there are any circumstances which warrant reviewing the individual responsibilities of those in receipt of an SRA. Councillor Owens accepts that the basis has the advantages of ease of administration and understanding. His Group would be opposed to any increase in the total SRAs paid.

6.3 Both Councillors Moran and Owens make reference to the Sustainable Organisation Review Project which is intended to create an enhanced strategic role expected of Members from April 2020. Councillor Moran says that we should be aware of the change whereas Councillor Owens states that there is no evidence that the relationship between Councillors and Officers will be significantly different under the new structure. We have considered the present SRAs based on the roles currently undertaken by SRA recipients. Should there be any change in the immediate or short-term future we would expect that matter to be referred to us so that we may investigate it and make appropriate recommendations to the Council. We have not considered the Project report in making our recommendations in this report.

7. Childcare and Dependent Carer's Allowance

7.1 This allowance currently is set at £6 per hour with the Council having the power in special circumstances in a specific case to pay a higher rate. Neither Councillor Moran nor Councillor Westley feel that the amount requires revision whereas Councillor Owens accepts that it is very rarely claimed but would support the allowance being paid at the living wage hourly rate, currently £9.30 per hour.

7.2 As the Council supports the principle of the Living Wage this allowance should be aligned to that and automatically reviewed in line with annual increases in the Living Wage.

8. Travelling and Subsistence Allowances

8.1 This is aligned to the staff Allowances Scheme. None of the Group Leaders see

any reason to change this. The Panel feels that is right.

9. Other Allowances

- 9.1 The Panel considered the level of allowance to be given to the two newly appointed Parish Council Representatives on the Standards Committee and agreed that the amount should be set at the same level as the IRP Members, currently £250.

10. Summary of Recommendations for 2020/21

- 10.1 We recommend that the Council's Scheme of Allowances for 2020/21 should be as follows -

Basic Allowance - to remain at £4,842 and the figure to be fixed for four years with the right for the Council, in any year, to request the Panel to consider an increase. The Panel would expect specific reasons to be put forward in support of such a request.

Special Responsibility Allowances - these to remain the same as the current allowances.

Childcare and Dependent Carers' Allowance – this to be increased to align with the current rate for the time being of the Living Wage, currently £9.30 per hour.

Travelling and Subsistence Allowances – these to remain as in the current Scheme.

That the two appointed Parish Council representatives on the Standards Committee each receive an allowance of £250 for the year, in recognition of their role on the Committee.

Gail Stanley

Jeremy Boardman

Ian Thompson

Equality Impact Assessment Form



Directorate: Legal and Democratic Services		Service: Member Services	
Completed by: Jacky Denning		Date: 4 February 2019	
Subject Title: Members Allowances Scheme 2019/20			
1. DESCRIPTION			
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	No		
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	No		
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No		
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	Yes		
Is a programme or project being planned:	No		
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes		
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	No		
Details of the matter under consideration:	Members Allowances Scheme 2019/20		
<i>If you answered Yes to any of the above go straight to Section 3</i> <i>If you answered No to all the above please complete Section 2</i>			
2. RELEVANCE			
Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	Yes	<i>*delete as appropriate</i>	
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>			
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups: <i>You do not need to complete the rest of this form.</i>			
3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION			
Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	Councillors		
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	Councillors		
Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?	None		
4. DATA ANALYSIS			
In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?	N/A – Not a service		
What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?	The report relates directly to the level of allowances for Councillors.		

What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	Councillors approve the Scheme following consideration by the IRP and its recommendations.
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?	The IRP has considered the scheme
If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	None
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	There is no impact in relation to the particular protected characteristics.
6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).	No negative impact.
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	No actions.
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	The Scheme is reviewed annually by the IRP and Council.



COUNCIL: 26 February 2020

Report of: Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property

Contact: Marc Taylor (Extn. 5092)
(E-mail: Marc.Taylor@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: BUDGET REQUIREMENT 2020/21

Wards affected: Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To enable the Council to set its budget for the next financial year.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the General Revenue Account (GRA) budget be approved based on the proposals to be presented at the Council meeting.

2.2 That the GRA Reserves Policy set out in Appendix A to this report be approved.

2.3 That delegated authority be given to the Chief Operating Officer and the Corporate Directors to take all necessary action to implement the changes resulting from the budget proposals.

2.4 That delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders to implement the new Business Rate Reliefs announced by the Government in January 2020.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council is required to set a budget and determine its council tax before the start of each financial year in accordance with statutory requirements and proper accounting practices.
- 3.2 The draft budget position was considered by Cabinet at its meeting of 14th January. The Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee also considered this position at its meeting of 30th January but did not agree any comments on the budget.
- 3.3 The Portfolio Holder for Resources and Transformation has been given delegated authority to submit proposals to Council at its meeting on 26th February to enable the budget to be set. This meeting will provide all Members with the opportunity to debate and agree the budget.

4.0 CURRENT YEAR BUDGET MONITORING

- 4.1 The GRA budget approved by Council for the 2019-20 financial year provided for net expenditure of £12.855m. Throughout the year budget managers and their staff have been monitoring and controlling their expenditure and income against their approved budgets, and financial reports have been made on performance.
- 4.2 The GRA Budget Update report to December Council projected that the outturn position would be in line with the budget, and the latest third quarter monitoring figures now shows that a small surplus is projected. These projections have been calculated on a prudent basis, and consequently this should mean that the projections should be realistic and can be treated with confidence.

5.0 RESERVES AND BALANCES

- 5.1 In accordance with statutory regulations and CIPFA guidance the levels of balances and reserves have been reviewed during the budget process to ensure that they are currently sufficient and that they will remain adequate over the medium term. There are 2 adjustments to reserves proposed following this review as follows:
- Transfer of £161,000 from the Benefits Equalisation Reserve (where this funding is no longer required) to the Sustainable Organisation Review Reserve
 - Transfer of £277,000 from the Business Rates Equalisation Reserve (where this funding is no longer required) to the Major Projects Reserve
- 5.2 The Council's medium term financial approach involves using reserves to support the budget position while the Sustainable Organisation Review (SORP) is being implemented. There are adequate funds in reserves to support this approach and consequently this should enable the Council to achieve a balanced budget position over the medium term.
- 5.3 Prudent financial management means that the Council currently has an adequate level of reserves and balances. Details on the purpose and level of reserves and balances are shown in the proposed GRA Reserves Policy in Appendix A

(including the proposed adjustments set out in paragraph 5.1). The level of funding in the Community Infrastructure Levy Reserve is increasing significantly at the current time, reflecting the number of new homes that are being built, and this should help to facilitate the development of new leisure facilities over the next few years.

6.0 BUDGET POSITION FOR 2020-21

6.1 The Medium Term Financial Forecast originally projected that there would be a need to use £810,000 of reserve funding to balance the budget for 2020-21 after taking account of changes in spending required to maintain agreed service levels, the resources that were expected to be available, and the phased implementation of SORP proposals. The latest position taking into account the results of the Local Government Finance Settlement and the detailed work on producing budget estimates is a revised funding requirement of £615,000, which is an improvement of £195,000 on the projected position.

6.2 Draft estimates have been prepared for next year that set out a provisional budget for the Council covering all areas of expenditure and income. Details on these estimates are included in Appendix B, which I have reviewed to ensure that they are robust for the purposes of the budget calculation in accordance with statutory requirements and accounting codes of practice. The draft estimates have been prepared to include the increases in the base budget required to roll forward agreed service levels, covering a range of standard factors such as pay inflation, contractual increments, contract inflation, and changes in recharges. The estimates also reflect the implementation of SORP proposals.

6.3 The draft budget includes an allowance of £125,000 to fund new budget issues and to deal with spending and income pressures. However the final value of budget issues will depend on the proposals agreed by Members at the Council meeting. If the value of these budget issues exceeds the £125,000 provision it will increase the scale of the budget gap. Conversely if the value of budget issues is below the £125,000 provision it will reduce the amount of the budget gap.

7.0 COUNCIL TAX

7.1 Statutory regulations require that a council tax base figure is calculated each year that reflects the amount of income that can be raised through the council tax. The tax base has increased this year from 35,256.32 to 35,978.93 (expressed in number of Band D equivalent properties), which represents an increase of 2.05%, mainly as a result of new homes being built in the Borough.

7.2 The Medium Term Financial Forecast, and the original budget gap, were based on an assumed increase in the council tax level of 2.99%, which is equivalent to £5.90 for a Band D property. The maximum increase in council tax allowed in 2020/21 by the Government without requiring a referendum has now been calculated as a £5 rise in the Band D tax level (equivalent to 2.46%), and this level has now been built into the draft estimates. Members will need to determine what council tax increase to approve at the Council meeting.

8.0 MEDIUM TERM BUDGET PROSPECTS

- 8.1 The Government has introduced a one year funding settlement for 2020/21. This settlement did not involve any significant changes in funding, which was in stark contrast to the previous decade of austerity. There is however significant uncertainty from 2021/22 onward, where it is expected that a new funding formula will be introduced together with a new business rates retention system. Consequently a new medium term financial forecast will be produced once this information has become available to establish the Council's financial position going forward.
- 8.2 On a positive note, if the government does not significantly reduce the Council's funding going forward, and the income and savings targets set out in the SORP can be delivered, then the Council should be able to achieve a balanced budget position over the medium term.

9.0 BUDGET APPROVAL

- 9.1 The Portfolio Holder for Resources and Transformation has been given delegated authority to submit proposals for consideration at the Council meeting to enable the budget to be determined, and it is anticipated that a set of budget papers will be circulated at the meeting to enable this to be achieved.

10.0 NEW BUSINESS RATE RELIEFS

- 10.1 In January 2020 the Government announced that the following business rate relief changes would be introduced:
- The current retail discount will be increased from one-third to 50 per cent and extended to cinemas and music venues, the duration of the local newspapers office space discount will be extended, and an additional discount for pubs will be introduced.
 - The increase in the level of the retail discount from one-third to 50 per cent will apply in 2020/21 for eligible retail businesses occupying a property with a rateable value less than £51,000. The extension of the retail discount is to those eligible music venues and cinemas with a rateable value of less than £51,000. The extension of the £1,500 business rates discount for office space occupied by local newspapers will apply for an additional 5 years until 31 March 2025. The pubs discount will provide a £1,000 discount to eligible pubs with a rateable value of less than £100,000 in 2020/21. This is in addition to the retail discount and will apply after the retail discount.
 - All reliefs are subject to state aid rules
 - Local authorities will be fully funded for awarding these reliefs and provided with new burdens funding for administrative and IT costs.
- 10.2 It is recommended that these business rate reliefs are introduced as they will help to support small local businesses and will be fully funded by the government.

11.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

12.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 12.1 The formal consideration and reporting of the budget estimates is part of the overall budgetary management and control framework that is designed to minimise the financial risks facing the Council. This process is resource intensive for both Members and Officers but ensures that a robust and achievable budget is set.
- 12.2 The challenging financial position facing local authorities has been evaluated and assessed as being a key risk, and consequently is included on the Council's key risk register.

13.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The health and wellbeing implications arising from this report will be dependent on the budget proposals put forward at the Council meeting. Details of any significant implications will be provided at the Council meeting if required.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders is dependent on the proposals to be put forward at the Council meeting. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment has been produced at this time. However, an Assessment will be produced and made available at the Council meeting if required.

Appendices

Appendix A – GRA Reserves Policy

Appendix B – Draft General Revenue Account Estimates

APPENDIX A - GRA RESERVES POLICY

1. Reserves Protocol

- 1.1 For each reserve held by the Council there must be a clear protocol setting out:
 - The reason for and purpose of the reserve;
 - How and when the reserve can be used;
 - Procedures for the reserve's management and control; and
 - A process and timescale for review of the reserve to ensure continuing relevance and adequacy.
- 1.2 Details for each GRA reserve held by the Council are set out below. Each reserve is managed and controlled by a Head of Service. The responsible officer can authorise amounts of up to £10,000 to be taken from a reserve provided that its use is in line with the stated purpose of the reserve.
- 1.3 In addition the responsible officer must also consult with the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Transformation and other relevant portfolio holder(s) before authorising uses from reserves in excess of £10,000.
- 1.4 Reserves are reviewed and updated as part of the annual budget preparation and as part of the closure of accounts process to ensure that they continue to be required and are adequate in size. Earmarked reserves represent money that has been set aside for a clearly defined purpose, and which is available to meet future expenditure in that area. Balances represent unallocated funds which have not been earmarked and consequently are available to support any service area.
- 1.5 The values shown below for each reserve reflect their current position. The process for closing down the accounts at the year end will allow for any outstanding in year commitments and contributions to be taken into account.
- 1.6 The Council's medium term financial plans mean that most reserves will reduce in size over the next few years, with the exception of the Community Infrastructure Reserve which is expected to increase significantly based on projections of new homes being built. The overall underlying level of reserves is adequate and reflects the Council's stable financial position.

Description	Purpose	How and When Used	Responsible Officer(s)	Value £000
Balances				
CORE BALANCES	Balances held to help cushion the impact of uneven cash flows and to avoid unnecessary temporary borrowing	Core balances will typically not change in year and should be maintained at a minimum level of 5% of the budget requirement	Head of Finance, Procurement & Commercial Property (HFP&CP)	690
CONTINGENCY BALANCES	Balances held to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies	Used if required as a general contingency with an expectation that it will be maintained at a minimum level of 2% of budget		270
Corporate Reserves				
MAJOR PROJECTS	Funds set aside to cover the costs of major corporate projects	Used to meet the costs of specific initiatives agreed through Council and Cabinet	HFP&CP	829
SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW	To support the development and implementation of the Sustainable Organisational Review process	Funding to implement proposals, including additional unexpected costs, project resourcing, delays in implementation etc.		768
BENEFITS / COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT EQUALISATION	To assist in managing and controlling benefits / council tax support costs which are demand led areas outside of the direct control of the Council	Used to smooth out variations in benefits spending and council tax support against budget.		200
BUSINESS RATE INCOME EQUALISATION	To assist in managing and controlling business rate income which is not within the direct control of the Council	Used to smooth out variations in business rate income over a medium term time scale		305
PLANNING INCOME EQUALISATION	To assist in managing and controlling planning income which is not within the direct control of the Council	Used to smooth out variations in planning income over a medium term time scale		314
BUDGET AND EFFICIENCY SAVINGS	This reserve is available to support the overall budget position	Used to deal with the financial challenges facing the Council as set out in the medium term financial forecast		1,420
STRATEGIC INVESTMENT	This reserve is available to support key strategic initiatives including Economic Regeneration, Planning activities and the Leisure Strategy	Used to meet the costs of specific initiatives agreed through Council and Cabinet including Skelmersdale Town Centre redevelopment and Leisure Facilities procurement		1,120

Description	Purpose	How and When Used	Responsible Officer(s)	Value £000
<i>Insurance Reserve</i>				
INSURANCE RESERVE	Funds held to meet the Council's self-insured liabilities where this is a more cost effective method of insuring than using an external company.	Costs are incurred when insurance claims are settled and funding is provided by individual Council services. The level of the reserve is determined through actuarial reviews	HFP&CP	2,092
<i>Repairs and Renewals</i>				
CRA PORTFOLIO – REPAIRS AND RENEWALS FUND	Fund used to meet the costs of building and other issues on the Community Related Assets Portfolio	Available for programmed maintenance and response repairs, new investment, and to provide general support for the CRA portfolio. Annual contribution made from revenue budget	HFP&CP	137
SOLAR PV FUND	To fund the replacement of Solar PV equipment located on Council houses	Annual contribution made to reserve from within revenue budget. To be used to fund repairs and renewals	Head of Housing & Regulatory Services	182
PAY & DISPLAY MACHINE REPLACEMENT FUND	To part fund the replacement of the pay & display machines located on the Council car parks	Annual contribution made to reserve from within revenue budget. To be used to part fund replacement of all machines	Head of Growth & Development	19
<i>Ring Fenced Reserves</i>				
HOME CARE LINK	Funding generated from surpluses on Home Care Link activities which is operated as a trading account	Available to meet costs and initiatives within this trading account area. Its level reflects accumulated surpluses	Head of Housing & Regulatory Services	3
INDUSTRIAL PORTFOLIO FUND	Funding generated from surpluses on the Langtree Estate that is ring fenced for certain regeneration purposes	Available to meet initiatives within this ring fenced area. Its level reflects accumulated surpluses	HFP&CP	431
INVESTMENT CENTRE	Funding generated from surpluses on the Investment Centre that is ring fenced for social enterprise purposes	Available to meet initiatives within this ring fenced area and to provide general support to the trading account position. Its level reflects accumulated surpluses	HFP&CP	269
COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY	Funding generated from CIL monies and which must be spent in line with the CIL framework	Uses of this reserve are agreed through reports to Cabinet	Head of Growth & Development	4,233

APPENDIX 2

GRA BUDGET ESTIMATES

Service	Budget	Estimate
	2019-20	2020-21
	£000	£000
Wellbeing and Leisure	3,400	2,787
Housing and Regulatory	1,564	1,749
Finance, Procurement & Commercial Property	486	102
Growth and Development	1,766	1,124
Environmental Services	6,275	6,831
Corporate and Customer Services	2,960	2,909
Central Service Items	-824	146
Treasury Management	-53	-379
Capital Charges	-1,235	-1,235
Funding From Reserves	-1,484	-810
Budget Requirement	12,855	13,224
FUNDED BY		
General Government Grants	-1,017	-875
Business Rates Income and Grants	-4,593	-4,923
Council Tax Surplus	-74	-123
Council Tax Requirement	-7,171	-7,498
Budget Requirement	-12,855	-13,419
Budget Gap / Surplus (-)	0	-195

NOTE

The implementation of the Sustainable Organisation Review has involved significant service restructuring and transfers, which means that it is difficult to make like for like comparisons between years in some service areas

WELLBEING AND LEISURE

Service Area	Employees	Running Expenses	Income	Cash Total	Recharges & Capital	Net Total
ESTIMATES 2020-21						
Burscough Sports Centre		54,240		54,240	147,070	201,310
Chapel Gallery		29,220	-12,200	17,020	22,450	39,470
Civic Hall		1,060	-1,060	0		0
Community Letting Facilities		580	-490	90	15,680	15,770
Countryside Recreation	138,020	126,220	-6,340	257,900	118,460	376,360
Countryside Sites Client A/c		6,790	-4,000	2,790		2,790
Cultural Services	80,930	15,740	-6,200	90,470	37,380	127,850
Golf Centre		1,590		1,590	85,080	86,670
Health and Wellbeing		82,450		82,450	-37,910	44,540
Leisure Trust Support	64,060	153,540		217,600	-37,750	179,850
Management Admin	415,360	29,900		445,260	-404,860	40,400
North Meols Comm Leis Centre		150,350		150,350	35,540	185,890
Nye Bevan Pool		261,700		261,700	138,820	400,520
Park Pool		389,950		389,950	208,050	598,000
Parks	32,780	28,620	-14,730	46,670	1,380	48,050
Skelmersdale Community Centres		3,410	-1,610	1,800	99,930	101,730
Sports Development Programme		4,050		4,050	104,510	108,560
Sportsfields Client A/c	6,530	141,620	-27,990	120,160	108,610	228,770
Grand Total	737,680	1,481,030	-74,620	2,144,090	642,440	2,786,530

BUDGETS 2019-20

Burscough Sports Centre		54,240		54,240	94,240	148,480
Chapel Gallery	87,500	52,590	-73,380	66,710	107,780	174,490
Civic Hall		1,060	-1,060	0	0	0
Community Letting Facilities		580	-490	90	15,680	15,770
Countryside Recreation	134,910	134,840	-6,340	263,410	173,460	436,870
Countryside Sites Client A/c		6,780	-4,000	2,780		2,780
Cultural Services	82,540	15,890	-6,200	92,230	19,770	112,000
Golf Centre		1,590		1,590	42,830	44,420
Health and Wellbeing	217,240	287,250	-296,440	208,050	-22,850	185,200
Leisure Trust Support	66,030	347,010	0	413,040	94,600	507,640
Management Admin	230,890	26,730		257,620	-251,370	6,250
North Meols Comm Leis Centre		150,350		150,350	55,620	205,970
Nye Bevan Pool		261,700		261,700	86,020	347,720
Park Pool		389,950		389,950	155,250	545,200
Parks	32,150	35,620	-14,730	53,040	1,780	54,820
Playgrounds Client A/c	44,390	50,990	-17,000	78,380	71,290	149,670
Skelmersdale Community Centres		3,410	-1,610	1,800	94,500	96,300
Sports Development Programme	11,300	5,330		16,630	87,350	103,980
Sportsfields Client A/c	6,500	141,330	-27,990	119,840	142,640	262,480
Grand Total	913,450	1,967,240	-449,240	2,431,450	968,590	3,400,040

HOUSING AND REGULATORY SERVICES

Service Area	Employees	Running Expenses	Income	Cash Total	Recharges & Capital	Net Total
ESTIMATES 2020-21						
Bus/Rail Interchange		29,360	-27,000	2,360	8,160	10,520
CCTV Running Costs		292,170		292,170	61,390	353,560
Community Safety	40,650	26,580	-10,000	57,230	69,620	126,850
Community Support Officers		88,000		88,000		88,000
Corporate Health and Safety	34,350	8,660		43,010	-28,660	14,350
Food Safety		17,770		17,770	151,630	169,400
Health & Safety	199,380	12,000	-570	210,810	-118,110	92,700
Health Management Admin	110,630	14,630	-600	124,660	-39,790	84,870
Home Care Link	392,190	312,340	-656,000	48,530	-48,520	10
Homelessness	71,140	15,890		87,030	142,760	229,790
Housing Enforcement		100		100		100
Housing Renewal	74,550	33,080	-92,570	15,060	166,000	181,060
Licensing	113,000	45,180	-250,840	-92,660	85,310	-7,350
Lighting and Public Buildings		10,200		10,200	-10,200	0
Pest Control	63,650	23,850	-61,000	26,500	47,990	74,490
Pollution Control	172,090	18,290	-13,690	176,690	57,950	234,640
Private Sector Housing Management	101,270	13,920		115,190	-115,180	10
Property Services	193,050	6,920		199,970	-122,810	77,160
Public Buildings	92,080	677,700	-295,060	474,720	-549,370	-74,650
Public Conveniences	37,000	33,460		70,460	10,860	81,320
War Memorial Clocks Sculptures		11,730		11,730		11,730
Grand Total	1,695,030	1,691,830	-1,407,330	1,979,530	-230,970	1,748,560

BUDGETS 2019-20

Bus/Rail Interchange		16,730	-13,500	3,230	8,900	12,130
CCTV Running Costs		291,380		291,380	62,510	353,890
Community Safety	39,810	26,550	-10,000	56,360	76,100	132,460
Community Support Officers		88,000		88,000		88,000
Corporate Health and Safety	92,640	8,900		101,540	-100,290	1,250
Crime & Disorder General	73,040	5,770		78,810	-78,270	540
Disclosure and Barring Service		10,800	-10,800	0	180	180
Food Safety		17,770		17,770	145,440	163,210
Health & Safety	172,970	13,170	-570	185,570	-75,310	110,260
Health Management Admin	237,840	39,870	-600	277,110	-189,370	87,740
Home Care Link	386,190	253,510	-607,890	31,810	-31,810	0
Homelessness	69,660	16,270		85,930	87,580	173,510
Housing Enforcement		100		100		100
Housing Renewal	117,110	33,850	-92,570	58,390	83,650	142,040
Licensing	108,030	34,770	-237,040	-94,240	65,830	-28,410
Lighting and Public Buildings		10,200		10,200	-10,200	0
Pest Control	62,370	33,000	-61,000	34,370	38,080	72,450
Pollution Control	184,870	19,070	-13,690	190,250	59,060	249,310
Private Sector Housing Management	80,570	14,150		94,720	-89,770	4,950
Property Services	213,490	6,970		220,460	-220,460	0
Public Buildings	91,610	710,220	-295,060	506,770	-601,750	-94,980
Public Conveniences	36,240	34,310		70,550	12,870	83,420
War Memorial Clocks Sculptures		11,730		11,730		11,730

Grand Total	1,966,440	1,697,090	-1,342,720	2,320,810	-757,030	1,563,780
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FINANCE, PROCUREMENT AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Service Area	Employees	Running Expenses	Income	Cash Total	Recharges & Capital	Net Total
ESTIMATES 2020-21						
Burscough Industrial Estate		1,000	-31,280	-30,280	-320	-30,600
Burscough Old Stables	1,110	7,650	-10,000	-1,240	16,990	15,750
Corporate Management	197,760			197,760	209,870	407,630
CRA Management	94,150	219,280	-1,239,680	-926,250	184,910	-741,340
Estates	295,050	28,690	-11,000	312,740	-303,200	9,540
Estates Management		50,900	-253,650	-202,750	125,620	-77,130
Financial Expenses		64,800		64,800		64,800
Financial Management	679,480	32,160	-2,300	709,340	-645,180	64,160
Green Hey Place		12,500	-62,610	-50,110	-2,470	-52,580
Industrial Portfolio		224,820	-393,000	-168,180	168,180	0
Investment Centre	142,450	500,840	-672,900	-29,610	29,610	0
Parish Councils		55,170		55,170	5,070	60,240
Pension Costs	382,860	1,500		384,360		384,360
Procurement	64,930	4,310		69,240	-70,360	-1,120
Treasury Management		11,750		11,750	9,440	21,190
Westgate Depot		7,950	-33,170	-25,220	2,700	-22,520
Grand Total	1,857,790	1,223,320	-2,709,590	371,520	-269,140	102,380

BUDGETS 2019-20

Burscough Industrial Estate		1,000	-31,280	-30,280	-320	-30,600
Burscough Old Stables	1,120	8,030	-10,000	-850	16,990	16,140
Corporate Management				0	492,230	492,230
CRA Management		230,790	-1,223,590	-992,800	119,730	-873,070
Estates	254,030	21,270	-11,000	264,300	-264,300	0
Estates Management		50,880	-253,650	-202,770	125,620	-77,150
Financial Expenses		64,800		64,800		64,800
Financial Management	644,030	34,390	-2,300	676,120	-687,860	-11,740
Green Hey Place		13,970	-62,610	-48,640	-2,470	-51,110
Industrial Portfolio		227,370	-393,000	-165,630	165,630	0
Investment Centre	140,020	511,400	-672,900	-21,480	22,880	1,400
Parish Councils		55,160		55,160	5,070	60,230
Pension Costs	894,750	1,500		896,250		896,250
Procurement	58,410	4,310		62,720	-62,570	150
Treasury Management		11,750		11,750	9,440	21,190
Westgate Depot		7,950	-33,170	-25,220	2,700	-22,520
Grand Total	1,992,360	1,244,570	-2,693,500	543,430	-57,230	486,200

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Service Area	Employees	Running Expenses	Income	Cash Total	Recharges & Capital	Net Total
ESTIMATES 2020-21						
Building Control	197,490	25,600	-151,610	71,480	108,140	179,620
Car Parks		214,520	-627,980	-413,460	166,660	-246,800
Development Control	632,910	114,000	-914,000	-167,090	316,780	149,690
Economic Development Unit	94,090	129,110		223,200	154,140	377,340
Festive Lighting		18,370		18,370	3,330	21,700
Heritage and Environment	115,730	9,240	-21,000	103,970	-11,430	92,540
Housing Strategy	54,350	13,020		67,370	-11,900	55,470
Market Contribution	7,820	65,860	-197,180	-123,500	80,710	-42,790
Methane Monitoring		36,000		36,000	32,130	68,130
Other Services		16,000		16,000		16,000
Planning Management Admin Supp	77,550	8,440		85,990	-85,990	0
Planning Policy	242,490	2,001,630	-2,000,250	243,870	75,100	318,970
Shoreline Management		3,750		3,750	7,970	11,720
Skem Town Centre Project				0	16,660	16,660
Street Nameplates, etc		20,000		20,000	32,230	52,230
Technical Services Employee	136,810	10,000		146,810	-146,810	0
Town Centre Management		5,400		5,400	22,210	27,610
Watercourses/Flooding Emergency		3,500		3,500	22,250	25,750
Grand Total	1,559,240	2,694,440	-3,912,020	341,660	782,180	1,123,840

BUDGETS 2019-20

Building Control	192,110	26,360	-151,610	66,860	74,580	141,440
Car Parks		213,420	-627,980	-414,560	163,590	-250,970
Development Control	676,130	115,430	-914,000	-122,440	576,930	454,490
Economic Development Unit	217,730	125,680		343,410	-17,720	325,690
Festive Lighting		18,370		18,370	3,330	21,700
Heritage and Environment	164,900	20,140	-21,000	164,040	34,560	198,600
Housing Strategy	53,270	13,640		66,910	-21,740	45,170
Management Support	99,820	6,280		106,100	-17,460	88,640
Market Contribution	19,770	231,900	-255,380	-3,710	87,800	84,090
Methane Monitoring		36,000		36,000	23,190	59,190
Other Services		16,000		16,000		16,000
Planning Management Admin Supp	367,140	40,240	-2,350	405,030	-405,030	0
Planning Policy	271,580	264,000	-230,250	305,330	130,690	436,020
Regeneration Projects Team	2,420	1,780		4,200		4,200
Shoreline Management		3,750		3,750	8,740	12,490
Skem Town Centre Project				0	16,480	16,480
Street Nameplates, etc		20,000		20,000	19,700	39,700
Technical Services Employee	221,250	15,610	-60	236,800	-248,410	-11,610
Town Centre Management		5,400		5,400	49,740	55,140
Watercourses/Flooding Emergency		3,500		3,500	25,980	29,480
Grand Total	2,286,120	1,177,500	-2,202,630	1,260,990	504,950	1,765,940

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Service Area	Employees	Running Expenses	Income	Cash Total	Recharges & Capital	Net Total
ESTIMATES 2020-21						
Clean and Green	1,545,440	1,415,590	-28,910	2,932,120	-75,750	2,856,370
Depot & Stores Account	90,860	87,820		178,680	-178,690	-10
Enforcement	76,460	49,410	-2,500	123,370	31,700	155,070
Environmental Officers	485,190	37,170		522,360	-292,020	230,340
Formal Parks Client A/c		1,360		1,360	16,080	17,440
Highways Landscape Maintenance	31,050	223,560	-260,170	-5,560		-5,560
Kerbside Recycling	969,660	491,420		1,461,080	95,670	1,556,750
Public Open Spaces Client Acc		2,500		2,500		2,500
Refuse & Green Waste Collection	1,312,890	1,185,820	-1,182,260	1,316,450	670,660	1,987,110
Transport Section	45,580	2,050,590		2,096,170	-2,065,160	31,010
Grand Total	4,557,130	5,545,240	-1,473,840	8,628,530	-1,797,510	6,831,020

BUDGETS 2019-20

Clean and Green	1,653,520	1,371,000	-28,910	2,995,610	-345,000	2,650,610
Depot & Stores Account	87,240	84,970	0	172,210	-197,490	-25,280
Depot Support Services	307,130	59,160		366,290	-395,120	-28,830
Enforcement	75,210	69,900	-2,500	142,610	31,720	174,330
Environmental Officers	320,600	36,320		356,920	-323,770	33,150
Formal Parks Client A/c		0	0	0	16,080	16,080
Highways Landscape Maintenance	36,610	223,560	-260,170	0		0
Kerbside Recycling	931,540	483,790		1,415,330	93,670	1,509,000
Public Open Spaces Client Acc		2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500
Refuse & Green Waste Collection	1,367,780	1,176,240	-1,182,260	1,361,760	581,540	1,943,300
Transport Section	42,190	2,023,750	0	2,065,940	-2,065,940	0
Grand Total	4,821,820	5,531,190	-1,473,840	8,879,170	-2,604,310	6,274,860

CORPORATE AND CUSTOMER SERVICES

Service Area	Employees	Running Expenses	Income	Cash Total	Recharges & Capital	Net Total
ESTIMATES 2020-21						
Administration Services	162,410	18,740		181,150	-110,490	70,660
Benefits & Council Tax Support		23,222,000	-23,547,210	-325,210	1,371,060	1,045,850
Business Intelligence & Development	471,350	57,450		528,800	-528,800	0
Business Support	924,850	156,600	-73,210	1,008,240	-931,480	76,760
CCS Management	240,940	13,150		254,090	-254,090	0
Civic Admin	5,000	356,350		361,350	-44,740	316,610
Civic Ceremonials		2,170		2,170	130	2,300
Civic Expenses	1,430	25,820		27,250	440	27,690
Communication and Consultation	140,430	3,600		144,030	-144,030	0
Community Chest		26,670		26,670	3,750	30,420
Customer & Business Engagement	252,890	79,990		332,880	-332,880	0
Customer Services	485,150	66,780		551,930	-551,930	0
Democratic Representation	22,950	2,250		25,200	299,130	324,330
Elections	1,690	93,790		95,480	53,950	149,430
Grants and Subscriptions		141,380		141,380	3,690	145,070
Human Resources & Payroll	358,820	70,220		429,040	-436,290	-7,250
Legal Services	388,570	42,960	-5,500	426,030	-438,060	-12,030
Member Services	204,160	7,850		212,010	-216,690	-4,680
Partnership and Performance	132,990	20,220		153,210	-153,210	0
Register of Electors	3,090	68,900	-1,500	70,490	91,570	162,060
Revenues, Benefits & IT Svs	2,672,440	4,630,880	-4,365,420	2,937,900	-2,356,090	581,810
Grand Total	6,469,160	29,107,770	-27,992,840	7,584,090	-4,675,060	2,909,030

BUDGETS 2019-20

Administration Services	172,060	21,630		193,690	-184,680	9,010
Benefits & Council Tax Support		27,730,740	-28,055,950	-325,210	1,336,610	1,011,400
Civic Admin	12,000	356,340		368,340	-39,610	328,730
Civic Ceremonials		1,960		1,960	130	2,090
Civic Expenses	1,430	25,670		27,100	430	27,530
Communication and Consultation	186,630	17,750		204,380	-206,150	-1,770
Community Chest		35,430		35,430	6,650	42,080
Customer Services	406,490	60,860		467,350	-421,260	46,090
Democratic Representation	1,500	2,250		3,750	359,460	363,210
Elections		93,790		93,790	50,180	143,970
Grants and Subscriptions		163,850		163,850	9,820	173,670
Human Resources & Payroll	283,780	70,110		353,890	-399,500	-45,610
Land Charges		12,530	-70,790	-58,260	96,910	38,650
Legal Services	611,510	50,080	-5,500	656,090	-631,170	24,920
Member Services	289,980	10,170		300,150	-308,210	-8,060
Partnership and Performance	77,770	910		78,680	-71,070	7,610
Register of Electors	3,090	68,900	-1,500	70,490	89,370	159,860
Revenues, Benefits & IT Svs	2,620,340	4,568,040	-4,288,660	2,899,720	-2,262,930	636,790
Grand Total	4,666,580	33,291,010	-32,422,400	5,535,190	-2,575,020	2,960,170

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS

MOTION

- 2.1 That the General Revenue Account Estimates for 2020/21 set out in Appendix B of the Council report be approved, subject to the changes set out below.
- 2.2 That the GRA reserves policy set out in Appendix A to the Council report be approved.
- 2.3 That delegated authority be given to the Chief Operating Officer and the Corporate Directors to take all necessary action to implement the changes resulting from the budget proposals.
- 2.4 That delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders to implement the new business rate reliefs announced by the Government in January 2020.
- 2.5 That a review of the budget setting process for 2021-22 be undertaken.

BUDGET SUMMARY FOR 2020-21

	£000
A Budget gap identified at paragraph 6.1 of the Council report based on a 2.46% increase in the council tax level	615
B Permanent budget proposals shown overleaf	240
C Grant to Lancashire Woodland Connect project	15
D Grant to Dial a Ride in 2020-21	20
E Market publicity and promotion in 2020-21	15
F Less allowance for new budget proposals contained in the draft estimates	-125
G Funding required from the Budget and Efficiency Savings Reserve	<u>780</u>

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The budget proposals contained in this report have either been the subject of previous reports to Committee, are currently at a high level where more detail needs to be worked out, or would not have an adverse impact on the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Consequently no equality impact assessments have been produced for these proposals at this time.

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS PERMANENT ONGOING ITEMS	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000	2022-23 £000
Growth and Development			
1 Continuation of Free Trees Scheme	3	3	4
Environmental Services			
1 Trade Waste Software module	20	14	14
2 Adjustments to reflect actual / required income & spend levels	18	18	18
3 Protective Clothing for Operational Staff	20	20	20
4 Weed Control	56	56	56
5 Litter Bin Policy Review (Cabinet November 2019)	13	2	2
Housing and Regulatory Services			
1 Career development funding – Career development EHO post	10	10	10
2 Mobile application for Food Hygiene interventions	13	7	7
3 DFG Analytics Peer Comparison Service	3	3	3
Finance, Procurement and Corporate Property			
1 Water Courses and Culverts	22	22	22
Corporate and Customer Services			
1 Service Now and 3cLogic Licences	12	12	12
2 Consultation – Citizen Survey additional costs	5	5	5
Council wide items			
1 Holiday Pay - ongoing costs (see note)	45	45	45
Total	240	217	218

HOLIDAY PAY

The costs of any one off backdated holiday pay (as opposed to current costs) will be met from the Major Projects Reserve.

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS TEMPORARY ITEMS FUNDED FROM THE MAJOR PROJECTS RESERVE	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000	2022-23 £000
Growth and Development			
1 Local Plan Evidence Studies (2 years)	70	70	0
2 Skelmersdale Promotion & Business Engagement (1 year)	49	0	0
3 Ormskirk Town Centre & West Lancashire Promotion (1 year)	25	0	0
4 Continued Membership of Growth Lancashire (1 year)	15	0	0
Wellbeing and Leisure			
1 Active West Lancs Partnership - replacement of external funding that runs out in March 2020 (3 years)	99	99	99
2 Less continued LCC funding and saving from the community transfer of Banks Leisure centre (3 years)	-79	-79	-79
Environmental Services			
1 Audit Inspections for Waste Transfer Station (3 years)	10	10	10
Housing and Regulatory Services			
1 Corporate Health & Safety – competent person arrangements (2 years)	15	5	0
Finance, Procurement and Corporate Property			
1 Insurance Valuations (2 years)	0	20	30
Corporate and Customer Services			
1 Air watch/MDM Replacement (1 year)	17	0	0
2 West Lancashire Electoral Review (2 years)	15	5	0
3 Introduction of Direct Debit Scheme for Garden Waste (1 year)	28	0	0
Total	264	130	60
Total funding requirement from reserve over 3 years	454		

LEISURE PROCUREMENT

Based on new information it is now expected that the cost of the leisure procurement initiative will be more expensive than originally thought. These additional costs will be funded from savings on the new leisure contract arrangements that will be put into operation from April 2020 and which will operate until the new leisure centres are built, plus an additional £57,000 from the Strategic Investment Reserve.

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS SORP MEASURES FUNDED FROM THE SORP RESERVE	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000	2022-23 £000
Corporate and Customer Services			
1 Temp staffing resource to support the delivery of objectives in the new Business Development & Intelligence Team / SDT (GRA element of costs)	90	90	0
2 Developing & implementing new ICT Target Operating Model	85	21	0
3 Delivering Revenues & Benefits Service back in-house	66	22	0
4 Our People Strategy	20	20	0
5 Organisational Development Digital Apprentice	0	21	21
6 Income Management Landscape Review	4	0	0
Total	265	174	21
Total funding requirement from SORP reserve over 3 years	460		

CONSERVATIVE BUDGET PROPOSALS

MOTION

- 2.1 That the General Revenue Account Estimates for 2020/21 set out in Appendix B of the Council report be approved, subject to the changes set out below.
- 2.2 That the GRA reserves policy set out in Appendix A to the Council report be approved.
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- 2.4 That delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders to implement the new business rate reliefs announced by the Government in January 2020.

BUDGET SUMMARY FOR 2020-21

£000

A	Budget gap identified at paragraph 6.1 of the Council report based on a 2.46% increase in the council tax level	615
B	Permanent budget proposals shown overleaf	140
C	Freeze the Council Tax level instead of a 2.46% rise	180
D	Less allowance for new budget proposals contained in the draft estimates	-125
E	Funding required from the Budget and Efficiency Savings Reserve	810

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The budget proposals contained in this report have either been the subject of previous reports to Committee, are currently at a high level where more detail needs to be worked out, or would not have an adverse impact on the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Consequently no equality impact assessments have been produced for these proposals at this time.

CONSERVATIVE BUDGET PROPOSALS PERMANENT ONGOING ITEMS	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000	2022-23 £000
Environmental Services			
1 Trade Waste Software module	20	14	14
2 Adjustments to reflect actual / required income & spend levels	18	18	18
3 Protective Clothing for Operational Staff	20	20	20
4 Weed Scraping	20	20	20
Housing and Regulatory Services			
1 Career development funding – Career development EHO post	10	10	10
2 Mobile application for Food Hygiene interventions (linked to a capital scheme)	7	7	7
Finance, Procurement and Corporate Property			
1 Insurance Valuations (2 years)	0	20	30
Council wide items			
1 Holiday Pay - ongoing costs (see note)	45	45	45
Total	140	154	164

HOLIDAY PAY

The costs of any one off backdated holiday pay (as opposed to current costs) will be met from the Major Projects Reserve.

CONSERVATIVE BUDGET PROPOSALS TEMPORARY ITEMS FUNDED FROM THE MAJOR PROJECTS RESERVE	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000	2022-23 £000
Environmental Services			
1 Litter Bin Policy Review pilot	13	2	2
Growth and Development			
1 Local Plan Evidence Studies (2 years)	70	70	0
2 Ormskirk Town Centre & West Lancashire Promotion (1 year)	25	0	0
3 Continued Membership of Growth Lancashire (1 year)	15	0	0
Wellbeing and Leisure			
1 Active West Lancs Partnership - replacement of external funding that runs out in March 2020 (3 years)	99	99	99
Less continued LCC funding and saving from the community transfer of Banks Leisure centre (3 years)	-79	-79	-79
Finance, Procurement and Corporate Property			
1 Water Courses and Culverts pilot (1 year)	22	0	0
Corporate and Customer Services			
1 West Lancashire Electoral Review (2 years)	15	5	0
2 Introduction of Direct Debit Scheme for Garden Waste (1 year)	28	0	0
Total	208	97	22
Total funding requirement from reserve over 3 years	327		

LEISURE PROCUREMENT

Based on new information it is now expected that the cost of the leisure procurement initiative will be more expensive than originally thought. These additional costs will be funded from savings on the new leisure contract arrangements that will be put into operation from April 2020 and which will operate until the new leisure centres are built, plus an additional £57,000 from the Strategic Investment Reserve.

CONSERVATIVE BUDGET PROPOSALS SORP MEASURES FUNDED FROM THE SORP RESERVE	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000	2022-23 £000
Environmental Services			
1 Audit Inspections for Waste Transfer Station (3 years)	10	10	10
Housing and Regulatory Services			
1 Corporate Health & Safety – competent person arrangements (2 years)	15	5	0
Corporate and Customer Services			
1 Temp staffing resource to support the delivery of objectives in the new Business Development & Intelligence Team / SDT (GRA element of costs)	90	90	0
2 Developing & implementing new ICT Target Operating Model	85	21	0
3 Delivering Revenues & Benefits Service back in-house	66	22	0
4 Our People Strategy	20	20	0
5 Organisational Development Digital Apprentice	0	21	21
6 Income Management Landscape Review	4	0	0
Total	290	189	31
Total funding requirement from SORP reserve over 3 years	510		

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS

MOTION

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C Grant to Lancashire Woodland Connect project	15
D Grant to Dial a Ride in 2020-21	20
E Market publicity and promotion in 2020-21	15
F Less allowance for new budget proposals contained in the draft estimates	-125
G Funding required from the Budget and Efficiency Savings Reserve	<u>780</u>

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Environmental Services			
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3 Protective Clothing for Operational Staff	20	20	20
4 Weed Control	56	56	56
5 Litter Bin Policy Review (Cabinet November 2019)	13	2	2
Housing and Regulatory Services			
1 Career development funding – Career development EHO post	10	10	10
2 Mobile application for Food Hygiene interventions	13	7	7
3 DFG Analytics Peer Comparison Service	3	3	3
Finance, Procurement and Corporate Property			
1 Water Courses and Culverts	22	22	22
Corporate and Customer Services			
1 Service Now and 3cLogic Licences	12	12	12
2 Consultation – Citizen Survey additional costs	5	5	5
Council wide items			
1 Holiday Pay - ongoing costs (see note)	45	45	45
Total	240	217	218

HOLIDAY PAY

The costs of any one off backdated holiday pay (as opposed to current costs) will be met from the Major Projects Reserve.

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS TEMPORARY ITEMS FUNDED FROM THE MAJOR PROJECTS RESERVE	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000	2022-23 £000
Growth and Development			
1 Local Plan Evidence Studies (2 years)	70	70	0
2 Skelmersdale Promotion & Business Engagement (1 year)	49	0	0
3 Ormskirk Town Centre & West Lancashire Promotion (1 year)	25	0	0
4 Continued Membership of Growth Lancashire (1 year)	15	0	0
Wellbeing and Leisure			
1 Active West Lancs Partnership - replacement of external funding that runs out in March 2020 (3 years)	99	99	99
2 Less continued LCC funding and saving from the community transfer of Banks Leisure centre (3 years)	-79	-79	-79
Finance, Procurement and Corporate Property			
1 Insurance Valuations (2 years)	0	20	30
Corporate and Customer Services			
1 Air watch/MDM Replacement (1 year)	17	0	0
2 West Lancashire Electoral Review (2 years)	15	5	0
3 Introduction of Direct Debit Scheme for Garden Waste (1 year)	28	0	0
Total	239	115	50
Total funding requirement from reserve over 3 years	404		

LEISURE PROCUREMENT

Based on new information it is now expected that the cost of the leisure procurement initiative will be more expensive than originally thought. These additional costs will be funded from savings on the new leisure contract arrangements that will be put into operation from April 2020 and which will operate until the new leisure centres are built, plus an additional £57,000 from the Strategic Investment Reserve.

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS SORP MEASURES FUNDED FROM THE SORP RESERVE	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000	2022-23 £000
Environmental Services			
1 Audit Inspections for Waste Transfer Station (3 years)	10	10	10
Housing and Regulatory Services			
1 Corporate Health & Safety – competent person arrangements (2 years)	15	5	0
Corporate and Customer Services			
1 Temp staffing resource to support the delivery of objectives in the new Business Development & Intelligence Team / SDT (GRA element of costs)	90	90	0
2 Developing & implementing new ICT Target Operating Model	85	21	0
3 Delivering Revenues & Benefits Service back in-house	66	22	0
4 Our People Strategy	20	20	0
5 Organisational Development Digital Apprentice	0	21	21
6 Income Management Landscape Review	4	0	0
Total	290	189	31
Total funding requirement from SORP reserve over 3 years	510		

COUNCIL: 26 February 2020



Report of: Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources

Contact for further information: Mr P Blakey (Ext. 87292)
(email: peter.blakey@btlancashire.co.uk)

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF COUNCIL TAX 2020/21

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To set the Council Tax rate for each property band for the whole of the Borough Council's area, including the Council Tax rate as set by the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire, the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, and the local Parish and Town Council precepts in parished and town council areas.
- 1.2 To confirm the statutory resolutions that are required in order to set the Council Tax for 2020/2021.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That it be noted that on the 13 January 2020, the Head of Finance, Procurement and Appendix A for the financial year 2020/21 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation Commercial Property declared the Council Tax Base amounts set out in of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012.
Please note that the budget will be set at the Council meeting on 26 February. Consequently an updated version of this report, with the relevant budget figures included, will be circulated on the night of the Council meeting.
- 2.2 That the Budget for the Council's own purposes for 2020/21 (excluding parish and town council precepts) be set at £xx in accordance with the earlier Budget Requirement report.

2.3 That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the financial year 2020/2021 in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act):

- a) £xx being the aggregate of the amounts, which the Council estimates for the items, set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish and Town Councils.
- b) £xx being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act
- c) £xx being the amount by which the aggregate at 2.3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2.3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
- d) £xx being the amount at 2.3(c) above divided by 35,978.93 (the Tax Base) calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31(B) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for 2020/2021.
- e) £xx being the aggregate amount of all special items (i.e. Parish and Town Council Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
- f) £xx being the amount at 2.3(d) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.2(e) above by 35,978.93 (the Tax Base), calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for 2020/2021 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.

g) Part of the Council's area:

	£. p
Aughton	xx
Bickerstaffe	xx
Bispham	xx
Burscough	xx
Dalton	xx
Downholland	xx
Great Altcar	xx
Halsall	xx
Hesketh with Beconsall	xx
Hilldale	xx
Lathom	xx
Lathom South	xx
Newburgh	xx
North Meols	xx
Parbold	xx
Rufford	xx
Scarisbrick	xx
Simonswood	xx
Tarleton	xx
Up Holland	xx
Wrightington	xx

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 2.3(f) above the amounts of the special item relating to dwellings in those parts of the

Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the relevant Tax Base for those areas, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of the Council Tax for 2020/2021 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a special item (i.e. Parish and Town Council Precepts) relate.

- h) Part of the Council's area for each valuation band, being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.3(f) and 2.3(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands (**See Schedule 1**).

- 2.4 That it be noted that for the year 2020/2021 Lancashire County Council has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£ .p xx

- 2.5 That it be noted that for the year 2020/2021 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£ .p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx

- 2.6 That it be noted that for the year 2020/2021 the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx	£. p xx

2.7 That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.3(h), 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the amounts shown in **Schedule 2** as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2020/2021 for each of the categories of dwellings shown.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The earlier report entitled Budget Requirement resulted in the Council setting a Budget Requirement of £xx for 2020/2021. Other precepting authorities have also determined their budget requirements and notified the Council of the amounts they wish to collect through the Council Tax. This report consolidates this information and calculates the Council Tax level for each property band throughout the Borough.

4.0 CURRENT POSITION

4.1 In accordance with statute, the Borough Treasurer, declared, on the 9 January 2020, the estimated balance on the Collection Fund, in respect of Council Tax, as at the 31st March 2020.

4.2 The result of the exercise showed an estimated surplus of £1,026,500 as detailed in Appendix B. This surplus is shared by the Borough Council, the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire and the County Council, in proportion to their respective calls on the Collection Fund as follows:

	£
Borough Council	123,256
Combined Fire Authority	38,799
Police Authority	112,492
County Council	751,953
	<hr/>
	1,026,500

4.3 This surplus has to be taken into account when setting the Council Tax and Budget for 2020/2021.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The following calculation shows the amount of the basic tax rate for band D properties after using the Council's approved Tax Base of 35,978.93 band D equivalent properties.

	£	£
Budget Requirement (Borough proportion)	xx	
Budget Requirement (Parish & Town Council proportion)	xx	
Total Budget Requirement		<hr/> xx
General government grants and retained business rate income		-5,798,115
Estimated surplus on Council Tax Collection Fund		-123,256
Balance to be financed by Council Taxpayer (inc. Parish and Town Council)		<hr/> xx
Balance to be financed by Council Taxpayer (excl. Parish and Town Council)		<hr/> xx <hr/>

- 6.2 The average Council Tax rate (including Parish and Town Council) for a Band 'D' Equivalent Property is, therefore, calculated as follows:

West Lancashire Borough Council (Including Parish and Town Council)

	£	p
Balance to be financed by Taxpayer Band 'D' Equivalent Properties	<u>xx</u> 35,978.93	xx

- 6.3 The actual Council Tax rate (excluding Parish and Town Council) for a Band 'D' Equivalent Property is, therefore, calculated as follows:

West Lancashire Borough Council (excluding Parish and Town Council Precepts)

	£	p
Balance to be financed by Taxpayer Band 'D' Equivalent Properties	<u>xx</u> 35,978.93	xx

Add Basic Tax Rates for:

Lancashire County Council	xx
Lancashire Police Authority	xx
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority	xx

Basic Tax Rate for a Band 'D' Equivalent Property xx

- 6.4 It is necessary to calculate the Council Tax rate for each property band in respect of the Borough Council and Parish and Town Council elements only. **Schedule 1** shows the Council Tax rate for each property band in each of the Parish and Town Council areas.

- 6.5 It is then necessary to calculate the aggregate Council Tax rate by incorporating the Lancashire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for

Lancashire, and the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority Council Tax rates into the figures shown in **Schedule 1**. The aggregated Council Tax rates are shown in **Schedule 2**.

7.0. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 There is a statutory requirement for the Council to set a Council Tax each year. Failure to set the Council Tax until a later date would have implications for billing and the required statutory fourteen days notice for the first instalment date of 2 April 2020. This would have an adverse effect on cash flow and the collection rate.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

This decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/or stakeholders. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

- Appendix A Declaration of Council Tax Base 2020/2021
- Appendix B Estimated Collection Fund Balance as at 31 March 2020
- Schedule 1 Council Tax rates payable for each band in respect of the Borough Council and Parish and Town Council elements only (TO FOLLOW)
- Schedule 2 Council Tax rates payable for each band within the Borough Council's area (TO FOLLOW)

Appendix A
Declaration of Council Tax Base 2020/21

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations the amounts calculated by West Lancashire Borough Council as its Tax Base for the whole area for the year 2020/2021 shall be **35,978.93** and for the parts of the area for the year 2020/2021 shall be:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Taxbase</u>
Aughton	3,563.57
Bickerstaffe	464.23
Bispham	101.36
Burscough	3,214.53
Dalton	199.28
Downholland	369.90
Great Altcar	80.00
Halsall	835.71
Hesketh with Beconsall	1,455.22
Hilldale	264.85
Lathom	399.22
Lathom South	369.43
Newburgh	481.56
North Meols	1,505.36
Parbold	992.19
Rufford	873.23
Scarisbrick	1,355.06
Simonswood	52.17
Tarleton	2,244.03
Up Holland	2,425.97
Wrightington	1,181.23

The anticipated collection level for 2020/21 has been estimated at 98.0%.

Name	Marc Taylor
Position in organisation	Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property
Date	13/01/20

**APPENDIX B
ESTIMATED COUNCIL TAX BALANCE AS AT 31/3/2020**

Item	Amount
INCOME	
Council Tax receivable	£66,662,890
Total Income	<u>£66,662,890</u>
EXPENDITURE	
Precepts	
Lancashire County Council	£47,475,808
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority	£2,449,610
Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire	£7,102,386
West Lancashire Borough Council	7,781,995
	<u>£64,809,799</u>
Contributions from previous year surpluses	£608,722
Charges to Collection Fund	
Write offs and increases in bad debt provisions	£1,351,680
Total Expenditure	<u>£66,770,201</u>
SURPLUS AND DEFICIT	
Estimated Surplus / Deficit (-) for 2019/20 financial year from above	-£107,311
Actual Surplus / Deficit (-) as at 31/3/2019	£1,133,811
Estimated Surplus / Deficit (-) as at 31/3/2020	<u>£1,026,500</u>

Name: Marc Taylor

Position in organisation: Head of Finance, Procurement & Commercial Property

Dated: 09/01/20



AGENDA ITEM: 12

COUNCIL: 26 February 2020

Report of: Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources

Contact for further information: Mr P Blakey (Ext. 87292)
(email: peter.blakey@btlancashire.co.uk)

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF COUNCIL TAX 2020/21

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To set the Council Tax rate for each property band for the whole of the Borough Council's area, including the Council Tax rate as set by the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire, the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, and the local Parish and Town Council precepts in parished and town council areas.
- 1.2 To confirm the statutory resolutions that are required in order to set the Council Tax for 2020/2021.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That it be noted that on the 13 January 2020, the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property declared the Council Tax Base amounts set out in Appendix A for the financial year 2020/21 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012.
- 2.2 That the Budget for the Council's own purposes for 2020/21 (excluding parish and town council precepts) be set at £13,419,020 in accordance with the earlier Budget Requirement report.

- 2.3 That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the financial year 2020/2021 in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act):
- a) £86,411,075 being the aggregate of the amounts, which the Council estimates for the items, set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish and Town Councils.
 - b) £78,289,349 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - c) £8,121,726 being the amount by which the aggregate at 2.3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2.3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
 - d) £225.74 being the amount at 2.3(c) above divided by 35,978.93 (the Tax Base) calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31(B) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for 2020/2021.
 - e) £624,077 being the aggregate amount of all special items (i.e. Parish and Town Council Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
 - f) £208.39 being the amount at 2.3(d) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.2(e) above By 35,978.93 (the Tax Base), calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for 2020/2021 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.

- g) Part of the Council's area:

	£. p
Aughton	16.79
Bickerstaffe	30.88
Bispham	0.00
Burscough	36.03
Dalton	21.08
Downholland	40.55
Great Altcar	13.75
Halsall	19.62
Hesketh with Beconsall	41.69
Hilldale	55.75
Lathom	17.46
Lathom South	29.50
Newburgh	35.02
North Meols	34.91
Parbold	33.90
Rufford	39.32
Scarisbrick	17.21
Simonswood	20.32
Tarleton	31.19
Up Holland	22.11
Wrightington	15.82

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 2.3(f) above the amounts of the special item relating to dwellings in those parts of the

Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the relevant Tax Base for those areas, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of the Council Tax for 2020/2021 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a special item (i.e. Parish and Town Council Precepts) relate.

- h) Part of the Council's area for each valuation band, being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.3(f) and 2.3(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands (**See Schedule 1**).

- 2.4 That it be noted that for the year 2020/2021 Lancashire County Council has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p
933.55	1,089.14	1,244.73	1,400.32	1,711.50	2,022.68	2,333.87	2,800.64

- 2.5 That it be noted that for the year 2020/2021 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p
140.97	164.46	187.96	211.45	258.44	305.43	352.42	422.90

- 2.6 That it be noted that for the year 2020/2021 the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p
47.24	55.11	62.99	70.86	86.61	102.35	118.10	141.72

- 2.7 That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.3(h), 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the amounts shown in **Schedule 2** as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2020/2021 for each of the categories of dwellings shown.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The earlier report entitled Budget Requirement resulted in the Council setting a Budget Requirement of £13,419,020 for 2020/2021. Other precepting authorities have also determined their budget requirements and notified the Council of the amounts they wish to collect through the Council Tax. This report consolidates this information and calculates the Council Tax level for each property band throughout the Borough.

4.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 In accordance with statute, the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property, declared, on the 9 January 2020, the estimated balance on the Collection Fund, in respect of Council Tax, as at the 31st March 2020.
- 4.2 The result of the exercise showed an estimated surplus of £1,026,500 as detailed in Appendix B. This surplus is shared by the Borough Council, the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire and the County Council, in proportion to their respective calls on the Collection Fund as follows:

	£
Borough Council	123,256
Combined Fire Authority	38,799
Police Authority	112,492
County Council	751,953
	<hr/>
	1,026,500

- 4.3 This surplus has to be taken into account when setting the Council Tax and Budget for 2020/2021.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The following calculation shows the amount of the basic tax rate for band D properties after using the Council's approved Tax Base of 35,978.93 band D equivalent properties.

	£	£
Budget Requirement (Borough proportion)	13,419,020	
Budget Requirement (Parish & Town Council proportion)	624,077	
Total Budget Requirement		<u>14,043,097</u>
General government grants and retained business rate income		-5,798,115
Estimated surplus on Council Tax Collection Fund		-123,256
Balance to be financed by Council Taxpayer (inc. Parish and Town Council)		<u>8,121,726</u>
Balance to be financed by Council Taxpayer (excl. Parish and Town Council)		<u>7,497,649</u>

- 6.2 The average Council Tax rate (including Parish and Town Council) for a Band 'D' Equivalent Property is, therefore, calculated as follows:

West Lancashire Borough Council (Including Parish and Town Council)

	£	p
Balance to be financed by Taxpayer	<u>8,121,726</u>	
Band 'D' Equivalent Properties	35,978.93	225.74

- 6.3 The actual Council Tax rate (excluding Parish and Town Council) for a Band 'D' Equivalent Property is, therefore, calculated as follows:

West Lancashire Borough Council (excluding Parish and Town Council Precepts)

	£	p
Balance to be financed by Taxpayer	<u>7,497,649</u>	
Band 'D' Equivalent Properties	35,978.93	208.39

Add Basic Tax Rates for:

Lancashire County Council	1,400.32
Lancashire Police Authority	211.45
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority	70.86

Basic Tax Rate for a Band 'D' Equivalent Property 1,891.02

- 6.4 It is necessary to calculate the Council Tax rate for each property band in respect of the Borough Council and Parish and Town Council elements only. **Schedule 1** shows the Council Tax rate for each property band in each of the Parish and Town Council areas.

- 6.5 It is then necessary to calculate the aggregate Council Tax rate by incorporating the Lancashire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for

Lancashire, and the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority Council Tax rates into the figures shown in **Schedule 1**. The aggregated Council Tax rates are shown in **Schedule 2**.

7.0. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 There is a statutory requirement for the Council to set a Council Tax each year. Failure to set the Council Tax until a later date would have implications for billing and the required statutory fourteen days notice for the first instalment date of 2 April 2020. This would have an adverse effect on cash flow and the collection rate.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

This decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/or stakeholders. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

- Appendix A Declaration of Council Tax Base 2020/2021
- Appendix B Estimated Collection Fund Balance as at 31 March 2020
- Schedule 1 Council Tax rates payable for each band in respect of the Borough Council and Parish and Town Council elements only
- Schedule 2 Council Tax rates payable for each band within the Borough Council's area

Appendix A
Declaration of Council Tax Base 2020/21

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations the amounts calculated by West Lancashire Borough Council as its Tax Base for the whole area for the year 2020/2021 shall be **35,978.93** and for the parts of the area for the year 2020/2021 shall be:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Taxbase</u>
Aughton	3,563.57
Bickerstaffe	464.23
Bispham	101.36
Burscough	3,214.53
Dalton	199.28
Downholland	369.90
Great Altcar	80.00
Halsall	835.71
Hesketh with Beconsall	1,455.22
Hilldale	264.85
Lathom	399.22
Lathom South	369.43
Newburgh	481.56
North Meols	1,505.36
Parbold	992.19
Rufford	873.23
Scarisbrick	1,355.06
Simonswood	52.17
Tarleton	2,244.03
Up Holland	2,425.97
Wrightington	1,181.23

The anticipated collection level for 2020/21 has been estimated at 98.0%.

Name	Marc Taylor
Position in organisation	Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property
Date	13/01/20

**APPENDIX B
ESTIMATED COUNCIL TAX BALANCE AS AT 31/3/2020**

Item	Amount
INCOME	
Council Tax receivable	£66,662,890
Total Income	<u>£66,662,890</u>
EXPENDITURE	
Precepts	
Lancashire County Council	£47,475,808
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority	£2,449,610
Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire	£7,102,386
West Lancashire Borough Council	<u>7,781,995</u>
	<u>£64,809,799</u>
Contributions from previous year surpluses	£608,722
Charges to Collection Fund	
Write offs and increases in bad debt provisions	£1,351,680
Total Expenditure	<u>£66,770,201</u>
SURPLUS AND DEFICIT	
Estimated Surplus / Deficit (-) for 2019/20 financial year from above	-£107,311
Actual Surplus / Deficit (-) as at 31/3/2019	£1,133,811
Estimated Surplus / Deficit (-) as at 31/3/2020	<u>£1,026,500</u>

Name: Marc Taylor

Position in organisation: Head of Finance, Procurement & Commercial Property

Dated: 09/01/20

**Schedule 1 – Council Tax rates payable for dwellings in each property band within the Borough Council's area in respect of the Borough Council, parish and town council elements only
2020/2021**

	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Non-parished area	138.93	162.08	185.24	208.39	254.70	301.01	347.32	416.78
Aughton	150.12	175.14	200.16	225.18	275.22	325.26	375.30	450.36
Bickerstaffe	159.52	186.10	212.69	239.27	292.44	345.61	398.79	478.54
Bispham	138.93	162.08	185.24	208.39	254.70	301.01	347.32	416.78
Burscough	162.95	190.10	217.27	244.42	298.74	353.05	407.37	488.84
Dalton	152.98	178.48	203.98	229.47	280.46	331.46	382.45	458.94
Downholland	165.96	193.62	221.28	248.94	304.26	359.58	414.90	497.88
Great Altcar	148.10	172.77	197.46	222.14	271.51	320.87	370.24	444.28
Halsall	152.01	177.34	202.68	228.01	278.68	329.35	380.02	456.02
Hesketh with Becconsall	166.72	194.51	222.30	250.08	305.65	361.23	416.80	500.16
Hilldale	176.10	205.44	234.80	264.14	322.84	381.54	440.24	528.28
Lathom	150.57	175.66	200.76	225.85	276.04	326.23	376.42	451.70
Lathom South	158.60	185.02	211.46	237.89	290.76	343.62	396.49	475.78
Newburgh	162.28	189.32	216.37	243.41	297.50	351.59	405.69	486.82
North Meols	162.20	189.23	216.27	243.30	297.37	351.44	405.50	486.60

Parbold	161.53	188.45	215.37	242.29	296.13	349.98	403.82	484.58
Rufford	165.14	192.66	220.19	247.71	302.76	357.81	412.85	495.42
Scarisbrick	150.40	175.47	200.54	225.60	275.73	325.87	376.00	451.20
Simonswood	152.48	177.88	203.30	228.71	279.54	330.36	381.19	457.42
Tarleton	159.72	186.34	212.96	239.58	292.82	346.06	399.30	479.16
Up Holland	153.67	179.28	204.89	230.50	281.72	332.95	384.17	461.00
Wrightington	149.48	174.38	199.30	224.21	274.04	323.86	373.69	448.42

**Schedule 2 - Council Tax rates payable for dwellings in each property band within the Borough Council's area
2020/2021**

	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Non – Parished/Town Council Areas	1260.69	1470.79	1680.92	1891.02	2311.25	2731.47	3151.71	3782.04
Aughton	1271.88	1483.85	1695.84	1907.81	2331.77	2755.72	3179.69	3815.62
Bickerstaffe	1281.28	1494.81	1708.37	1921.90	2348.99	2776.07	3203.18	3843.80
Bispham	1260.69	1470.79	1680.92	1891.02	2311.25	2731.47	3151.71	3782.04
Burscough	1284.71	1498.81	1712.95	1927.05	2355.29	2783.51	3211.76	3854.10
Dalton	1274.74	1487.19	1699.66	1912.10	2337.01	2761.92	3186.84	3824.20
Downholland	1287.72	1502.33	1716.96	1931.57	2360.81	2790.04	3219.29	3863.14
Great Altcar	1269.86	1481.48	1693.14	1904.77	2328.06	2751.33	3174.63	3809.54
Halsall	1273.77	1486.05	1698.36	1910.64	2335.23	2759.81	3184.41	3821.28
Hesketh with Becconsall	1288.48	1503.22	1717.98	1932.71	2362.20	2791.69	3221.19	3865.42
Hilldale	1297.86	1514.15	1730.48	1946.77	2379.39	2812.00	3244.63	3893.54
Lathom	1272.33	1484.37	1696.44	1908.48	2332.59	2756.69	3180.81	3816.96
Lathom South	1280.36	1493.73	1707.14	1920.52	2347.31	2774.08	3200.88	3841.04
Newburgh	1284.04	1498.03	1712.05	1926.04	2354.05	2782.05	3210.08	3852.08

North Meols	1283.96	1497.94	1711.95	1925.93	2353.92	2781.90	3209.89	3851.86
Parbold	1283.29	1497.16	1711.05	1924.92	2352.68	2780.44	3208.21	3849.84
Rufford	1286.90	1501.37	1715.87	1930.34	2359.31	2788.27	3217.24	3860.68
Scarisbrick	1272.16	1484.18	1696.22	1908.23	2332.28	2756.33	3180.39	3816.46
Simonswood	1274.24	1486.59	1698.98	1911.34	2336.09	2760.82	3185.58	3822.68
Tarleton	1281.48	1495.05	1708.64	1922.21	2349.37	2776.52	3203.69	3844.42
Up Holland	1275.43	1487.99	1700.57	1913.13	2338.27	2763.41	3188.56	3826.26
Wrightington	1271.24	1483.09	1694.98	1906.84	2330.59	2754.32	3178.08	3813.68



COUNCIL: 26 February 2020

Report of: Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property

Contact for further information: Marc Taylor (Ext. 5092)
(E-mail: marc.taylor@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: MEDIUM TERM GRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020-21

Wards Affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To set the Council's Medium Term Capital Programme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Medium Term Capital Programme be approved based on the proposals to be presented at the Council meeting by the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Transformation.

2.2 That delegated authority be given to the Chief Operating Officer and Corporate Directors to take all necessary action to implement the agreed Capital Programme.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Capital Programme is a three-year rolling programme that is updated on a regular basis. The current Programme was last reviewed and updated through the Revised Capital Programme report to Council in December 2019. Details of Housing Public Sector capital schemes are discussed elsewhere on this agenda, and changes to these schemes will be incorporated into the Medium Term Capital Programme following their approval.

3.2 Details on future capital receipt funding and spending requirements were reported to Cabinet and Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January. This report now provides Members with an opportunity to realign and reshape the Capital Programme to meet Corporate and Service objectives.

4.0 EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- 4.1 A report setting out a number of options for determining the Medium Term Capital Programme has recently been presented to the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee noted the medium term capital programme but did not agree any comments on its detail.

5.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1 Members have previously been advised on the projected capital receipt funding that will be available as well as existing and provisional spending approvals, as summarised in the table below:

Table 1 – Capital Receipts Funding Available	£000
Usable capital receipts held in April 2019	4,121
Estimate of receipts that will be generated between April 2019 and the end of the 2022/2023 financial year	5,140
Existing spending approvals covering period 2019/2020 to 2021/2022	-4,927
Provisional spending approvals for 2022/2023	-424
Potential GRA staff restructuring costs	-2,300
Funding available	1,610

- 5.2 This position takes into account Right to Buy Council House Sales, along with anticipated sales from other assets. This position also takes into account current spending approvals as well as provisional allocations for 2022/2023, which are set out in more detail in Appendix 1. It also takes into account the anticipated level of staff restructuring costs arising from the Sustainable Organisation Review and other similar initiatives.
- 5.3 The estimate of capital receipts that will be available is potentially subject to significant variation as one large asset sale could potentially produce a significant receipt. Changes in demand for Council House Right to Buy Sales could also cause significant volatility. To deal with this uncertainty the estimates in the capital programme will be reviewed and updated periodically to ensure they are accurate and up to date.
- 5.4 The table above shows that there is £1.610m of capital receipt funding available for new capital schemes. Appendix 2 provides a summary of the potential new capital schemes that have been identified by Officers. The total value of these schemes over the next 3 years is £1.157m and Members will need to give consideration to which of these schemes should be approved.

6.0 DETERMINING THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

6.1 The Portfolio Holder for Resources and Transformation has been given delegated authority to submit proposals for consideration at the Council meeting to enable the programme to be set, and it is anticipated that a set of budget papers will be circulated at the Council meeting to enable this to be achieved.

7.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The proper management of the Council's asset base enhances service delivery. Assets consume a high level of resources both in terms of capital investment and revenue maintenance and having effective controls in this area ensures that the capital base can shape the future direction of the Council. This report has no significant impacts on crime and disorder.

8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 The level of capital receipts generated by asset sales is a key risk to the future development of the programme. If receipts exceed the projections contained in this report, it would enable a larger programme to be delivered. However, if receipts are below the projections, it would require reductions to be made.

8.2 Some schemes in the Programme are dependent on external partner funding. To minimise the risk of funding not being available, such schemes will only begin once their funding details have been finalised.

9.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The health and wellbeing implications arising from this report will be dependent on the budget proposals put forward at the Council meeting. Details of any significant implications will be provided at the Council meeting if required.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders is dependent on the proposals to be put forward at the Council meeting. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment has been produced at this time. However, an Assessment will be produced and made available at the Council meeting if required.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Capital Receipt Funding Approvals
Appendix 2 – Potential New Capital Schemes

APPENDIX 1 - CAPITAL RECEIPT FUNDING FOR INDIVIDUAL SCHEMES

SERVICE AND SCHEME					Provisional
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total	2022/23
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Finance Procurement & Commercial Property</u>					
Parish Capital Schemes	37	45	30	112	30
Financial Systems	35			35	
Replacement of Trash Screen in Culvert	10			10	
Purchase of Land - New Court Way	414			414	
<u>Wellbeing & Leisure</u>					
Playground Improvements	107	30	30	167	30
Leisure Trust	228			228	
Allotment Improvements	6			6	
Leisure Essential Works	26	44		70	
Burscough Sports Centre		321		321	
Chapel Gallery	2			2	
<u>Environmental Services</u>					
Purchase of Vehicles	43	47		90	
Robert Hodge Centre Improvement Works	15			15	
Purchase of Wheelie Bins	2	58		60	
Purchase of Pressure Washer and Bowser	5			5	
Expand In Cab System	16	4		20	
Waste Collection Projects	40	15		55	
Street Cleaning Tools	10			10	
Clean & Green Computer system	68			68	
Updated Weighbridge Software	10			10	
Purchase of Wood Chipper	3			3	
Demountable Skip body refurbishment	25			25	
Replacement Vehicle Wash	21			21	
<u>Growth and Development</u>					
Preservation of Buildings at Risk	2			2	
Conservation Area Enhancement	16			16	
1819 Roadmap	20			20	
Skelmersdale Town Centre	11			11	
Purchase of EDRM IT system	6			6	
Affordable Housing	247			247	
Planning/land Charges ICT Upgrades		20	20	40	
Wheatsheaf Walks Improvement	30			30	
Skelmersdale High Way/Gateway Improvements	50	0		50	
Appley Bridge Quarry	20			20	
Moor Street Phase 1	3	3		6	
Moor Street Phase 2	178			178	
Mill Lane Landfill Site	3			3	
Alder Lane/Bramble Way Landfill; Site upgrade and replace		75		75	
<u>Corporate Property</u>					
Corporate Property Investment Programme	600	164	164	928	164
<u>Housing and Regulatory Services</u>					
Housing Renewal Grants	48	100	50	198	50
Disabled Facilities Grants	100	100	0	200	
CCTV	44	120	120	284	
Health Computer system	40			40	
<u>Corporate and Customer Services</u>					
I C T Infrastructure	50	50	50	150	50
ICT Development Programme	184	100	100	384	100
Replacement CRM system	45	29		74	
Website		20		20	
Investment to enable digital services	60			60	
Windows 10 Upgrades	100			100	
Egress Secure email and file transfer	21			21	
Etarmis	17			17	
Total Programme	3,018	1,345	564	4,927	424

APPENDIX 2 - POTENTIAL NEW CAPITAL SCHEMES

SERVICE AND SCHEME	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000	2022-23 £000
Growth and Development			
1 ICT Upgrades	0	0	20
Environmental Services			
1 Litter Bin Policy Review (Cabinet November 2019)	10	5	5
2 Robert Hodge Centre re-fresh programme	15	5	0
Wellbeing and Leisure			
1 Play Area Improvement Programme	18	99	78
2 Green Lane Rugby Car Park	21	0	0
Housing and Regulatory			
1 Electric Vehicle Charge Point Network Extension	20	0	0
Finance, Procurement and Corporate Property			
1 Civica Financials - Making Tax Digital	20	0	0
2 Building Compliance on Commercial Property	20	20	20
Corporate and Customer Services			
1 Increase in ICT Development Budget from 100k to 200k pa	100	100	100
2 Right Kit Right Role Right Refresh - support agile working	129	25	0
3 Digital Transformation - Implementation of IT Strategy	400	0	0
Less HRA funding for Strategy	-200	0	0
4 Microsoft Enterprise Site Licence	35	35	35
5 Derby Street works to allow staff relocation following SORP	22	0	0
Total	610	289	258

Total cost over 3 years	1,157
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LABOUR CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS

MOTION

- 2.1 That the proposed new capital schemes set out in Appendix 2 of the report be approved with the exception of the Robert Hodge Centre re-fresh programme.
 - 2.2 That delegated authority be given to the Chief Operating Officer and Corporate Directors to take all necessary action to implement the agreed capital programme.
-

CONSERVATIVE CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS

MOTION

- 2.1 That the proposed new capital schemes set out in Appendix 2 of the report be approved with the exception of the Robert Hodge Centre refresh scheme, but with the inclusion of a budget of £10,000 per year for the Free Trees scheme, £17,000 for Airwatch / MDM software licence costs, £36,000 over 3 years for ServiceNow and 3c Logic Licences, and £6,000 for a Mobile application for Food Hygiene Interventions.
- 2.2 That delegated authority be given to the Chief Operating Officer and Corporate Directors to take all necessary action to implement the agreed capital programme.
-

LABOUR CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS

MOTION

- 2.1 That the proposed new capital schemes set out in Appendix 2 of the report be approved, with the exception of the Robert Hodge Centre re-fresh programme and with the inclusion of an additional £20,000 over 3 years for the Free Trees scheme.
 - 2.2 That delegated authority be given to the Chief Operating Officer and Corporate Directors to take all necessary action to implement the agreed capital programme.
-



COUNCIL: 26 February 2020

Report of: Corporate Director of Place & Community

Contact for further information: Mr P. Quick (Extn. 5203)
(peter.quick@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: HOUSING ACCOUNT – REVENUE AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Wards Affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To enable the Council to set its Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget and capital investment programme for the next financial year.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Rent and Service Charges set within delegated authority, as detailed in sections 4 and 5 of the report, be noted and endorsed.

2.2 That the comments of Tenants and Residents as set out in Appendix E of the report be considered.

2.3 That the HRA budget and capital investment programme be approved based on the proposals to be presented at the Council meeting by the Housing and Landlord Services Portfolio Holder.

2.4 That the Reserves Policy set out in Appendix C be approved.

2.5 That delegated authority be given to the Director of Place & Community to take all necessary action to implement the decisions of Council.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Council must set a budget for its Housing Revenue Account (HRA) before the start of each financial year, and this budget will set out the financial basis for the delivery of services. The budget that is set must enable Council and tenant priorities to be delivered but must also be affordable. In addition it

should comply with best practice requirements on budget setting and meet statutory and accounting regulations.

- 3.2 The financial year 2020/21 represents a return to a rent setting policy by the Government of allowing rent increases of up to CPI +1% per annum, though smaller increases are also allowed. This will aid business planning in the medium term by providing more certainty, ensuring that the real value of rent levels is maintained and could provide funds for further investment in the housing stock. The policy over the last four years of a 1% reduction pa added pressure to the HRA but policy options agreed by Council in July 2016 and October 2016 delivered sufficient savings and efficiencies to secure the HRA's financial position over that period.
- 3.3 The Government published an updated policy statement on rents for social housing in February 2019 and announced that Local Authorities with housing stock will be regulated by the Regulator of Social Housing from 1 April 2020. Members will recall that they were invited to comment on the consultation on a new rent standard between May and July 2019. It is anticipated that the new regulatory regime will be more robust than previously. WLBC also took part in the pilot scheme during 2019/20 to make the transition to the new standard and regulator as smooth as possible.
- 3.4 The sustainable organisational review, (SORP), undertaken by the Council during the last year has created a significantly different organisational structure and working approach. While the HRA itself remains a ring-fenced account for Council house rents and services, changes in the organisational structure have led to changes in the budget structure too.
- 3.5 The HRA budget has been the subject of recent reports to Cabinet, Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Landlord Services Committee. Tenants have also been consulted on the HRA budget position. These reports identified that there was a small draft budget surplus in 2020/21 between the resources available and the expenditure required to deliver agreed service levels and investment plans with some further work still required.

4.0 RENTAL INCOME

- 4.1 As part of the rents pilot mentioned in paragraph 3.3 a thorough review of data relating to formula rents has been undertaken during 2019/20 aimed to ensure correct application of the policy and standard and so aid as smooth a transition to the new regime as possible.
- 4.2 With this in mind and in line with our standard practice, the Director of Place & Community has used her delegated authority to increase the majority of tenant rents by 2.7%, (being September CPI of 1.7% plus 1%), from April 2020.
- 4.3 To ensure compliance with the specific rules of the new rent policy and rent standard, a number of specific rules will also be applied to WLBC rents:

- To ensure strict adherence to the maximum rent increase that is allowed of CPI + 1%, all rents with this increase will be rounded down to the nearest penny. The effect in any individual year is negligible and penny differences over time will be corrected each time a property is re-let
- Around 5% of properties will have an increase in rent of between 0% and 1.7%, (being September 2019 CPI), rounded down if applicable

4.4 There are a number of other factors that influence the rent budget:

- The number of properties within the Housing Stock which will be influenced by Right to Buy Council house sales (which is outside the Council's control), the number of homes built or purchased, and the number of homes demolished as part of revival and development projects
- Void levels are assumed to be around 1%
- The full roll out of Universal Credit continues to be an area requiring close monitoring but the effect so far has been a relatively modest increase in arrears which in turn means a modest increase in the contribution to the bad debt provision. This can be accommodated within a budget for contribution to bad debts of £160k.

5.0 OTHER CHARGES

5.1 A general principle is applied to service charges that they should be calculated to ensure that they are sufficient to recover the cost of service provision. In addition the Government has advised, but not directed, that it would expect service charge increases to be limited to CPI + 1% unless there is a very clear rationale.

5.2 In keeping with this principle it is proposed to increase the general level of service charges next year by 2.7% (based on the September CPI rate of 1.7% plus 1.0% in line with our standard practices). In general, the service charges apply to communal properties such as sheltered stock and flats as well as residents who receive the Council's furnishing service.

5.3 There will be a number of exceptions to this general approach including:

- The heating charge for each property in 2020/21 will be calculated based on estimated useage and estimated cost. This means that different charges will apply to different residents. The heating account overall remains in surplus so all residents will have a reduction in their heating charge of 5%, except for around 270 residents who will receive a lower reduction or will have their heating charge unchanged.
- As in 2019/20, garage rents will be increased by CPI (1.7%)

- The 2017/18 painting charge of 14p per week had the standard CPI + 1% uplift applied in 2018/19 but it didn't change the level of the charge to tenants. It is therefore proposed to increase the charge to 15p per week from April 2020. While this is more than 2.7%, the 1 pence increase factors in 2019/20 as well as 2020/21.

5.4 There are a number of changes to service charges for leaseholders with some charges going up and others going down. As much as possible reductions in one set of charges have been offset against increases in the others, though some leaseholders will see an overall increase in their bill in excess of 2.7%. To avoid excessive increases in one year we are proposing to phase the increases over two or three years in some cases. Overall there are less than 20 leaseholders with an increase more than £50 for the coming year.

6.0 REVENUE ESTIMATES AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

6.1 The base assumptions used in the HRA Business Plan and for the HRA Estimates have previously been reported to Cabinet and Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The HRA revenue estimates for 2020/21 are shown in Appendix A and provide the detailed information that sets out the financial basis for how HRA service objectives will be achieved. They cover all areas of revenue expenditure and income and include changes in the base budget required to roll forward agreed service levels, such as pay and contract inflation, but do not allow for any service improvements.

6.2 The HRA estimates reflect a range of factors including:

- The changes in rents and service charges set out above.
- The new response maintenance ppp, (price per property) and voids ppp contract goes live 1 April 2020 and both budgets have been adjusted to accommodate the projected cost. The voids budget has reduced and the responsive repairs budget increased. The total increase in base budget is around £625k. £230k of unrequired planned maintenance budget has been vired to offset this as well as £82k of budget contingency. A further £69k would have been contractual uplift if we had remained with the previous contracts.
- As a consequence of the point above, budget contingency has been reduced to £260k, around 1% of total HRA expenditure net of recharge income.
- The new ppp contract also delivers electrical testing on a five year cycle at a cost of around £195k per annum. £100k was approved by Council last year so £95k per annum has been moved from the previously approved five year capital budget and added to the existing revenue budget, the effect is revenue budget neutral with a £95k saving on the housing capital budget.
- Since the Government introduced the 1% pa rent reductions many of the HRA savings each year were allocated to the budget and efficiency savings

reserve. Now that rents are increasing again the remaining balance in the reserve will be released. In addition, it is proposed that £460k of the projected favourable budget variance in the current financial year will be used to support the budget position in 2020/21. This helps balance the 2020/21 budget and frees-up funding that no longer needs to be held in reserve.

- To ensure that the HRA budget reflects the new operating and reporting structure, several services have been moved out of the HRA to central services, with a proportion then recharged back to the HRA. The effect is a large reduction in the HRA salary budget, (direct staff), and a large increase in recharges to the HRA for support services. The overall impact of the SORP proposals should lead to improved efficiency and effectiveness.
- In addition, savings of around £0.3m have been made in the HRA due to posts being removed from the organisational structure.
- The latest actuarial valuation of the Lancashire pension fund identifies that the previous deficit is virtually gone, and that the fund is now 99% funded. This means that payments to reduce the deficit can be significantly reduced. This is partially offset by an increase in the WLBC employer's superannuation payments for current employees, from 16.3% to 19%. The overall effect though is a significant saving compared to current budgets.
- In anticipation of cheaper insurance rates £28k has been removed from various insurance budgets. There are also small savings from car allowance protection dropping out and telephone savings from the introduction of Skype.
- As part of the policy options approved in 2016, HRA money set aside annually to repay borrowing when it falls due was postponed. 2020/21 represents the end of that period so the budget will include £338k towards debt repayment, and going forward this budget will increase annually in line with inflation.
- The budget for in-year staff savings due to vacant posts and staff churn has been increased to 4% of staff budget.
- Various other virements and adjustments as required to ensure effective financial management.

6.3 The HRA budget report that went to Cabinet and Executive Overview and Scrutiny advised that work would continue on finalising the HRA budget for February Council. The final draft estimates in Appendix A reflect the further work and show a budget surplus before budget issues of £0.331m. The improvement in HRA bottom line from the draft budget that went to Cabinet is primarily due to the reduction in contribution to pension deficit and a modest reduction in recharges compared to initial estimates. There have also been some further amendments to the structure of the budget, listed in the notes to Appendix A.

- 6.4 The Capital Investment Programme for the next 4 years is shown in Appendix B along with initial profiling. These are the remaining 4 years from the five year programme approved by Council in February 2019. The next five year tranche is also included, for information purposes only at this stage. Re-profiling from the 2019/20 mid-year budget agreed at the December Council meeting has been included as have other previously approved housing capital budgets.
- 6.5 In order to manage resourcing and delivery of the required works, the current Housing Investment Plan has been profiled equally throughout the five years to remove peaks and troughs in the expected renewal dates for different components. The 2020/21 budget reflects what can realistically be delivered and this fits with anticipated component renewal dates. There remains £28.06m of the current housing investment plan to deliver, broadly on track with the initial plan, though year's two to four may require some re-profiling forwards and backwards due to:
- The outcome of asset reviews to assess the financial viability of individual stock
 - Delivery contracts due to be tendered for a 2021/22 start
 - Local knowledge from Council staff and findings once particular works actually commence
 - Contractual uplift obligations and changes in stock levels
- 6.6 The previously approved Digital Initiatives budget of £50k per annum was set up to pay for digital projects that related to public sector housing and the HRA. The new organisational structure lends itself better to digital projects being managed centrally, so the £50k capital budget has been moved to the HRA as a £50k revenue contribution to pay for the HRA share of corporate digital capital schemes.
- 6.7 The HRA business plan includes provision for the purchase of affordable homes from the Council's Development Company (whose business plan is the subject of a separate report elsewhere on the agenda). A total cost of £6.154m has been allowed for in the HRA business plan for stage 1 purchases (funded 70% by borrowing and 30% by one for one capital receipts). This spending will be built into the budget when the timing of the works has become clearer.

7.0 CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

- 7.1 The HRA mid-year review projected that the budget targets for the year would be met and exceeded and that a favourable budget variance would be achieved. The latest third quarter monitoring has confirmed this position primarily as a result of staffing vacancies generating a favourable budget variance on employee costs, planned revenue works and contingency

budgets not being fully used, and demand-led responsive and void repair costs being below budget. Budgets are being controlled effectively and this puts the HRA in a strong position for the future.

- 7.2 In accordance with best practice the levels of HRA balances and reserves have been reviewed during the budget process to ensure that they are currently sufficient and that they will remain adequate over the medium term. A draft reserves policy reflecting this position is attached at Appendix C.

8.0 BUDGET PROPOSALS

- 8.1 In addition to the roll over budget in continuing services, it is also important to consider new budget issues and areas for development. Appendix D comprises a list of budget issues that Officers have identified and that should be considered as part of the budget process. Members will need to carefully consider those options, and any others that may emerge through the budget process and determine which proposals to include in the final budget to meet service objectives.

- 8.2 The views of tenants and residents have been considered through meeting with the tenant scrutiny group and reviewing the proposed HRA revenue and capital budgets as well as the list of new budget issues. Details of their comments are provided in Appendix E. Members are asked to consider these details when determining their final budget position.

- 8.3 The Portfolio Holder for Housing and Landlord Services has been given delegated authority to submit proposals for consideration at the Council meeting to enable the budget and capital programme to be set. It is anticipated that a set of budget papers will be circulated at the Council meeting to enable this to be achieved.

9.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Council wants to ensure that the future business plan allows properties to be brought up to a good standard and that appropriate investment can be made at the appropriate time. Business plan modelling enables a well-informed investment plan to be developed in keeping with the requirements of an effective asset management strategy.

10.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 The formal consideration and reporting of the budget estimates is part of the overall budgetary management and control framework that is designed to minimise the financial risks facing the Council. This process is resource intensive for both Members and Officers but ensures that a robust and achievable budget is set.

11.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

11.1 The health and wellbeing implications arising from this report will be dependent on the budget proposals put forward at the Council meeting. Details of any significant implications will be provided at the Council meeting if required.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders is dependent on the proposals to be put forward at the Council meeting. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment has been produced at this time. However, an Assessment will be produced and made available at the Council meeting if required.

Appendices

- Appendix A – HRA Revenue Estimates
- Appendix B – Capital Investment Plan
- Appendix C – Reserves Policy
- Appendix D – Budget Issues
- Appendix E – Tenant Views on Budget Proposals

Appendix A

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

REVENUE ESTIMATES 2020/21

Budget 2020/21	Employees £	Running Expenses £	External income £	Total Cash £	Support Services & Capital Charges £	Net budget £
General Expenses						
Premises Related Expenses	0	162,940	0	162,940	0	162,940
Bad Debts Provision	0	160,000	0	160,000	0	160,000
Capital Programme Contribution	0	0	0	0	8,800,000	8,800,000
Debt Principal Repayment	0	0	0	0	338,033	338,033
Debt Charges	0	0	0	0	3,056,990	3,056,990
Sub-Total	0	322,940	0	322,940	12,195,023	12,517,963
Supervision, Management, Repairs & Maintenance						
Central Administration	224,160	954,290	-436,900	741,550	2,877,309	3,618,859
Income & Financial Inclusion	585,480	88,770	-10,000	664,250	147,300	811,550
<u>Tenancy Services</u>						
Allocations	223,490	73,250	-90	296,650	9,710	306,360
Estate Management	279,420	291,370	-30	570,760	113,610	684,370
Other Tenancy Services	32,470	164,560	-213,770	-16,740	0	-16,740
Elderly & Disabled Support	547,390	406,060	-1,303,550	-350,100	320,070	-30,030
Sub-Total	1,082,770	935,240	-1,517,440	500,570	443,390	943,960
<u>Property Services</u>						
Property Services Management	502,320	1,086,570	-210	1,588,680	-134,390	1,454,290
Caretakers	299,420	140,190	-39,000	400,610	13,000	413,610
Maintenance of Grassed Areas	0	716,590	-29,800	686,790	0	686,790
Responsive & Void Repairs	337,390	3,563,140	-57,160	3,843,370	-13,460	3,829,910
Planned Maintenance	425,670	462,570	-3,640	884,600	-302,320	582,280
Sub-Total	1,564,800	5,969,060	-129,810	7,404,050	-437,170	6,966,880
General Income						
Customer & Client Receipts	0	0	-23,624,930	-23,624,930	0	-23,624,930
Interest	0	0	0	0	-53,980	-53,980
Sub-Total	0	0	-23,624,930	-23,624,930	-53,980	-23,678,910
Transfers to/from Reserves	0	0	0	0	-1,511,190	-1,511,190
Grand Total	3,457,210	8,270,300	-25,719,080	-13,991,570	13,660,682	-330,888

Notes:

1. The HRA budget includes release of the remaining budget and efficiency savings reserve, around £1.051m.
2. Staff budgets reflect the organisational establishment structure which includes SORP and other changes including adjustments for actuarial review, being an increase in employer's pension contribution and a reduction in pension fund deficit contribution.
3. Customer Experience (HRA) and Housing Operations Management have been removed as these services have either been taken from the structure or now sit outside housing. Recharges to the HRA still reflect the HRA share of costs.
4. Within Tenancy Services are the previous Housing Operations categories of Allocations; Estate Management; Elderly Support, (as well as the former Tenancy Services category which is now renamed Other Tenancy Services).
5. Property Services Management includes Housing Compliance, as well as gas servicing which was previously in responsive & void repairs. It also includes electrical ppp testing.
6. Caretakers & Gardeners has been renamed Caretakers to reflect the previous restructure that moved HRA Gardeners to Clean & Green
7. District Heating Service has been moved to Central Administration to recognise where management of the budget is held
8. Recharges, (in Support Services & Capital Charges), in the report to Cabinet were estimates based on an assumed 2% uplift. Final workings have led to a modest improvement in this position.

Budget 2019/20	Running Expenses	External income	Total Cash	Support Services & Capital Charges	Net budget
£	£	£	£	£	£
General Expenses					
Premises Related Expenses	0	163,230	0	163,230	163,230
Bad Debts Provision	0	240,000	0	240,000	240,000
Capital Programme Contribution	0	0	0	8,766,000	8,766,000
Debt Charges	0	0	0	3,056,990	3,056,990
Sub-Total	0	403,230	0	11,822,990	12,226,220
Supervision, Management, Repairs & Maintenance					
Central Administration	792,940	639,400	-89,300	1,343,040	3,130,880
Customer Experience (HRA)	405,630	78,090	0	483,720	504,080
Housing Operations					
Housing Operations Management	153,360	3,480	-91,070	65,770	192,550
Income & Financial Inclusion	595,970	28,260	-9,800	614,430	764,360
Allocations	223,420	73,870	-90	297,200	306,890
Tenancy Services	31,080	136,360	-185,470	-18,030	-18,030
Estate Management	245,160	314,310	-30	559,440	579,600
Elderly & Disabled Support	488,640	398,300	-1,152,450	-265,510	44,770
Sub-Total	1,737,630	954,580	-1,438,910	1,253,300	1,870,140
Property Services					
Property Services Management	612,290	114,510	-210	726,590	518,440
Caretakers & Gardeners	267,230	140,940	-43,420	364,750	377,890
Maintenance of Grassed Areas	0	716,030	-23,100	692,930	692,930
District Heating Service	0	260,050	-260,050	0	0
Responsive & Void Repairs	407,000	3,517,610	-56,060	3,868,550	3,870,900
Planned Maintenance	464,840	764,210	-3,540	1,225,510	861,190
Sub-Total	1,751,360	5,513,350	-386,380	6,878,330	6,321,350
General Income					
Customer & Client Receipts	0	0	-23,149,480	-23,149,480	-23,149,480
Interest	0	0	0	0	-53,980
Sub-Total	0	0	-23,149,480	-23,149,480	-23,203,460
Transfers to/from Reserves	0	0	0	0	-1,100,000
Grand Total	4,687,560	7,588,650	-25,064,070	-12,787,860	12,537,070
					-250,790

APPENDIX B - CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN UNTIL 2023/24

Scheme	20/21 £000's	21/22 £000's	22/23 £000's	23/24 £000's	5 Years 2024-29 £000's
Roofing	2,169	2,169	2,169	2,169	1,073
External Works	1,144	1,004	1,004	1,005	3,031
Heating	823	823	823	821	4,344
Electrics	635	635	635	637	506
Kitchens	633	633	633	632	3,332
Windows & Doors	548	548	548	549	1,392
Bathrooms	501	501	501	500	1,719
Walls	280	280	280	278	2,452
Fire Safety Works	271	271	271	269	0
Communal Services	117	117	117	119	576
Investment Plan	7,121	6,981	6,981	6,979	18,405
Professional Fees	600	600	600	600	
Disabled Adaptations	439	439	439	439	
Contingency	300	300	300	300	
Environmental Programme	200	200	200	200	
Sheltered Upgrades	140	140	140	140	
Other Housing Schemes	1,679	1,679	1,679	1,679	
Total Expenditure	8,800	8,660	8,660	8,658	

Notes

- (1) The four years, (2020/21 to 2023/24), above are those remaining from the five year housing capital programme approved by Council in February 2019.
- (2) The budget highlighted in grey relates to the five years in the stock condition survey from 2024 to 2029, for information only at this stage.
- (3) Year 2 to 10 budgets are expressed in 2020/21 terms, contractual uplift and changes in stock levels will be considered each year as part of budget setting.
- (4) It is anticipated that years 3 to 5 will require profiling forwards and backwards to optimize use of available funds and resources, based on asset reviews as they are carried out, as well as local knowledge.
- (5) 2019/20 budget slipped at mid-year for external works (£140k) has been profiled into 2020/21. Disabled adaptations budget profiled into 2018/19 as part of outturn in July 2019 (£61k pa for four years) has been removed.

- (6) Professional Fees budget relates primarily to capitalised staff salaries to reflect their time in delivering the housing capital programme. Reorganisation savings in HRA staff has led to a reduced value being capitalised and £100k being removed from the fees budget. This budget still has leeway for other capitalisable professional fees if required.
- (7) The Digital Initiatives budget of £50k per annum has been transferred to HRA revenue as an HRA contribution for the HRA share of central digital projects under the new organisational structure.

APPENDIX C

HRA RESERVES POLICY

Reserves Protocol

- 1.1 For each reserve held by the Council there must be a clear protocol setting out:
- The reason for and purpose of the reserve;
 - How and when the reserve can be used;
 - Procedures for the reserve's management and control; and
 - A process and timescale for review of the reserve to ensure continuing relevance and adequacy.
- 1.2 Details for each HRA reserve are set out below. Each reserve is managed and controlled by a Chief Officer. The responsible officer can authorise amounts of up to £10,000 to be taken from a reserve provided that its use is in line with the stated purpose of the reserve.
- 1.3 In addition the responsible officer must also consult with the Housing and / or Finance Portfolio Holders before authorising uses from reserves in excess of £10,000.
- 1.4 Reserves are reviewed and updated as part of the annual budget preparation and as part of the closure of accounts process to ensure that they continue to be required and are adequate in size. Earmarked reserves represent money that has been set aside for a clearly defined purpose, and which is available to meet future expenditure in that area. Balances represent unallocated funds which have not been earmarked and consequently are available to support any service area.
- 1.5 The values shown below for each reserve reflect their current position. The process for closing down the accounts at the year-end will then allow for any outstanding in year commitments and contributions.
- 1.6 The underlying level of reserves is adequate and reflects the HRA's stable financial position.

Description	Purpose	How and When Used	Responsible Officer	Value £000
HRA BALANCES	Balances are held by every organisation and are used to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies, uneven cash flows and to avoid temporary borrowing	Can be used as a general contingency and should be maintained at a level of at least £100 per property.	Head of Housing & Regulatory Services	620

HRA ELEMENT OF INSURANCE FUND	Funds held to meet the Council's self-insured liabilities where this is a more cost effective method of insuring than using an external company	Costs are incurred when insurance claims are settled. The level of the reserve is determined through actuarial reviews	Head of Finance, Procurement & Commercial Property	266
DISTRICT HEATING CHARGES RESERVE	This reserve holds the difference between the income raised from charges to tenants for the District Heating scheme and the cost of running this scheme (primarily gas charges).	It is Council policy to run this scheme on a cost recovery basis, and so it is necessary to maintain this reserve so that any surpluses that are achieved can be carried forward to fund lower charges to tenants in the future than otherwise would be possible	Head of Housing & Regulatory Services	209
REPAIRS RESERVE	This reserve is used to deal with demand led and other spending pressures on the response and void repairs budgets	Can be used as a general contingency for repairs expenditure and should be maintained at a level of at least 10% of the repairs budgets	Head of Housing & Regulatory Services	300
GENERAL SLIPPAGE RESERVE	This reserve is used to carry forward slippage on revenue and capital projects, where required	Enables the funding on schemes that are not completed at the financial year end to be carried forward so that the scheme can be completed in the next financial year	Head of Housing & Regulatory Services	160
BUDGET AND EFFICIENCY SAVINGS	This reserve is available to support the overall budget position	Used to deal with the financial challenges facing the HRA over a medium term period	Head of Housing & Regulatory Services	0

APPENDIX D

BUDGET ISSUES

	Budget Issues	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000
	Capital Expenditure			
1	Construct carbon neutral dwellings	400	400	400
2	Change in standard for smoke detection	300	300	300
3	Solar PV & battery storage on communals	50	-	-
	Sub Total	750	700	700
	Revenue Expenditure			
1	HRA contribution to Implementing IT Strategy	200	-	-
2	HRA contribution to Temp Business Development staffing	90	90	-
3	Additional caretakers for twelve months	40	-	-
4	Rent Sense extension - ongoing	11	12	14
5	Resident STAR survey – ongoing biennial	12	-	14
6	Manage Invasive Plants	5	5	5
7	Five yearly valuation of HRA Assets	80	-	-
8	Temp post in BTLS supporting QL	34	34	-
9	Clean & Green Management - ongoing	60	60	60
	Sub Total	532	201	93
	Total	1282	901	793

APPENDIX E

TENANT VIEWS ON BUDGET PROPOSALS 2020/21

Officers have met with the Tenant Scrutiny Group to review the overall HRA budget position and the budget issues proposed by officers, and answered tenant questions. Having scrutinised the budget proposals tenants are supportive of them, particularly those that seek to address the climate emergency and tenant safety.

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS

MOTION

- 2.1 That the Rent and Service charges set within delegated authority, as detailed in sections 4 and 5 of the report, be noted and endorsed.
- 2.2 That the comments of Tenants and Residents as set out in Appendix E of the report be noted.
- 2.3 That the Revenue Estimates and Capital Investment Plan set out in Appendices A and B of the report be approved, subject to the changes set out below.
- 2.4 That the HRA Reserves Policy set out in Appendix C of the report be approved.
- 2.5 That delegated authority be given to the Director of Place and Community to take all necessary action to implement the decisions of Council.

BUDGET SUMMARY FOR 2020/21

£000

A	Budget surplus shown in Revenue Estimates in Appendix A	-331
B	Budget issues identified in Appendix D	1,282
C	Balance funded from 2019/20 HRA outturn surplus and HRA borrowing	<u>951</u>



Council:

26th February 2020

Report of: Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property

Contact for further information: Mr M. Kostrzewski (Ext.5374)
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SUBJECT: CAPITAL FINANCIAL AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Wards affected: Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To set the framework for capital financing and treasury management operations for the next financial year.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the projected position in respect of the Prudential Indicators for 2019-20 set out in Appendix 1 be noted.
- 2.2 That the Prudential Indicators for the next three years set out in Appendix 2 be agreed.
- 2.3 That the minimum revenue provision (MRP) policy set out in Appendix 3 be approved for the next financial year.
- 2.4 That the Treasury Management Strategy set out in section 7 of the report be approved, including the prepayment of pension contributions.
- 2.5 That authority to make the Investment Decisions set out in paragraph 7.8 be delegated to the Strategic Assets Purchasing Committee.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Council has the ability to borrow to support its capital investment programme, subject to regulations that require any borrowing to be affordable, prudent and

sustainable. These regulations require consideration to be given to a range of prudential indicators in determining what represents an appropriate level of borrowing. The Council approved targets for the prudential indicators for 2019-20 and the subsequent two financial years at its meeting in February 2019. This report considers performance against the targets for 2019-20 and sets out proposed targets for the next 3 years, taking account of new information and planned future developments. It is also recognised best practice that the MRP policy (which governs the repayment of debt and other long term liabilities) should be reviewed on a regular basis, and an updated policy is proposed as a result of the latest review.

- 3.2 The CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice requires Authorities to have a Treasury Management Strategy in place, and this report sets out the proposed strategy for the next financial year. The code also requires that a Capital Strategy should be put in place and that performance indicators are expanded upon to aid understanding of exposure risks and investment decisions.
- 3.3 It is expected that the next 3 years will see a significant increase in external borrowing for a range of different initiatives including the Skelmersdale Town Centre Redevelopment, investment in affordable housing, and investment in Tawd Valley Developments Limited (there is a separate report on the Council's Development Company elsewhere on the agenda). The Sustainable Organisation Review (SORP) has also already agreed that up to £10m be invested in longer term higher yielding investments subject to analysis and evaluation of the risks, and to purchase or build up to £30m in physical assets through a new Commercial Property Strategy. The latest actuarial valuation of the Pension Fund has also provided opportunities to prepay pension contributions to generate savings. Consequently this is a time of significant change in treasury management activities and this report provides Members with relevant information in order to make informed decisions.

4.0 PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR PERFORMANCE 2019-20

- 4.1 The Council has a healthy financial position and this can be demonstrated in its prudential indicator figures. This is forecast to continue in 2019-20 as it is not expected that any external borrowing will be taken out and investment performance is running ahead of budget targets.
- 4.2 Appendix 1 shows the projected position against the prudential indicator targets that have been agreed for 2019-20. The first indicator shows the ratio of debt financing costs after allowing for investment income compared to the net revenue budget (reflecting treasury management costs as a percentage of expenditure). The GRA forecast level of 2.52% is relatively low, reflecting that the GRA currently has relatively low levels of debt and other long term liabilities given its size. The estimated financing costs on the GRA are lower than the forecast at 1.54%, due to strong investment performance. This reflects a number of factors including having larger than expected cash sums to invest and achieving higher returns on lending to the Development Company, which started part way through the year and which earns a higher rate of interest.
- 4.3 The HRA forecast level for financing costs of 11.44% is higher than the GRA ratio, as a result of the £88.212m of borrowing that had to be taken out to pay the

government for the introduction of the HRA self-financing system. This borrowing has an interest charge of £3.056m but this can be accommodated within the overall HRA budget position, and the HRA has actually benefitted significantly from the introduction of the self-financing system. Estimated performance on HRA financing costs is broadly in line with forecast.

- 4.4 The second indicator shown in Appendix 1 is the impact of capital decisions on the Council Tax. The forecast and estimated levels are both shown as nil, as borrowing for capital investment will only be undertaken where the business case has demonstrated a positive rate of return (and so there will be no additional costs that fall against the council tax).
- 4.5 Table 2 in Appendix 1 details the Indicator in relation to capital expenditure, which falls under the principle of Prudence. The figures represent the total scheme approvals for the capital programme, which were recently considered by Council at its meeting in December 2019. The main message here is that the schemes are fully financed and that the actual expenditure incurred to date is less than the budgetary sums provided so no problems are anticipated.
- 4.6 There is also a requirement to report upon the Capital Financing Requirement of the Council. This indicator details the authority's underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose. Due to its nature it can only be reported upon when the fixed asset accounts are closed, and this will not be possible until Summer 2020.
- 4.7 Appendix 1 Part B shows that the Council has not breached any of its borrowing limits during the financial year, and it is not expected that any external borrowing will be taken out this year. The figure for 'Other Long Term Liabilities' represents the agreement the Council has with Serco Paisa in respect of the investment they are undertaking within the Council's leisure centres. This agreement ceases at the end of March 2020 and as such the other long term liabilities figure will be zero by this time.

5.0 FORECAST 3-YEAR PRUDENTIAL AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- 5.1 As well as considering performance in the current year, forecast levels need to be agreed for the next 3 years. The range of indicators reported against has also been expanded to reflect the new regulations in this area, and details are set out in Appendix 2.
- 5.2 The estimate of ratio of financing costs for the GRA is showing a negative percentage in 2020-21 which means that more investment income is being generated than the financing costs being incurred. This is as a result of the serco interest payments ceasing (para 4.7 details) and also budgeted increases in cash investment returns as a result of SORP.
- 5.3 Debt to net service expenditure is detailed in appendix 2 for the GRA. The purpose of this PI is to show the amount of gross borrowing in the context of the size of the Council as measured by net service expenditure. This indicator will be influenced by a number of factors going forward including:
 - The level of borrowing that will need to be taken out to support lending to the Council's development company. This will fluctuate significantly over time

depending on the timing of when building works start and when sales are generated and further details are provided on a separate report elsewhere on this agenda

- The Skelmersdale Town Centre development will require borrowing to finance the scheme, and it is expected that this will commence in the near future although the timing is unclear
- Borrowing of up to £30m to fund a new Commercial Property Strategy was also agreed through the SORP. This has not been reflected in the PI as the time scales for this strategy require development
- There could be a significant borrowing requirement to fund the rebuilding of Leisure Centres. This has not been reflected in the PI as the funding requirement and timescales have still to be agreed

5.4 As projects move forward and the financial picture develops the implications of the financing arrangements will be reflected in the PIs and future reports on a regular basis. It is worth explaining that this PI is a good broad indicator of risk exposure when undertaking borrowing. The level reported should not be considered in isolation as each scheme that the Council approves will be subject to a detailed business case analysis and discounted cash flow, if appropriate. It should also be noted that while the GRA ratio of debt to net service expenditure is expected to increase significantly going forward, it is still well below the HRA level.

5.5 The incremental impact on the Council Tax as a result of the capital programme is estimated to be nil as although there will be borrowing in the future, these would be progressed only if the business case demonstrated that they had at least a neutral effect on the revenue position. The HRA rental levels are subject to regulation and consequently the capital programme will not have a direct effect on the charges levied.

5.6 Appendix 2, Table 5, details the Indicators with regard to future capital expenditure and the capital financing requirement. The Council's three year capital programme is discussed elsewhere on the agenda and consequently the figures presented are in line with those previously reported to Members and will be updated to reflect the decisions made at this Council meeting, and when the timing of large scale projects becomes clearer.

5.7 The capital financing requirement measures the Council's underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose. As a key indicator of prudence the Prudential Code states:

'In order to ensure that over the medium term net borrowing will only be for a capital purpose, the local authority should ensure that net external borrowing does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current year and next two financial years.'

5.8 The Council should have no difficulty meeting this requirement in 2019-20 nor are any difficulties envisaged for future years. This view takes into account current commitments and existing plans.

- 5.9 Appendix 2, Part B, details the prudential indicators that are relevant for the purposes of setting an integrated treasury management strategy, including the authorised and operational limits for external debt.
- 5.10 The authorised limits for external debt are consistent with the authority's current commitments, existing plans and the proposals in the budget reports for capital expenditure and financing. They are based on the estimate of most likely, prudent but not worst case scenario, with in addition sufficient headroom over and above this to allow for operational management, for example unusual cash movements. Risk analysis and risk management strategies have been taken into account, as have plans for capital expenditure, estimates of the capital financing requirement and estimates of cash flow requirements for all purposes.
- 5.11 The Council is also asked to approve the operational boundary for external debt for the same period. The proposed operational boundary for external debt is based on the same estimates as the authorised limit but reflects the most likely, prudent but not worst case scenario without the additional headroom included in the authorised limit. Within the authorised limit and operational boundary, figures for borrowing and other long-term liabilities are separately identified.
- 5.12 Appendix 2 contains details on occupancy levels for different types of Commercial Assets. These relatively high occupancy levels mean that the resultant income streams should be more secure. Avoiding vacancies is important not just from an income generating point of view but also the ability to levy service charges on tenants and to avoid empty business rates liabilities. This appendix also shows income levels for these commercial assets, based upon actual performance and forecast income in the current financial year. This provides trend information on the income levels being achieved.

6.0 MRP AND HOUSING DEBT REPAYMENT POLICIES

- 6.1 The basic idea behind the MRP is that a minimum level of funding should be set aside each year for the repayment of borrowing or other long term liabilities on a prudent basis. There are regulatory requirements that must be met in setting the MRP and the policy should be reviewed on an annual basis. The proposed policy for the next year is set out in Appendix 3.
- 6.2 HRA Debt Repayments were suspended when the Government required rent reductions to be made for a 4 year period up to March 2020. Now that this period has ended these repayments will be reinstated from the next financial year to ensure that the full £88.212m of HRA external borrowing can be provided for over a 70 year period i.e. the estimated life time of the assets.
- 6.3 The MRP policy has also been updated to clarify that charges will not start to be made until after building works have been completed rather than during the construction phase. This is an important consideration on Commercial Property schemes where the income to make debt repayments will only start to be generated once the property becomes operational. Similarly going forward MRP charges for new Commercial Property schemes will be determined following a consideration of scheme specific factors and agreed through the annual MRP policy.

7.0 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2020-21

7.1 The Council's cash flow position is actively managed in order to avoid any short-term deficits arising, however in light of a number of large projects due to commence in 2020/21, some borrowing of this nature may be required.

7.2 The Treasury team act in accordance with the principles set out in the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice with the objective of minimising the debt costs and financial risks that face the Council as a result of borrowing.

PROSPECTS FOR INTEREST RATES

7.3 Link Asset Services act as a Treasury Adviser to the Council and part of their service is to assist in formulating views on interest rates.

7.4 The table below gives the Link central view on future interest rate movements.

	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021
Base Rate	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%

Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) interest rate on 25 year borrowing 3.02%

7.5 As can be seen from the above table Link are not predicting any base rate rises in 2020/21 and currently it is more likely that interest rates are cut this year rather than increased. This will have an effect on our Treasury Management performance in 2020/21 and will reduce investment return levels when compared with 2019/20. In October 2019 the government increased the cost of borrowing from the PWLB by one percentage point and it's Link's view that rates will continue to rise gradually to around 3.60% by the end of 2020/21.

7.6 It should be noted that there are a number of factors that could have a major impact on the prospects for interest rates in the short to medium term, the most significant of which is the UK's exit from the European Union. The Treasury Management team will therefore closely monitor the interest rate market and adopt a pragmatic approach to any changing circumstances, reporting any decisions to the Council at the next available opportunity.

INVESTMENTS STRATEGY

7.7 It is anticipated that during 2020/21 there should be on average somewhere in the region of £25m available for total investment, although the level can vary significantly at different times of the year. Following a review of the treasury management function by Red Quadrant as part of SORP, an additional GRA income target of £326,000 has been agreed, on the basis of investing up to £10m in longer term, higher yield assets.

7.8 In order to achieve this target it is proposed that the following new long term (greater than 12 months) investment approaches are adopted:

- Property Funds - Investment up to £3m in individual property funds for a period of up to 5 years

- Corporate bond investments – Investment of up to £3m in individual bonds for a maximum period not exceeding 3 years
- Infrastructure investments e.g. solar bonds – Investment of up to £3m for a period not exceeding 5 years
- Sums can be invested with other Councils for a period of up to 5 years, not exceeding an amount of £5m
- Investments with banks and building societies can be made for a period of up to 3 years as long as the credit rating is A- or above and the sums do not exceed £3m.

7.9 In developing this approach meetings have been held with our treasury advisors, and with colleagues from Warrington Council and Lancashire County Council. Further details on these measures are set out in Appendix 4. These types of investments are made by many local authorities and provide the opportunity to achieve higher rates of return but this means accepting a higher level of risk that funds could be lost. It is intended that these types of investment decision will be approved by the Strategic Assets Purchasing Committee, including redeeming or selling investments at short notice where relevant and appropriate given market conditions.

7.10 There will be continued regular interaction with Link to ensure that we are up to date with changes in the markets and the financial situation in general. Short term investments of up to 12 months will also continue to be made with Councils and UK based banks and building societies that have an excellent credit rating by the Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property under delegated authority in line with existing arrangements. Performance on these investments will continue to be monitored against the 3 month LIBID interest rate.

7.11 Following the latest actuarial revaluation of the Pension Fund there is an opportunity to prepay pension contributions due over the next 3 years to achieve a revenue saving. This prepayment option was used 3 years ago when the last actuarial valuation was completed and has worked effectively. Consequently it is proposed to pursue this option which would involve prepaying up to £7.74m (this figure may reduce following discussions with the Pension Fund) in April 2020, compared to the estimated normal monthly contributions which would total £8.19m over the three year period. This would save £0.45m over the three year period and would equate to an interest rate of just over 1.8% without any significant risk implications.

BORROWING STRATEGY

7.12 The loan for the Housing self-financing payment of £88.212m to central government was arranged via the Public Works Loan Board. Given the special discount applied by the PWLB to its interest rates specifically for this purpose, the loans offered the most preferential rate available to the Council in which to finance the debt at that time.

7.13 The structure of the loan has been set over the longer term, with at the time of borrowing loan periods ranging from 15 to a maximum of 50 years. The structure of the debt is in line with treasury risk management principles and a detailed outline of the debt profile is attached in Appendix 2.

- 7.14 Going forward there will be a need to take on external borrowing to finance a number of key projects as set out above. When the cash flows for these projects has become clearer than appropriate borrowing will be taken out, seeking to source finance from the best available lender, which may be the PWLB or an alternative depending on the most cost effective option available at that time.
- 7.15 No changes are proposed to the Council's existing capital strategy, which was approved at the Council meeting in February 2019, and which continues to be fit for purpose.

8.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The Capital Financing and Treasury Management Framework ensures that robust financial decisions are made. The strategies in place provide for sound financial management decision making with regards to the Council's assets and their sustainability. This report has no significant impacts on crime and disorder.

9.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 The Council is signed up to the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice and it reviews the Prudential Indicators on a regular basis. It is, therefore, minimising the risks associated with financing decisions.

10.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no significant health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/or stakeholders. Therefore, no Equality impact assessment is required.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Prudential Indicator Performance 2019-20
- Appendix 2 – Three year prudential indicator Forecasts
- Appendix 3 – Minimum Revenue Provision policy
- Appendix 4 – Proposed new investment opportunities

Part A - Affordability

Table 1:

Estimate/Forecast of Ratio of Financing Costs to net revenue stream

G.R.A.	Estimate	1.54%	
	Forecast		2.52%
H.R.A.	Estimate	11.62%	
	Forecast		11.44%

Estimate/Forecast of the incremental impact of capital decisions on the Council Tax

Incremental Increase Band D:

Estimate	Nil
Forecast	Nil

Prudence:

Table 2 £000

Estimate with slippage of capital expenditure

G.R.A.	Estimate with slippage	4,918
H.R.A.	Estimate with slippage	10,826
TOTAL		15,744

Approved Council 11th December 2019

Part B – Treasury Management Prudential Indicators

Table 3 £000

Authorised limit for external debt

	Limit	Forecast
Borrowing	110,000	88,212
Other Long Term Liabilities	1,000	0
Total	111,000	88,212

Operational Boundary

	Limit	Forecast
Borrowing	107,500	88,212
Other Long Term Liabilities	500	0
Total	108,000	88,212

Appendix 2

3- YEAR PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS & PERFORMANCE LEVELS

Part A - Affordability

Table 4

Estimate of Ratio of Financing Costs to net revenue stream

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
G.R.A.	-1.36%	-1.39%	-1.42%
H.R.A.	11.43%	11.11%	10.80%

Estimate of the incremental impact of capital decisions on the Council Tax and HRA rental levels

£	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Incremental increase Band D and HRA rental levels	Nil	Nil	Nil

Prudence:

Table 5

£ 000' s

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Estimate of capital expenditure			
- Accurate figures TBD on the night			
- Quoted figures Cabinet Jan 2020			
G.R.A.	1,540	524	424
H.R.A.	8,895	8,755	8,755
	10,435	9,279	9,179

Capital Financing Requirement

G.R.A.	31,157	30,567	29,971
H.R.A.	82,963	82,963	82,963
Total	114,120	113,530	112,940

Appendix 2

Part B - Treasury Management Prudential Indicators

Table 6

£ 000's	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Authorised limit for external debt			
Borrowing	120,500	120,500	130,500
Other Long Term Liabilities	500	500	500
Total	121,000	121,000	131,000
Operational Boundary			
Borrowing	107,500	110,500	120,500
Other Long Term Liabilities	0	0	0
Total	107,500	110,500	120,500

Table 7 - Borrowing and Interest payment structure

All fixed rate loans:

£ Value	% Interest Rate	Period	Mat date	£ Int p.a.
4,410,600	3.01	15	28/3/2027	132,759
4,410,600	3.30	20	28/3/2032	145,549
8,821,200	3.44	25	28/3/2037	303,449
8,821,200	3.50	30	28/3/2042	308,742
8,821,200	3.52	35	28/3/2047	310,506
8,821,200	3.53	37	28/3/2049	311,388
8,821,200	3.52	40	28/3/2052	310,506
8,821,200	3.51	42	28/3/2054	309,624
8,821,200	3.50	45	28/3/2057	308,742
8,821,200	3.50	47	28/3/2059	308,742
8,821,200	3.48	50	28/3/2062	306,977

Weighted average interest rate is 3.47%
Total interest charge p.a. is £3,056,986

PERFORMANCE LEVELS:

Actual Rental Income Levels Achieved and Forecast

	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>
£000			FORECAST
G.R.A.	2,161	2,234	2,227

Debt to Net Service Expenditure

	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2021-22</u>
G.R.A.	0.0	80.0%	80.0%

Occupancy Levels – as at January 2020

Percentage of units let	%
Industrial Units	87.76
Offices	92.75
Retail Units	94.83
Ground leases, depot+ others	95.45

Appendix 3

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy

The basic idea behind the MRP is that a minimum level of funding should be set aside each year for the repayment of borrowing and other long term liabilities.

The Council will charge a minimum MRP of 1% for any old items within the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). However for any new capital projects that increase the CFR, the MRP rate will be determined by the estimated useful life of the capital works.

For example, £1m borrowed to fund a capital project that has a useful life of 40 years, would result in a 2.5% MRP charge of £25,000 p.a. for 40 years. It should be noted that the revenue account would also have to meet the additional interest costs associated with borrowing the sum of £1m.

The value of the usable capital receipts reserve will be deducted from the CFR in calculating the MRP, as this provides a better reflection of the Council's underlying need to borrow. In addition the General Revenue Account MRP calculation also excludes debt taken on in relation to HRA self financing in accordance with Government regulations.

The allowable debt element of capital receipts that are generated from Right to Buy Council House sales will be used for general capital spending as separate provision for HRA debt repayment is now being made within the HRA. The level of HRA debt repayment has been set so that the £88.212m of external borrowing that was taken out in relation to self-financing can be repaid over 70 years to match the expected life of Council houses, with the level of repayments increasing each year in line with inflation.

MRP will be calculated on finance leases in accordance with standard accounting practice.

MRP will only be provided on projects once the scheme has been completed and commissioned i.e. not during the construction phase.

The MRP on new Commercial Property Investments will be determined following a consideration of scheme specific factors and agreed through the annual MRP policy.

APPENDIX 4

PROPOSED NEW INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Property funds

Property funds are investments in commercial property, for example, offices, factories, warehouses and retail space. Customers make lump-sum investments, which are pooled together and used to purchase a range of assets, invested in two ways: directly in commercial property; or indirectly by buying shares in property companies or other property funds.

Property funds offer the benefit of accessing specialist knowledge when investing in such opportunities. Some funds operate solely for the public sector while others have a wider range of investors. Each of these funds have fees associated with them that can vary but are significant. Investments would only be made in funds that are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The rate of return on these funds can be attractive at around 5% pa depending upon performance and the economic cycle, however funds would need to be invested over a long period in order to recover the cost of joining the fund. Some schemes are already operating and hence have a track record of performance while others may be at the commencement of the fund. Whilst these clearly do not have a track record the benefit here is that it is possible to shape the nature of investments that are to be made.

Investing in property can potentially provide a good source of income thanks to rent from tenants, as well as the opportunity for capital growth if property prices rise. Property is known as an 'illiquid' asset because generally it can be difficult to sell quickly, at its market value. Property values can, similarly to any other type of investment, fall as well as rise, and there are no guarantees that profits will be made.

One of the big worries for UK property funds is their exposure to large commercial shopping centres. These were once favoured by bigger property fund managers but both Brexit and the shift over to digital shopping has meant that many are simply not worth what they were originally paid for.

If a large number of investors attempt to cash in at the same time, this can force some property funds to suspend trading, unless they have a significant cash buffer in place. For example, several funds were forced to temporarily suspend redemptions in 2016 after the UK's vote to leave the EU led to a wave of redemption requests which exceeded the cash available in the fund. When this happens, it means that investors cannot sell their holdings until the suspension is lifted and the value in the meantime continues to change, possibly falling.

Solar Bonds

Solar bonds are similar in some ways to property funds in that investments are made in physical assets, in this case solar PV farms. These are secured asset backed investments that can pay a good return above what can be obtained in traditional investments. The liquidity of these investments is generally between 1 – 5 years. However these bonds can be traded to an interest party and sold if a buyer can be found.

There is security in investing in this type of asset and the investments can also be regulated. It meets the green agenda and broadly provides steady rates of return, which can vary between be 3% to 7%.

Financial modelling should provide a full sensitivity analysis covering the major risks of falls in energy prices, increases in rents, falls in electricity output and increases in interest rates. This will establish that sufficient profit headroom exists to pay interest under all sensitivities.

Corporate Bonds

Corporate bonds are issued by companies to raise funds for their business operations. The rates can vary but typically could be around 5% dependent upon the period of investment. When buying a corporate bond you are investing in the credit risk of that company i.e. if that company went bust you could lose all the principal invested.

An alternative could be to buy into a range of corporate bonds via an investment firm, which would incur fees, however this provides access to specialist knowledge and allows the spreading of risk across a range of companies. Due diligence would have to be undertaken but the investor could stipulate or source opportunities whereby only companies with good credit ratings are invested in.

Council investments

Local Authorities regularly borrow from and lend to each other within the money market in the short to medium term i.e. up to 5 years. One benefit of investing with other authorities is that they have an excellent credit rating, however the returns are not as attractive as other investment opportunities.

For example, a 3 year investment could achieve around 1.80% pa, which is 1.1% above the Council's current average rate of interest with a secure investment. This would generate an additional £33,000 of income per year if £3m was invested, and this could be considered within a balanced portfolio of investments.

Banks/Building Societies –

The Council currently invests its available cash within this sphere of the market, and the duration for this investment type is for a relatively short term to ensure liquidity. If sums were invested for longer, say 2 years, there could potentially be access to an incremental increase of around 1%, which has the benefit of good security but only a modest increase in return.



COUNCIL: 26 February 2020

Report of: Corporate Director of Place & Community

Contact for further information: Michelle Williams (ext. 3244)
(email: michelle.williams@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER RENEWAL

Wards affected: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To seek approval to renew the Councils' existing Public Space Protection Order which details numerous Dog Control provisions for locations across the Borough and include five additional locations.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

2.1 That due consideration is given to the results from the public consultation conducted between 4 November 2019 and 13 December 2019, and additional communication received regarding the PSPO renewal and expansion proposal.

2.2 That the Public Space Protection Order detailed at Appendix 1 to this report be approved for renewal for a 3 year period commencing 1st April 2020 with the inclusion of the five additional locations as outlined in the public consultation.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 On the 1st April 2017, the Council created a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Appendix 1).

Further details can be found via:

<https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

The order details restrictions that are in place relating to:

- dog fouling;

- dogs exclusion areas;
- areas where dogs should be on a lead and;
- the number of dogs that can be walked by one person.

3.2 There are currently 69 enclosed play areas where dogs are excluded and 5 areas where dogs are required to be kept on leads. The order consolidated numerous pieces of old legislation and has been successful in minimising dog related issues in the areas concerned.

3.3 All PSPO's are valid for a period of 3 years unless they are extended before the expiry date. A local authority can extend the lifetime of the Order for a maximum further period of 3 years if satisfied on reasonable grounds that doing so is necessary to prevent an occurrence or reoccurrence of the activities or an increase in frequency or seriousness of those activities.

An Order can be extended for up to a further 3 years and there are publication requirements as set down by the Secretary of State.

3.4 In addition, a local authority has the power to amend an Order if it satisfies two conditions.

Condition 1: It believes:

- a) activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or;
- b) it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect

Condition 2 is that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities —

- (a) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
- (b) is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and
- (c) justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

3.5 As the lifetime of the current Order requires extending and there has been further evidence to justify extending the jurisdiction of the Order, Council is asked to approve the renewal of the existing PSPO for a further 3 years in addition to the inclusion of the five additional locations that were subject to consultation.

4.0 CONSULTATION

4.1 Since the introduction of the current Order a further suggestion was received from a Parish Council in relation to a new area where restrictions could prove useful. In addition, Environmental Enforcement Officers have noted further areas where there is an increased risk of a dog attack or an issue relating to fouling. For example, locations where organised sports take place, especially involving children.

4.2 The additional sites considered for inclusion in the Order with restrictions are:

- Ormskirk Rugby Club - dogs to be kept on a lead
- Tarleton Rugby Club - dogs to be kept on a lead
- Tarleton Cricket Club - dogs to be kept on a lead
- Enclosed children's play area, Station Rd, Hesketh Bank – dogs to be excluded
- Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub, Digmaor – dogs to be excluded

4.3 As is required, the Council consulted on the additional new proposed restrictions (i.e. Appendices 2 and 3 to this report) for a period of 6 weeks. In addition to consulting the community, the Council is also required to consult the Police and Crime Commissioner. This is because the Police potentially have a role in enforcing the Order. The Council's website contained a questionnaire in relation to the proposals, which allowed respondents to support or object to the proposals and add comments.

The consultation took place from 4 November 2019 – 13 December 2019.

4.4 Statistical analysis and comments received during the public consultation period can be found at Appendices 5 and 10.

4.5 Additional communications received regarding the proposal to renew the Council's PSPO can be viewed at Appendices 5 – 8.

4.6 It should also be noted that an online petition, included at Appendix 8, was received on 13 January 2020 which was one month beyond the closing date of the public consultation period.

It should also be noted that Tarleton Parish Council who are the landowners of the recreation ground at Carr Lane, Tarleton are fully supportive of the proposed implementation of the restrictions for that site. See Appendix 6.

4.8 Having taken the comments into consideration, it is recommended that the five additional sites, with restrictions be included and the Order agreed from 1st April 2020 for a period of 3 years.

4.9 It is worth noting that where restrictions are proposed relating to keeping dogs on a lead, alternative areas have to be available nearby to allow dogs to be exercised off a lead. Officers are satisfied that in all cases there are alternative more suitable sites within a reasonable distance.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The resource implications from this report can be met within existing resources.

7.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 Including the play areas and new restrictions will demonstrate consistency with previous work and assist in the reduction of anti-social behaviour.

Putting restrictions in place on the new sites also reduces the risk of sport participants that use the sites coming into contact with dog faeces that can cause toxocariasis.

8.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The proposal will reduce exposure to dog faeces by members of the public whilst they are undertaking recreational activities.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders, therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal equality impact assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been taken into account in the Recommendations contained within this report.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - EIA Document
- Appendix 2 - Existing Public Space Protection Order (01.04.17 – 31.03.20)
- Appendix 3 - Proposed areas where dogs are to be excluded
- Appendix 4 - Proposed areas where dogs will be required to be kept on a lead
- Appendix 5 - Results of Public Consultation (04.11.19 – 13.12.19)
- Appendix 6 - Email received from Tarleton Parish Clerk
- Appendix 7 - Communication received from The Kennel Club
- Appendix 8 - Letter received from Tarleton resident
- Appendix 9 - Petition received outside the public consultation period
- Appendix 10 - Comments from public consultation re: objections to 5 new locations with restrictions

Equality Impact Assessment Form



Directorate: Place & Community	Service: Environmental Services
Completed by: Heidi McDougall	Date: 14th February 2020
Subject Title: PSPO Renewal	
1. DESCRIPTION	
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	Yes <i>*delete as appropriate</i>
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	No
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	No
Is a programme or project being planned:	No
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	Yes
Details of the matter under consideration:	Public Space Protection Order Renewal including 5 additional sites
<i>If you answered Yes to any of the above go straight to Section 3</i> <i>If you answered No to all the above please complete Section 2</i>	
2. RELEVANCE	
Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	Yes <i>*delete as appropriate</i>
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>	The service delivered will have a direct impact of the quality of the environment.
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups: <i>You do not need to complete the rest of this form.</i>	
3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION	
Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	Members of the public.
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	Universal service, no particular group affected more.

Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?	<i>*delete as appropriate</i>
Age	No
Gender	No
Disability	No
Race and Culture	No
Sexual Orientation	No
Religion or Belief	No
Gender Reassignment	No
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No
Pregnancy and Maternity	No
4. DATA ANALYSIS	
In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?	Members of the public
What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?	Reduced exposure to dog faeces whilst undertaking leisure and /or sporting activities.
What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	A public consultation was conducted in Nov/Dec 2019. The support for the renewal of the PSPO is 78%. The support for the inclusion of the 5 additional sites is 58%. There has been some objection to the restrictions proposed regarding keeping dogs on leads at the 3 sports ground locations, however, there has been support for the Tarleton location by the Parish Council who are in fact the land owners.
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?	It is a universal service that will not unduly disadvantage stakeholders with protected characteristics.
If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	Consultation has taken place.
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	There is no anticipated disproportionate impact on people with protected characteristics.
6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or	There is no perceived negative impact on those with protected characteristics.

financial drivers etc.).	
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	No actions <i>If no actions are planned state no actions</i>
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	Prior to the 3 year expiry date of the PSPO Order. Environmental Enforcement Officers



WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL
ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER – (WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH
COUNCIL) 2016

West Lancashire Borough Council in exercise of its powers under S59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the Act), being satisfied that the conditions set out in S59 of the Act have been met hereby makes the following Order:

This Order comes into force on 1st April 2017 for a period of 3 years.

The Order supersedes the following:

- The Fouling of Land by Dogs (West Lancashire) Order 2008
- The Dogs Exclusion Order 2009
- The Dogs of Leads Order 2009
- The Dogs (Specified Maximum) Order 2009
- The Dog on Leads by Direction Order 2009

The Order applies to the land specified in the attached Schedules and maps (where relevant) and should be read in conjunction with the same.

Section 1 – General Provisions

- 1.1 Where specified, in this Order, “the Council” means West Lancashire Borough Council.
- 1.2 A person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog
- 1.3 In relation to Section 2 & 6 of this Order the offence does not apply to a person who:
- 1.3.1 - is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under Section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or
 - 1.3.2 – has a disability which affects his hearing, mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a prescribed charity and upon which he relies for assistance.
 - 1.3.3 – each of the following is a “prescribed charity” for the purposes of this Order-
 - (i) Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454);
 - (ii) Support Dogs (registered charity number 1088281);
 - (iii) Canine Partners for Independence (registered charity number 803680)
 - (iv) Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358)

1.4 An “authorised officer of the Council” means an employee of the Authority who is authorised in writing by the Council for the purposes of giving directions under this Order.

Section 2 – Dog Fouling

2.1 This Section applies to the land specified in Schedule 1

2.2 If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this Order applies and a person who is in charge of the dog at the time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless –

- (a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

2.3 For the purposes of this section –

- (a) placing of faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be a sufficient removal from the land;
- (b) being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces.

Section 3 – Specified Maximum Number of Dogs

3.1 This Section applies to the land specified in Schedule 1

3.2 A person will be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he takes onto any land in respect of which this Order applies more than six dogs per person, unless

- (a) he has reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his doing so.

Section 4 – Dogs To Be Kept On Leads In Identified Areas

4.1 This Section applies to the land specified in Schedule 2

4.2 A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, on any land to which this Order applies he does not keep the dog on a lead, unless –

- (a) he has reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

Section 5 – Dogs To Be Kept On Leads When Directed To Do So By An Authorised Officer

5.1 This Section applies to the land specified in Schedule 1

5.2 A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time on any land to which this Order applies, he does not comply with a direction given to him by an Authorised Officer of the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead unless –

- (a) he has reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

5.3 an Authorised Officer of the Council may only give a direction under this Order to put and keep a dog on a lead if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog causes or is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person on any land to which this Order applies or the worrying or disturbance of any animal or bird.

Section 6 – Dogs To Be Excluded From Designated Areas

6.1 This Section applies to the land specified in 3

6.2 A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if at any time he takes a dog onto, or permits a dog to enter or to remain on, any land to which this Order applies unless –

- (a) he has reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

Section 7 – Penalty

A person who fails to comply with any obligation imposed by this Order is guilty of a criminal offence by virtue of section 67(1) of the Act and liable to a fine on summary conviction not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

Fixed Penalty Notices

In accordance with S68 of the Act an Authorised Officer may issue a fixed penalty notice (the Notice) of £75.00 to anyone he has reason to believe has committed an offence under this Order

The fixed penalty notice is a notice offering the person to whom it is issued the opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction for the offence by payment of a fixed penalty to the Council.

When a Notice is issued, no proceedings will be taken in respect of the offence before the end of the period of 14 days following the date of the Notice. If the person issued



WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL
ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER – (WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH
COUNCIL) 2017

SCHEDULE 1

This Order applies to all land which is within the administrative area of the Borough of West Lancashire and which the public are entitled or permitted to have access with or without payment. The order will also apply to all Access Land within the Borough of West Lancashire within the meaning of S1(1) Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

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WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL
ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER – (WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH
COUNCIL) 2017

SCHEDULE 2

This Order applies to –

- (a) all carriageways in the West Lancashire Borough Council Area (either public or to which the public have access with or without payment) with a speed limit of 40 miles per hour or greater and the adjoining footways, cycle tracks and verges (either public or to which the public have access with or without payment); and
- (b) the areas outlined below and identified in the attached plans:
- Part of Beacon Country Park
 - Part of Coronation Park, Ormskirk
 - Coronation Park, Skelmersdale
 - St Helens Road Park, Ormskirk
 - Alder Lane playing fields, Parbold

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WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL
ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER – (WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH
COUNCIL) 2015

SCHEDULE 3

The areas outlined below and identified in the attached plans:

Schedule of Borough Council "enclosed play areas" at:

- Coronation Park, Park Road, Ormskirk, West Lancs
- Ennerdale/Tanhouse Park, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Cascades, Ormskirk Road, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Bracknel Way, Aughton, Ormskirk, West Lancs
- Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate, Banks, West Lancs
- Appley Playing Fields, Appley Lane South, Appley Bridge, West Lancs
- Banksbarn, Digmoor, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Abbeystead, Gillibrands Road, Little Digmoor, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Fairhaven, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Banks Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue, Banks, West Lancs
- Hawksclough, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Holland Moor, Digmoor, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Mawdsley Terrance, Ormskirk, West Lancs
- Priors Close/Vicarage Gardens, Burscough, West Lancs
- Rees Park, Burscough, West Lancs
- Richmond Park, Burscough, West Lancs
- School Lane, Westhead, Ormskirk, West Lancs
- Stanley, Coronation Park, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Trinity Walks, Tarleton, West Lancs
- Broadacre, Upholland, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Dewberry Fields, Upholland, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Moy Park, Scarisbrick, West Lancs
- Willows, Victoria Park, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Southport Road, Scarisbrick, West Lancs
- Poppyfields, Hesketh Bank, West Lancs
- Eavesdale/Edenhurst, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- White Moss Road, Skelmersdale, West Lancs
- Westhead (School Lane)
- Coronation Park, Ormskirk
- Halsall Lane, Ormskirk
- Westend, Ormskirk

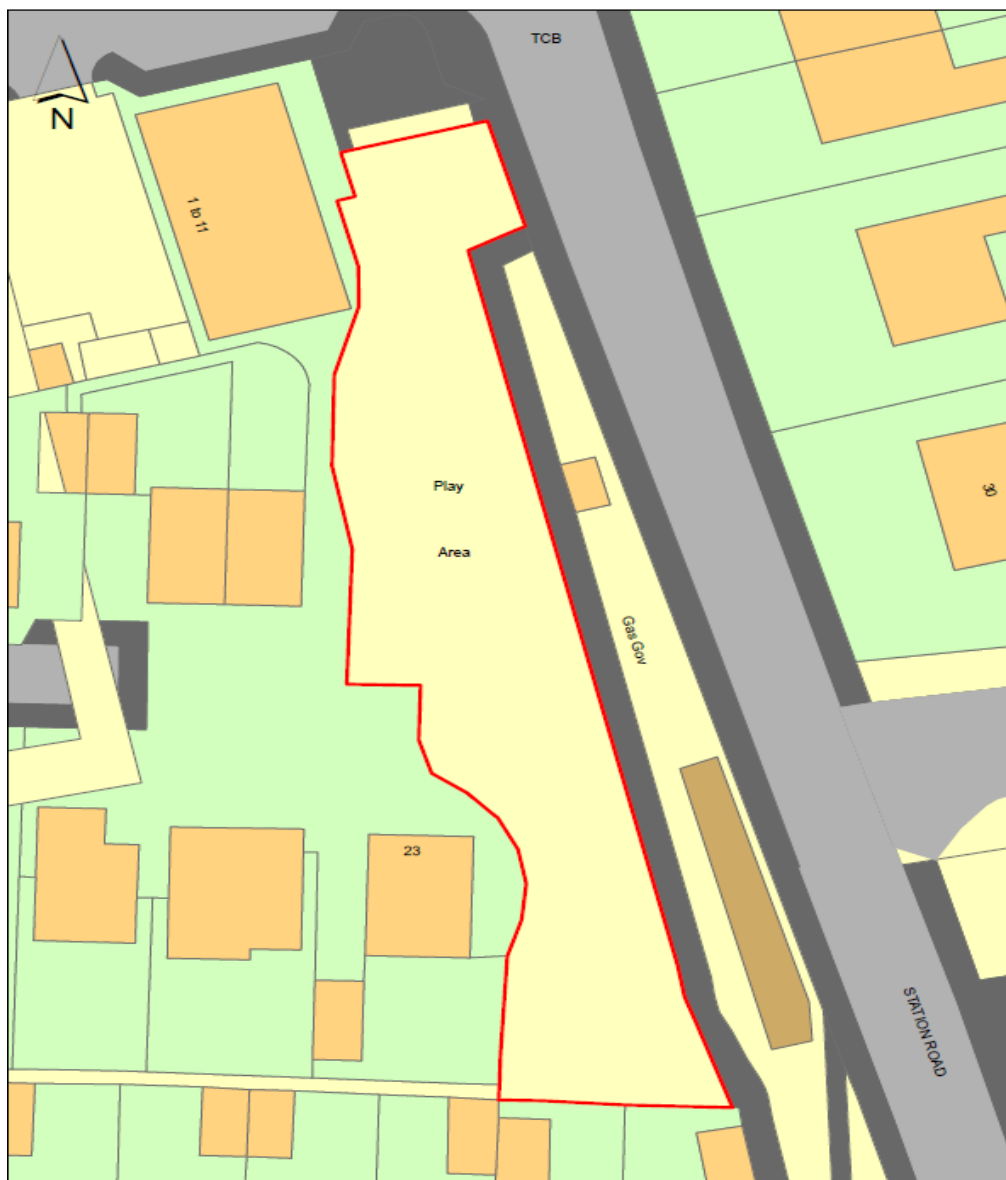
- Mawdesley Terrace, Ormskirk
- Pickles Drive, Burscough
- Rees Park, Burscough
- Richmond Park, Burscough
- Banksbarn, Digmoor
- Beacon Country Park, Up Holland
- Alderley, Little Digmoor
- Belvedere Way, Aughton
- Fairhaven, Birch Green
- Helmsdale, Birch Green
- Inglewhite, Birch Green
- Stanley Coronation Park, Old Skelmersdale
- Tanfields, New Church Farm
- Evington, Tanhouse
- Ennerdale, Tanhouse
- Abbeystead, Little Digmoor
- Daisy Way, Scarisbrick
- Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale
- Chequer Lane
- Beacon Park
- Hilldale Playing Field
- Bickerstaffe Playing Field

Schedule of Parish Council "enclosed play areas" at:

- Winifred Lane, Aughton, West Lancs
- Redsands, Aughton, West Lancs
- Holt Green, Aughton, West Lancs
- Mere Avenue, Burscough, West Lancs
- Engine Lane, Great Altcar, West Lancs
- Memorial Hall, Halsall Road, Halsall, West Lancs
- Shore Road, Hesketh with Beconsall, West Lancs
- Glen Park Drive, Hesketh with Beconsall, West Lancs
- Schwartzmans Drive, North Meols, West Lancs
- Village Hall, The Green, Parbold, West Lancs
- Burnside, Parbold, West Lancs
- Village Hall, Smithy Lane, Scarisbrick, West Lancs
- Carr Lane, Tarleton, West Lancs
- Mill Lane, Up Holland, West Lancs
- Lawns Ave, Up Holland, West Lancs

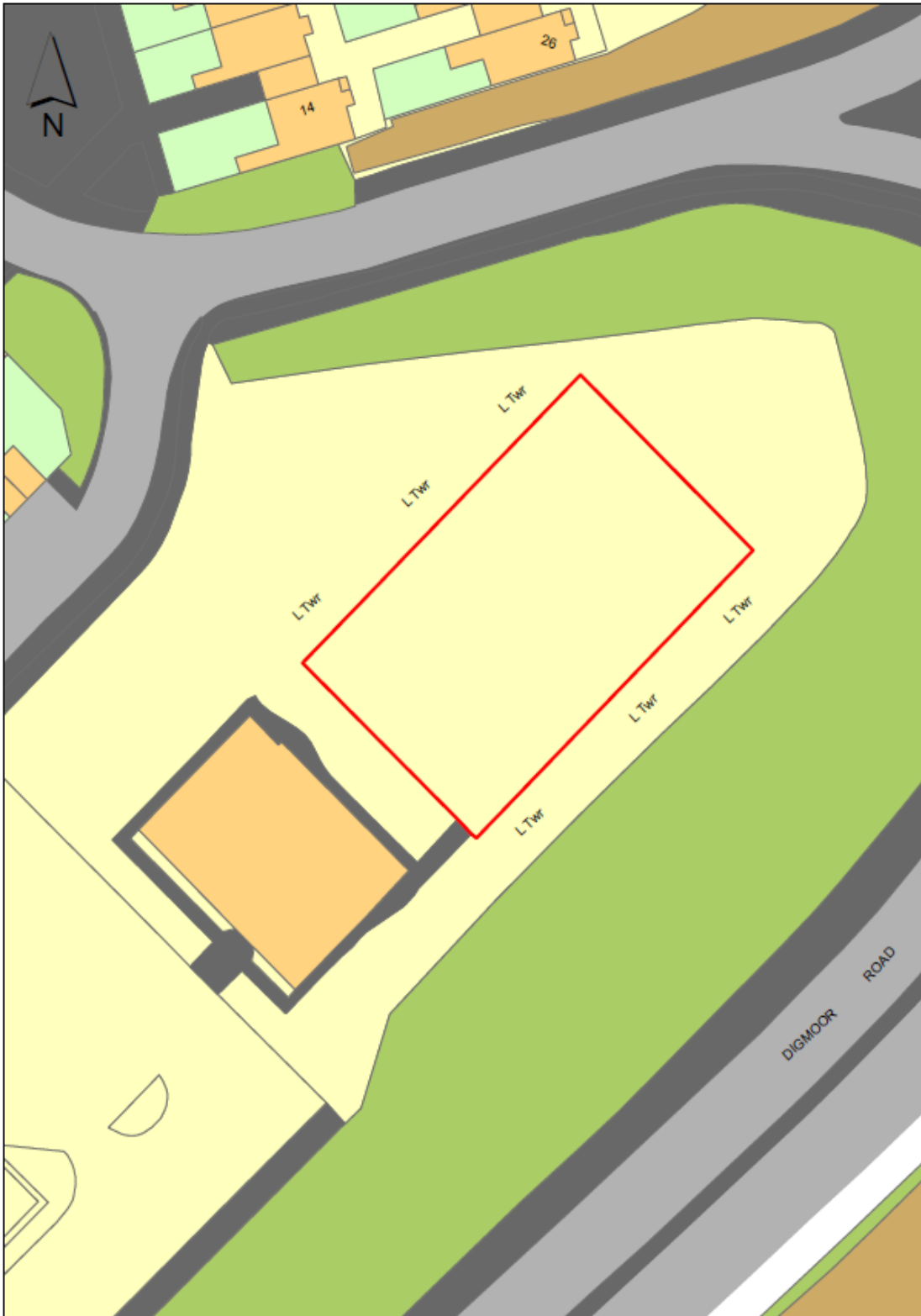
Proposed new areas where dogs are to be excluded.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
Station Road, Hesketh Bank	Parish Council enclosed play area
Evermore Hub	Enclosed sports area



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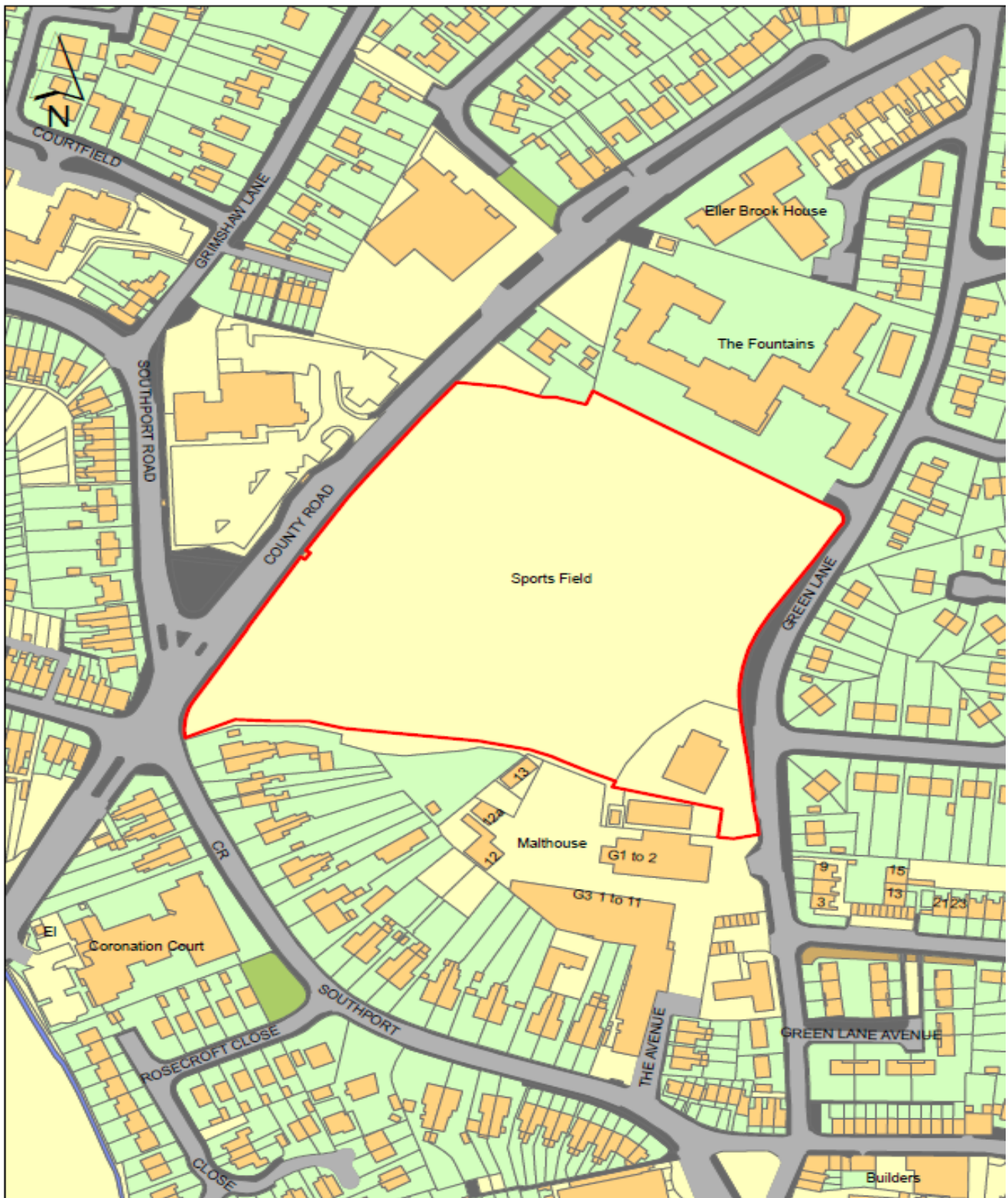


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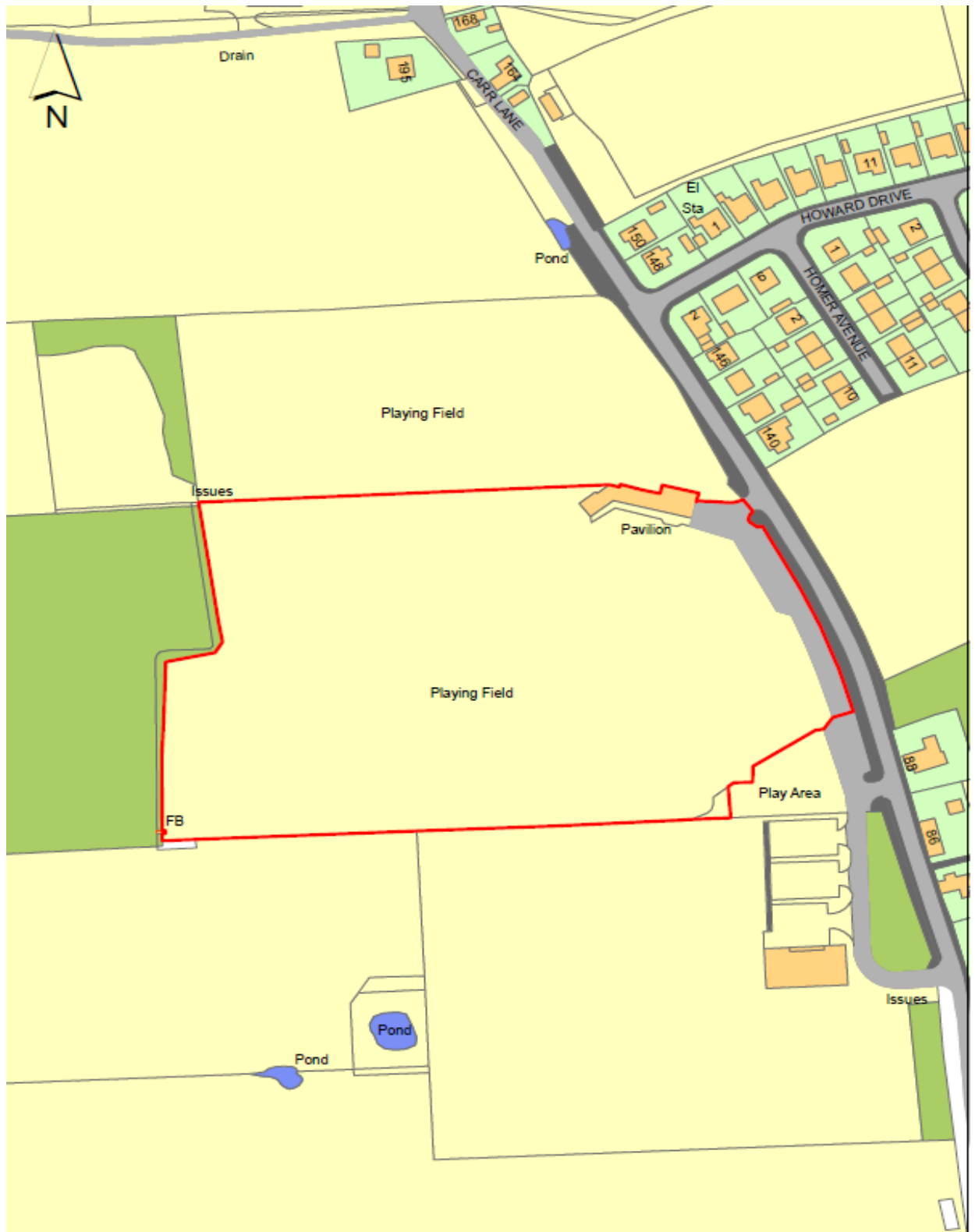
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Proposed areas where Dogs will be required to be kept on a lead.

a. Ormskirk Cricket Club



b. Tarleton Cricket Club



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1:2,000

c. Tarleton Rugby Club

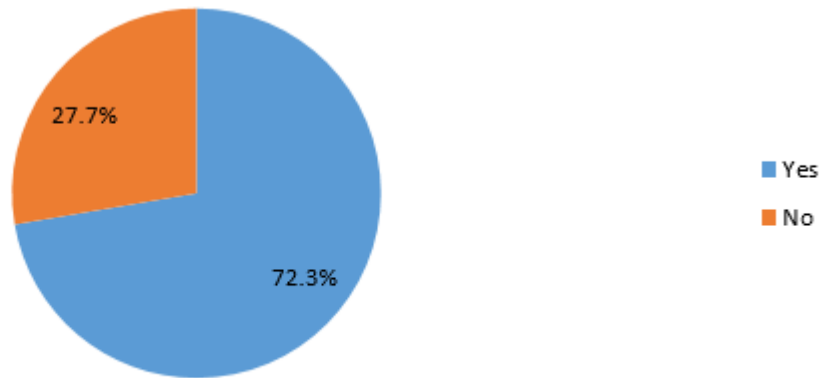


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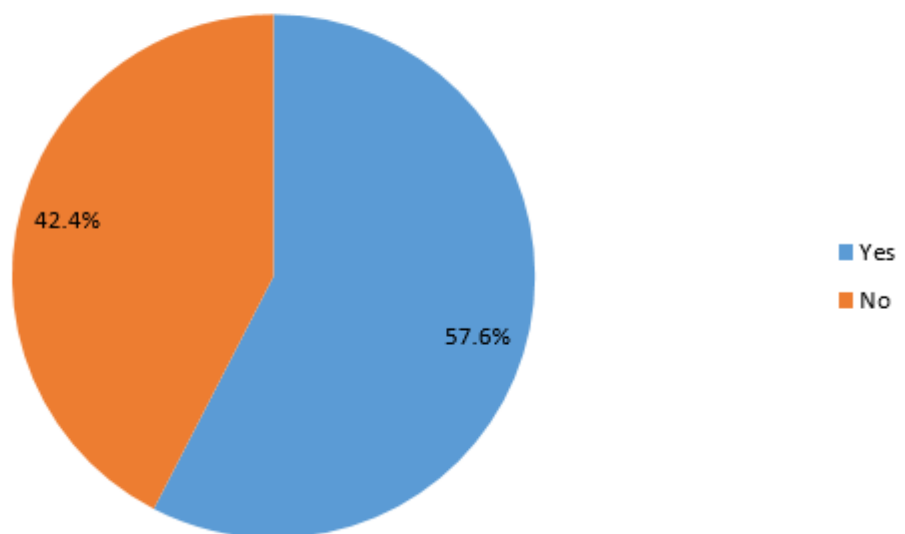
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Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order?

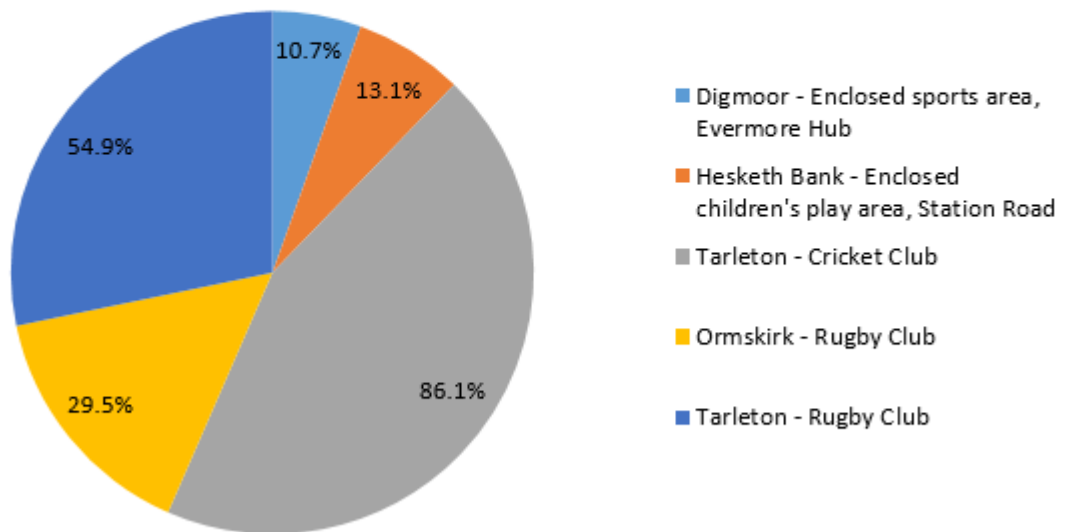
To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>



We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?



Which area or areas do you disagree with?
(Please select all that apply to you from the list below)



Public Space Protection Order

Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Answer Choice	Response Percent	Response Total
1 Digmoor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub	10.7%	13
2 Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road	13.1%	16
3 Tarleton - Cricket Club	86.1%	105
4 Ormskirk - Rugby Club	29.5%	36
5 Tarleton - Rugby Club	54.9%	67
answered		122

From: Tarleton Parish Clerk [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 October 2019 14:12
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Consultation re dogs

[REDACTED]
Tarleton Parish Council owns the recreation land at Carr Lane, Tarleton.
At the October Council meeting it was resolved to support the Borough Council initiative to restrict dogs on our grounds.
Our two main stakeholders Tarleton Corinthians Football Club and Tarleton Cricket Club both support the action as well.

[REDACTED]
Tarleton Parish Clerk



THE KENNEL CLUB

Making a difference for dogs

Kennel Club response to West Lancashire Borough Council Public Spaces Protection Order consultation

Submitted on 13 December 2019 by: The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London
W1J 8AB, tel: 020 7518 1042, email: kcdog@thekennelclub.org.uk

The Kennel Club is the largest organisation in the UK devoted to dog health, welfare and training, whose main objective is to ensure that dogs live healthy, happy lives with responsible owners. As part of its External Affairs activities, the Kennel Club runs KC Dog, which was established to monitor and keep dog owners up to date about dog related issues, including Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) being introduced across the country.

As a general principle, we would like to highlight the importance for all PSPOs to be necessary and proportionate responses to problems caused by dogs and irresponsible owners. It is also important that authorities balance the interests of dog owners with the interests of other access users.

Maximum number of dogs a person can walk

The Kennel Club feel that an arbitrary maximum number of dogs a person can walk is an inappropriate approach to dog control that will often simply displace and intensify problems in other areas. The maximum number of dogs a person can walk in a controlled manner depends on a number of factors relating to the dog walker, the dogs being walked, whether leads are used and the location where the walking is taking place.

An arbitrary maximum number can also legitimise and encourage people to walk dogs up to the specified limit, even if at a given time or circumstance, they cannot control that number of dogs.

We thus suggest that defined outcomes are used instead to influence people walking one or more dogs, be that domestically or commercially, such as dogs always being under control, or not running up to people uninvited, on lead in certain areas etc.

For example, an experienced dog walker may be able to keep a large number of dogs under control during a walk, whereas an inexperienced private dog owner may struggle to keep a single dog under control. Equally the size and training of the dogs are key factors; this is why an arbitrary maximum number is inappropriate. The Kennel Club would recommend the local

authority instead uses the proposed “dogs on lead by direction” orders and targeted measures such as Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Community Protection Orders to address people who don’t have control of the dogs they are walking.

A further limitation of a maximum number of dogs per person is that that it does not stop people with multiple dogs walking together at a given time, while not exceeding the maximum number of dogs per person. Limits can also encourage some commercial dog walkers to leave excess dogs in their vehicles, which can give rise to welfare concerns.

We also note that commercial dog walking insurance is readily available, many policies are available which cost in the region of £100-150 per year will allow commercial dog walkers to walk six dogs off lead. While individual policy coverage may vary, these policies would typically cover financial claims arising as a result of commercial dog walking i.e. dogs attacking other dogs, or people, or getting lost. The widespread availability of insurance for walking six dogs off lead, and relatively low cost premiums is an indicator that commercial dog walking exceptionally rarely results in serious incidents, such as attacks on people or other animals. While we acknowledge reports of uncontrolled groups of dogs being walked by one person have been made to the council, we would suggest that either an accreditation scheme is adopted or targeted measures such as Community Protection Orders, are used against the individuals who are causing the problem. Accreditation schemes can be far more effective than numerical limits, as they can promote wanted good practice, rather than just curb the excesses of just one aspect of dog walking. Accreditation can also ensure dog walkers are properly insured and act as advocates for good behaviour by other dog owners.

Dog access

The Kennel Club oppose PSPOs which introduce blanket restrictions on dog walkers accessing public open spaces without specific and reasonable justification. Dog owners are required to provide their dogs with appropriate daily exercise, including “regular opportunities to walk and run”, which in most cases will be off lead while still under control.

The Kennel Club can support reasonable “dogs on lead” orders, which can - when used in a proportionate and evidenced-based way – include areas such as cemeteries, picnic areas, or on pavements in proximity to cars and other road traffic.

Accordingly, the underlying principle we seek to see applied is that dog controls should be the least restrictive to achieve a given defined and measurable outcome; this is the approach used by Natural England. In many cases, a seasonal and/or time of day restriction will be effective and the least restrictive approach, rather than a blanket year-round restriction. For instance, a “dogs on lead” order for a picnic area is unlikely to be necessary in mid-winter.

The Kennel Club does not normally oppose Orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds, or enclosed recreational facilities such as tennis courts or skate parks, as long as alternative provisions are made for dog walkers in the vicinity. We would also point out that children and dogs should be able to socialise together quite safely under adult supervision, and that having a child in the home is the biggest predictor for a family owning a dog.

With regards to playing fields, we ask local authorities to consider whether or not access restrictions are absolutely necessary. If they are deemed to be needed, whether time/season limited restrictions would be more appropriate than a continuous exclusion order. We are

aware in many areas, dog walkers do allow their dogs to exercise on playing fields when they are not in use.

Of course, we understand the safety reasons behind a restriction while in use. It is also worth noting that compliance with such an order can be difficult for a dog walker if there are no boundaries around the playing field as when exercising their dogs off lead, dogs will not recognise the difference between playing fields and other grassed areas.

The Government provided clear instructions to local authorities that they must provide restriction free sites for dog walkers to exercise their dogs. This message was contained in the guidance document for Dog Control Orders, and has been retained in both the Defra/Welsh Government and Home Office PSPO guidance documents, with the Defra guidance for PSPOs stating 'local authorities should ensure there are suitable alternatives for dogs to be exercised without restrictions'.

Dogs on lead by direction

The Kennel Club welcomes 'dogs on lead by direction' orders, as these allow responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs off lead without restriction providing their dogs are under control, whilst allowing the local authority powers to restrict dogs not under control. We would also recommend local authorities make use of the other more flexible and targeted measures at their disposal such as Acceptable Behavioural Contracts and Community Protection Notices. Kennel Club Good Citizen Training Clubs and our accredited trainers can also help those people whose dogs run out of control due to them not having the ability to train a good recall.

Dog fouling

The Kennel Club strongly promotes responsible dog ownership, and believes that dog owners should always pick up after their dogs wherever they are, including fields and woods in the wider countryside, and especially where farm animals graze to reduce the risk of passing Neospora and Sarcocystosis to cattle and sheep respectively.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage the local authority to employ proactive measures to help promote responsible dog ownership throughout the local area in addition to introducing Orders in this respect.

These proactive measures can include: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog poo can be disposed of in normal litter bins; running responsible ownership and training events; or using poster campaigns to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dog.

Dog fouling - requirement to be in possession of means to pick up

Whilst the Kennel Club supports proactive efforts on behalf of local authorities to encourage responsible dog ownership and to ensure that those who are not picking up after their dogs are brought to book, this has to be fair and proportionate and we would not like to see responsible dog owners penalised unfairly.

The Kennel Club has concerns over proposals to introduce an offence of not having the means to pick up. Responsible owners will usually have dog waste bags or other means to clear up after their pets but we do have some concerns, for example, if dog owners are approached at

the end of a walk and have already used the bags that they have taken out for their own dog, or given a spare bag to someone who has run out, a behaviour that is encouraged by Green Dog Walker schemes.

Furthermore, it is perfectly plausible that these proposals in certain circumstances would perversely incentivise dog walkers not to pick up after their dog. Should a dog walker on witnessing their dog fouling realise they are down to their final poo bag (or other receptacles), they will be forced into a decision of whether to use the bag and risk being caught without means to pick up, or risk not picking up in order to retain a means to pick up should they be stopped later on their walk. It is perfectly reasonable to assume that a proportion of dog walkers would choose the second option if they thought this was the least likely route to being caught. Especially if the penalty for not picking up was the same as not having means to pick up. Local authorities may wish to consider introducing a clause which provides an exemption for dog walkers who have run out of bags but can prove that they were in possession of and made use of bags (or other suitable receptacles) during their walk.

If such a measure is introduced it is essential that an effective communication campaign is launched in the local area to ensure that people are aware of the plans and have an excess supply of dog waste bags with them, so that it is the right people who are getting caught. Additionally, appropriate signage should be erected to inform those who are not familiar with the local rules are not unfairly caught out.

We are also concerned how easily local authorities could enforce this law when trying to define whether or not dog owners have 'a means' of picking up after the dogs, without risking the expense of legal challenge. In the absence of poo bags owners trying to flout the law could theoretically point to any number of items on their person that they intend to use, so we think that the most effective spot checks you can carry out are those that catch offenders in the act of not picking up, rather than second guessing behaviours on the basis of what they are or are not carrying with them.

Alternatively, to avoid a fine an irresponsible owner could simply tie one bag to his or her dog's lead or collar but never actually use it.

Cornwall council considered introducing a means to pick up order but subsequently decided against it as they deemed it to be disproportionate and concluded that the requirement would be 'toothless', as it would be highly unlikely to be enforceable in a magistrates court. Please see the attached Cornwall Council report for more details.

If the Council proceeds to introduce such a measure it is essential it provides greater clarity to dog walkers on how to comply with the Order.

Assistance dogs

When introducing a dog control PSPO local authorities should consider the potential negative impacts on vulnerable groups and their requirements under the Equality Act 2010. The most obvious potential adverse impact is upon those who rely on assistance dogs and blind people, who may either be unable to comply with conditions contained within the Order, or the effect of the Order would be to exclude them from accessing public spaces. Appropriate exemptions from dog fouling and dog exclusion Orders should be included in PSPOs, for blind people and those who rely on assistance dogs. Though the council should recognise that many disabled people enjoy the company of a pet dog (i.e. not acting as an assistance dog) and this also needs to be considered.

Assistance Dogs UK currently have eight member organisations which can be viewed here - <http://www.assistancedogs.org.uk/>. However, the membership of Assistance Dogs UK is not a definitive list of all UK assistance dog organisations, and may change during the currency of the PSPO, it also does not provide for owner trained assistance dogs. We would therefore encourage the Council to allow some flexibility when considering whether a disabled person's dog is acting as an assistance dog.

We would encourage the Council to adopt the definitions of assistance dogs as used by Northumberland County Council which can be found on page 2 of the attached document;

"(4) The term "Assistance Dog" shall mean a dog which has been trained to assist a person with a disability.

(5) The expression "disability" shall have the meaning prescribed in section 6 of the Equality Act 2010 or as may be defined in any subsequent amendment or re-enactment of that legislation"

14/11/2019

Proposed Dog Restrictions
In Tarleton

Dear Tracy,

I have lived in Tarleton for a very long time and I have recently been looking at the proposed Dog Control areas for Carr Lane Tarleton on your WLDCC website.

Please be aware your proposal for Dogs on a lead at the front of the pavilion does not cover all the sports areas.

At the back of the pavilion is another cricket ground and another football pitch which are used all throughout the year.

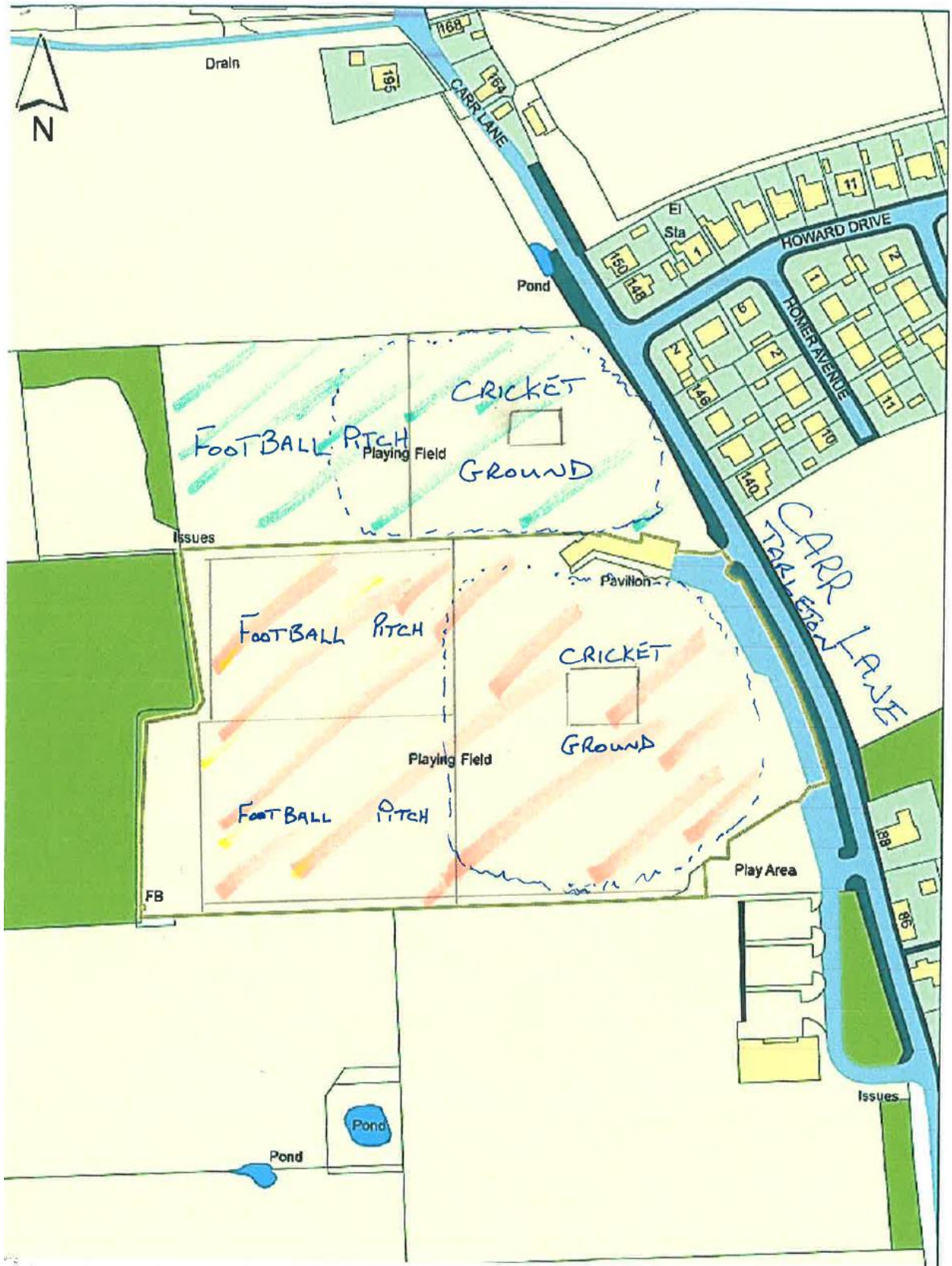
I have highlighted the areas on the enclosed map.

It may be worth yourself or someone from the Dog Control team to have a look at the facilities before any decisions are made.

I believe the cricket and football clubs have their own internet sites for any contacts.

Thank you

[Redacted signature]



Received 13 January 2020

An online petition Green Lane Fields / Ormskirk Rugby club Dog Control has now completed.

Statement:

We the undersigned petition the council to NOT to make the Green Lane fields a controlled dog area

Justification:

There are many, many more dog walkers that use the Green Lane fields than there are children playing.

Also the children's area could very easily have a fence built around it to keep the dogs out as is the case in many other areas.

Walking on there almost every day and there are whole weeks when no children are to be seen, even in school holidays the use is absolute minimal compared to the dog exercising.

The simplest solution is to fence the children's area and request dogs on a lead when sport is being played, which dog owners most likely do already anyway.

In this area the council are already going to take a HUGE chunk of green land on Churchfields for the new swimming pool, and so it is grossly unfair to put controls on Green Lane dog exercising area when Coronation Park is already being controlled and the ratio of use by children on the children's play area in Green lane being so small compared to that of the dog walkers.

Submitted by: [REDACTED]

It has received 21 responses.

Public Space Protection Order

Response 1

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Fields without flooding are hard to come by in This area. All the fields flood and turn into boggy swamps after even the lightest rainfall, there is slim pickings in Ormskirk/Aughton for locations with wide open spaces that stay hard underfoot and intact to properly run your dog. We have a border collie who needs a lot of running around, corrinaton park, drake field and town green all flood horribly, they are uneven for dogs which damages their joints, the rugby field stays solid and it's a nice even field to run the dog on. I don't understand why this proposal needs to happen, Dog owners that don't control their dogs should be managed instead of responsible owners being punished for other owner's laziness.

Response 2

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I am in complete agreement with banning dogs within the clearly defined children's play area but not from the surrounding fields or woods - your map and description do not make clear the scope of your intended ban.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As previous answer, I am in agreement with a ban from the designated children's play area but not the surrounding fields/woods and your map and description do not make your intentions clear.

Response 3

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I believe that everyone is being punished in order to tackle the few. If we had enough sensible dog wardens and enough education in place for dog owners and haters then the issues such as dog fouling being left and dog lover/hater conflict issues (which are usually overreactions).

Not enabling proper dog exercise leads to further issues such as barking and lack of exercise is detrimental to the owners and the dogs health.

As a rural borough we should be making the most of our greenspaces and not creating unnecessary legislation which could be prevented by targeted engagement with offenders and enforcement where that fails.

PSPO's and the enforcement of them should be seen as a failure by the enforcement teams to engage and educate the individuals who are causing a problem rather than be used to blanket ban perfectly legal and enjoyable uses of our environment by the majority of local residents.

Perhaps it would be a better use of time and money to invest in programmes to educate both dog lovers and dog haters to meet some middle ground. One such programme could be to introduce children in schools to dogs at a young age to alleviate any concerns they may have before they grow up to be the type of person to complain about them instead of understanding dogs behaviour and that a dog coming to say hello is not something to be scared of.

Again a PSPO should not be used to deprive local residents of freedoms that have been enjoyed for many years without issue.

The people who are causing problems now such as leaving dog fouling and letting their dogs intimidate others are unlikely to care that there is a pspo in place and are unlikely to stop and give enforcement officers their true details.

I have lived within a two minute walk of carr lane playing fields for two years and have never witnessed any dog related crimes. If there are problems elsewhere then they should be deaf with there rather than a lazy blanket ban as proposed.

During my daily walks I have never seen or met a dog warden at this popular dog walking area which goes to show that it is perhaps the lack of current measures to educate and engage that has led to any complaints raised.

There are already adequate legal measures in place to tackle dog fouling and failure to have a dog under control which allow the enjoyment of land by and where there are dog related issues then a dog warden or police officer are best placed to intervene instead of traffic warden like pspo enforcement officers which are employed by other boroughs such as Sefton.

I hope that as a rural borough West Lancashire Borough Council can use there local knowledge and experience to tackle this issue with a dose of common sense and fairness to dog owners who I'm sure make up a very large proportion of our wonderful ritual borough.

I would also under the freedom of information act like to request, the date and the nature of any complaints regarding dog fouling and dog related conflicts in Tarleton made to West Lancashire Borough Council be sent to me via email johnalvey@hotmail.com or published (and a notification sent to my email) to explain the necessity for this draconian legal action against law abiding residents when legal proceedings are already available to the council and police to tackle these issues.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I believe that everyone is being punished in order to tackle the few. If we had enough sensible dog wardens and enough education in place for dog owners and haters then the issues such as dog fouling being left and dog lover/hater conflict issues (which are usually overreactions) then this wouldn't be an issue.

Not enabling proper dog exercise leads to further issues such as barking and lack of exercise is detrimental to the owners and the dogs health.

As a rural borough we should be making the most of our greenspaces and not creating unnecessary legislation which could be prevented by targeted engagement with offenders and enforcement where that fails.

PSPO's and the enforcement of them should be seen as a failure by the enforcement teams to engage and educate the individuals who are causing a problem rather than be used to blanket ban perfectly legal and enjoyable uses of our environment by the majority of local residents.

Perhaps it would be a better use of time and money to invest in programmes to educate both dog lovers and dog haters to meet some middle ground. One such programme could be to introduce children in schools to dogs at a young age to alleviate any concerns they may have before they grow up to be the type of person to complain about them instead of understanding dogs behaviour and that a dog coming to say hello is not something to be scared of.

Again a PSPO should not be used to deprive local residents of freedoms that have been enjoyed for many years without issue.

The people who are causing problems now such as leaving dog fouling and letting their dogs intimidate others are unlikely to care that there is a pspo in place and are unlikely to stop and give enforcement officers their true details.

I have lived within a two minute walk of carr lane playing fields for two years and have never witnessed any dog related crimes. If there are problems elsewhere then they should be deaf with there rather than a lazy blanket ban as proposed.

During my daily walks I have never seen or met a dog warden at this popular dog walking area which goes to show that it is perhaps the lack of current measures to educate and engage that has led to any complaints raised.

There are already adequate legal measures in place to tackle dog fouling and failure to have a dog under control which allow the enjoyment of land by and where there are dog related issues then a dog warden or police officer are best placed to intervene instead of traffic warden like pspo enforcement officers which are employed by other boroughs such as Sefton.

I hope that as a rural borough West Lancashire Borough Council can use there local knowledge and experience to tackle this issue with a dose of common sense and fairness to dog owners who I'm sure make up a very large proportion of our wonderful ritual borough.

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Response 4

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There are no other spaces for dogs to play and socialise. Dogs are already banned from the park area - that should be enough. If this must really go ahead the council should create a field in this area that is fenced off for off lead dog play. Other countires have these, it's time we caught up.

Our dogs give my husband who suffers with mental health the chance to meet other people and socilaise. It's amazing how a simple conversation with a fellow dog walker can change his day. Its the minority of rubbish dog owners that don't clean up their dogs mess and let them run riot that mean the rest of us get punished. Invest in CCTV and fine those few without taking away our rights to walk and enjoy our local area with our dogs.

Response 5

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Should allow dogs on leads

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Limits places you can take children and dogs.

Response 6

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

This is a space for everyone in the community to use, dog owners need somewhere to exercise their dogs just like others have the right to play sports. It works well currently as a shared space and provides a great community area where dogs and their owners can socialise safely. If you take this space away there are few other public spaces in the area for dogs to be exercised off their leads.

Response 7

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

This area has always been a free running location, and as a location funded locally, not by WLBC, should not be subject to regulation decided by an organisation that provides nothing for this village other than it's legally required services.

Response 8

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

The fields are of great benefit for dogs exercising. There are very few places where you can let your dog off lead for a good run

Response 9

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

-Tarleton Cricket Club play area, does this mean the children's play area on the cricket field? or is it talking about the field and the small area of it used for cricket?

This field is an area used by numerous dog walkers 365 days of the year. Cricket/football is only played here in the sports seasons, even then it's only used weekends and an occasional evening for a few hours practice. Dog walkers use it all day everyday. Any dog mess is cleaned up by the owners apart from a small number who don't and this tends to be picked up by those of us who see it. Very few people walk their dogs whilst practice/games are in progress, the rest of us go when the field is not in use. Apart from the cricket fields there isn't anywhere we can let our dogs run off lead in Tarleton. Surrounding fields are privately owned by farmers and have either animals (sheep) on them or crops and dog walkers should certainly not go on them. There are sheep on the land by the canal/river in Tarleton and again not an area where dogs should be allowed off leads. I worry that if people can't walk their dogs on the cricket/football fields that they will walk by the canal and river allowing dogs off lead which may lead to more sheep attacks, this has happened numerous times already. The same on the bank/marshlands at Hesketh Bank where there are large numbers of sheep, again not a place for walking your dogs off lead. Only this week a post was placed on the local village f/b page asking dog walkers to keep dogs on leads as they had released sheep on the bank/marsh. The only fields suitable are the cricket and football fields at Carr Lane. The wood next to it isn't suitable for large numbers of dogs to be running free in as owners can't see or control their dogs in there, this has led to numerous dog fights. I personally only take my dogs in there on leads and only then if I can't here other dogs or owners due to my dog being attacked by an off lead dog whose owner was at the other side of the wood. The cricket and football fields should be available for all residents of the community to use, those wanting to use them with their dogs off lead/on lead everyday and those who use them for sport in the sports seasons.

Response 10

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

If keeping dogs on a lead was kept just to the cricket field where the pavilion was located I would not object. This would mean that the three other fields would be available for our dogs to be allowed to be off the lead to run . If the new ruling is intended to stop dog fouling it will not work as the people who do not clean up after their dogs will still continue to do so whether in a lead or not. A ruling like this is punishing the responsible dog owners . I also have a suspicion that it is a money making exercise for the authority. I have lived in Tarleton for 35 years and not once have I heard of a incident of a dog harming or causing a threat to anyone on Carr Lane playing fields or woods.

Dogs, under European Legislation, should be allowed to be dogs that means on occasion they need to run, free from a lead. I am aware that it might be suggested that they are taken to other locations but that often means a Carr journey and surely we should be reducing our journeys in the interest of the environment. The vast majority of owners in this village are responsible and not only clean up after their own dogs but also clean up litter left by others at Carr Lane as well as fouling left by the few irresponsible dog owners when they see it. Dog fouling at Carr Lane often occurs at night when the irresponsible dog owners come in their Cars and just open the door and let the dogs loose while they stay in their vehicles. How are you going to stop that? There is CCTV on site: why has this not been utilised to catch these people. In my opinion a compromise could be reached were by all users of the facilities could be accommodated by allowing the field at the back nearest to the woods could be left for dog owners to allow their dogs off the lead as your proposal only refers to the Cricket field.

Response 11

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

If this refers to enclosed children's play area at Cricket Club I am ok with this. If it refers to all the fields at Carr Lane then this is removing only place to exercise dogs off lead in Tarleton. It is an important focal point and social outlet for many dog owners in Tarleton. Perhaps Council can clarify with a shaded map what the intention is here? Thank you.

Response 12

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Great Altcar - Engine Lane

Halsall - Memorial Hall

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdsley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Parbold - Burnside

Parbold - Village Hall, The Green

Scarisbrick - Daisy Way

Scarisbrick - Moy Park

Scarisbrick - Southport Road

Scarisbrick - Village Hall, Smithy Lane

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Gillibrands Road, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Alderley, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Banksbarn, Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Cascades, Ormskirk Road

Skelmersdale - Eavesdale/Edenhurst

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse Park

Skelmersdale - Evington, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Fairhaven

Skelmersdale - Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre

Skelmersdale - Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale

Skelmersdale - Hawksclough

Skelmersdale - Helmsdale, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Holland Moor, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Inglewhite, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Stanley Coronation Park

Skelmersdale - Tanfields, New Church Farm

Skelmersdale - White Moss Road

Skelmersdale - Willows, Victoria Park

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Up Holland - Beacon Park Golf Club

Up Holland - Broadacre

Up Holland - Chequer Lane

Up Holland - Dewberry Fields

Up Holland - Lawns Avenue

Up Holland - Mill Lane

Westhead - School Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Promotion and education of good dog ownership is a much better option.

Targeting only bad behaviour is far better than penalising all dogs for the bad behaviour of a few. It is the equivalent of banning all cars as they kill thousands of children every year.

Scaremongering based on absolutely no evidence is unethical. There is no balance as there is nothing mentioned about the many benefits of dog ownership (including how much money it saves the NHS) and the detrimental impact of these PSPOs on older and disabled owners as well as those without transport. There is also nothing mentioned with regards to the detrimental impact to dogs of not being allowed to exercise dogs off lead.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmaor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

See the previous comments box.

Response 13

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Because dogs need exercise as well, I agree that the childrens enclosed areas should not have dogs, but the rest of the parks should be free for all to use. By all means fine people who do not pick up poop from their dogs.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmoor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As per q 4

Response 14

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Great Altcar - Engine Lane

Halsall - Memorial Hall

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdsley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Parbold - Burnside

Parbold - Village Hall, The Green

Scarisbrick - Daisy Way

Scarisbrick - Moy Park

Scarisbrick - Southport Road

Scarisbrick - Village Hall, Smithy Lane

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Gillibrands Road, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Alderley, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Banksbarn, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Cascades, Ormskirk Road

Skelmersdale - Eavesdale/Edenhurst

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse Park

Skelmersdale - Evington, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Fairhaven

Skelmersdale - Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre

Skelmersdale - Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale

Skelmersdale - Hawksclough

Skelmersdale - Helmsdale, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Holland Moor, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Inglewhite, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Stanley Coronation Park

Skelmersdale - Tanfields, New Church Farm

Skelmersdale - White Moss Road

Skelmersdale - Willows, Victoria Park

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Up Holland - Beacon Park Golf Club

Up Holland - Broadacre

Up Holland - Chequer Lane

Up Holland - Dewberry Fields

Up Holland - Lawns Avenue

Up Holland - Mill Lane

Westhead - School Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

A PSPO is nothing other than yet another LA stealth tax and serves no purpose other than to line the pockets of both the LA and the enforcement agency - education would be the adult approach rather than this Draconian attitude being adopted by Councils nationwide!

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmaor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

See answer to 5

Response 15

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Response 16

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmoor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

no need to add more exclusions. There is barely enough green space for dog owners to exercise their dogs as it is

Response 17

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Banning dogs from children's play areas is essential for both safety and hygiene purposes. The areas where dogs must be kept on a lead might be acceptable in the future, but not until secure, fenced and safe areas can be provided to permit dogs to run off-lead.

Response 18

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Great Altcar - Engine Lane

Halsall - Memorial Hall

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdsley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Parbold - Burnside

Parbold - Village Hall, The Green

Scarisbrick - Daisy Way

Scarisbrick - Moy Park

Scarisbrick - Southport Road

Scarisbrick - Village Hall, Smithy Lane

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Gillibrands Road, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Alderley, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Banksbarn, Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Cascades, Ormskirk Road

Skelmersdale - Eavesdale/Edenhurst

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse Park

Skelmersdale - Evington, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Fairhaven

Skelmersdale - Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre

Skelmersdale - Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale

Skelmersdale - Hawksclough

Skelmersdale - Helmsdale, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Holland Moor, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Inglewhite, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Stanley Coronation Park

Skelmersdale - Tanfields, New Church Farm

Skelmersdale - White Moss Road

Skelmersdale - Willows, Victoria Park

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Up Holland - Beacon Park Golf Club

Up Holland - Broadacre

Up Holland - Chequer Lane

Up Holland - Dewberry Fields

Up Holland - Lawns Avenue

Up Holland - Mill Lane

Westhead - School Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Its prejudice against dog owners

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmaor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Response 19

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Over the top restrictions. Now hardly used.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Too restricted as it is

Response 20

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Great Altcar - Engine Lane

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Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdsley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

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Parbold - Village Hall, The Green

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Scarisbrick - Southport Road

Scarisbrick - Village Hall, Smithy Lane

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Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Alderley, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Banksbarn, Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Cascades, Ormskirk Road

Skelmersdale - Eavesdale/Edenhurst

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse Park

Skelmersdale - Evington, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Fairhaven

Skelmersdale - Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre

Skelmersdale - Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale

Skelmersdale - Hawksclough

Skelmersdale - Helmsdale, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Holland Moor, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Inglewhite, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Stanley Coronation Park

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Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Up Holland - Beacon Park Golf Club

Up Holland - Broadacre

Up Holland - Chequer Lane

Up Holland - Dewberry Fields

Up Holland - Lawns Avenue

Up Holland - Mill Lane

Westhead - School Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I feel if all dogs were muzzled when taken out by there owners all areas would be accessible. From small dogs to large dogs. Then if a dog bolted for any reason the most it could do is knock people over. It would stop people getting bitten if you make it compulsory then any dog not muzzled the owners could be fined and the dog wudnt have to be destroyed

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmaor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

If all dogs taken out by there owners were muzzled no dog could bite. And any owner's dog not muzzled fine the owner's. Most owners are responsible people. Don't let the minority spoil it for the rest. I don't have a dog anymore but i feel it could sort the problem. These area's are for all to enjoy and people and children love stroking animals. Cheers

Response 21

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Great Altcar - Engine Lane

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Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdsley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Parbold - Burnside

Parbold - Village Hall, The Green

Scarisbrick - Daisy Way

Scarisbrick - Moy Park

Scarisbrick - Southport Road

Scarisbrick - Village Hall, Smithy Lane

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Gillibrands Road, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Alderley, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Banksbarn, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Cascades, Ormskirk Road

Skelmersdale - Eavesdale/Edenhurst

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse Park

Skelmersdale - Evington, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Fairhaven

Skelmersdale - Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre

Skelmersdale - Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale

Skelmersdale - Hawksclough

Skelmersdale - Helmsdale, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Holland Moor, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Inglewhite, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Stanley Coronation Park

Skelmersdale - Willows, Victoria Park

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Up Holland - Beacon Park Golf Club

Up Holland - Broadacre

Up Holland - Chequer Lane

Up Holland - Dewberry Fields

Up Holland - Lawns Avenue

Up Holland - Mill Lane

Westhead - School Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

These are discriminatory in nature and unnecessary. You have dogs on lead by direction which is sufficient to control any problem dogs instead of stigmatizing all dogs.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmaor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Discrimination again.

Response 22

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

there are very few areas in ormskirk to exercise dogs off lead, especially with the new plans for church fields.
most dog owners are responsible, control and pick up after their dogs.

gone are the days when dogs were left to roam in the streets, pity the same can't be said for cats!!

Response 23

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

This area is used by a number of local dog owners to exercise their pets off the lead in a responsible and safe manor. Besides the Ormskirk Rugby Club, who use the area for a certain number of hours per week, dog owners constitute the main users of this particular facility, throughout the day, week and year. One issue that does need control however, is the use of this facility by people using recreational drugs.

Response 24

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs should be allowed, where else can we take them

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

You are being too restrictive, it's not fair on dog owners

Response 25

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Very rarely do we find dog poo left on Winifred lane whilst walking our dog.
There needs to be places where we can let our dog off the lead.
Unfortunately once again the minority who fail to tidy up after them, spoil it for everyone else.
More should be done to actively fine dog owners who don't pick up there dogs poo.
Also can you enforce other users of the parks to tidy up after them, ie the kids littering in the parks and the football/rugby players who leave litter on the fields or destroy the fields when playing during inclement weather?

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Our dog regularly comes with us to the park, whether we are watching our sons play football or rugby, or simply walking the dog.
The woods in tarleton are great for the dogs to be let off there lead, but you have to walk through the playing fields to get there.
County road park does have the odd dog poo on the pitch, and the culprit should be found and fined.

Response 26

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Response 27

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Because the proposed (clearly a done deal) lesiure /health development on Churchfields will leave no public open space where dogs can be exercised.

Response 28

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Great Altcar - Engine Lane

Halsall - Memorial Hall

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdsley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Parbold - Burnside

Parbold - Village Hall, The Green

Scarisbrick - Daisy Way

Scarisbrick - Moy Park

Scarisbrick - Southport Road

Scarisbrick - Village Hall, Smithy Lane

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Gillibrands Road, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Alderley, Little Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Banksbarn, Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Cascades, Ormskirk Road

Skelmersdale - Eavesdale/Edenhurst

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse Park

Skelmersdale - Evington, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Fairhaven

Skelmersdale - Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre

Skelmersdale - Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale

Skelmersdale - Hawksclough
 Skelmersdale - Helmsdale, Birch Green
 Skelmersdale - Holland Moor, Digmaor
 Skelmersdale - Inglewhite, Birch Green
 Skelmersdale - Stanley Coronation Park
 Skelmersdale - Tanfields, New Church Farm
 Skelmersdale - White Moss Road
 Skelmersdale - Willows, Victoria Park
 Tarleton - Carr Lane
 Tarleton - Trinity Walks
 Up Holland - Beacon Country Park
 Up Holland - Beacon Park Golf Club
 Up Holland - Broadacre
 Up Holland - Chequer Lane
 Up Holland - Dewberry Fields
 Up Holland - Lawns Avenue
 Up Holland - Mill Lane
 Westhead - School Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

You are discriminating against disabled people when you restrict dogs-many people with either mental or physical disabilities don't feel comfortable without their pets. The government won't let you discriminate against service dogs, but you discriminate against disabled people whose dogs are pets, as people don't feel welcome unless our dogs are. You also make it hard for families to be together, as people can't safely leave dogs in the car/house for long, so you're preventing families coming. In addition, it's not fair to ban responsible dog owners just because a minority don't look after their dogs-you wouldn't ban children just because a minority or parents don't control their offspring. If you banned women just because some women misbehaved, there would rightly be an uproar! If you banned men, the same would apply-and so on-don't punish the decent majority for the behaviour of a few bad people, who will continue to break laws, so you only stop decent people using council facilities and spending their money-if dogs are banned, people won't spend money in cafes etc. Just as there are 'breastfeeding welcome' signs to encourage new mums, you should put up 'dogs welcome signs', so that everyone feels that they matter.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmaor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub
 Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road
 Tarleton - Cricket Club
 Ormskirk - Rugby Club
 Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

You are discriminating against disabled people when you restrict dogs-many people with either mental or physical disabilities don't feel comfortable without their pets. The government won't let you discriminate against service dogs, but you discriminate against disabled people whose dogs are pets, as people don't feel welcome unless our dogs are. You also make it hard for families to be together, as people can't safely leave dogs in the car/house for long, so you're preventing families coming. In addition, it's not fair to ban responsible dog owners just because a minority don't look after their dogs-you wouldn't ban children just because a minority or parents don't control their offspring. If you banned women just because some women misbehaved, there would rightly be an uproar! If you banned men, the same would apply-and so on-don't punish the decent majority for the behaviour of a few bad people, who will continue to break laws, so you only stop decent people using council facilities and spending their money-if dogs are banned, people won't spend money in cafes etc.

Response 29

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Great Altcar - Engine Lane

Halsall - Memorial Hall

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdsley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Parbold - Burnside

Parbold - Village Hall, The Green

Scarisbrick - Daisy Way

Scarisbrick - Moy Park

Scarisbrick - Southport Road

Scarisbrick - Village Hall, Smithy Lane

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Gillibrands Road, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Alderley, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Banksbarn, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Cascades, Ormskirk Road

Skelmersdale - Eavesdale/Edenhurst

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse Park

Skelmersdale - Evington, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Fairhaven

Skelmersdale - Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre

Skelmersdale - Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale

Skelmersdale - Hawksclough

Skelmersdale - Helmsdale, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Holland Moor, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Inglewhite, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Stanley Coronation Park

Skelmersdale - Tanfields, New Church Farm

Skelmersdale - White Moss Road

Skelmersdale - Willows, Victoria Park

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Up Holland - Beacon Park Golf Club

Up Holland - Broadacre

Up Holland - Chequer Lane

Up Holland - Dewberry Fields

Up Holland - Lawns Avenue

Up Holland - Mill Lane

Westhead - School Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Restrictions are excessive

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmaor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Response 30

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Great Altcar - Engine Lane

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Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdsley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Parbold - Burnside

Parbold - Village Hall, The Green

Scarisbrick - Daisy Way

Scarisbrick - Moy Park

Scarisbrick - Southport Road

Scarisbrick - Village Hall, Smithy Lane

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Gillibrands Road, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Alderley, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Banksbarn, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Cascades, Ormskirk Road

Skelmersdale - Eavesdale/Edenhurst

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse Park

Skelmersdale - Evington, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Fairhaven

Skelmersdale - Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre

Skelmersdale - Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale

Skelmersdale - Hawksclough

Skelmersdale - Helmsdale, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Holland Moor, Digmoor

Skelmersdale - Inglewhite, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Stanley Coronation Park

Skelmersdale - Tanfields, New Church Farm

Skelmersdale - White Moss Road

Skelmersdale - Willows, Victoria Park

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Up Holland - Beacon Park Golf Club

Up Holland - Broadacre

Up Holland - Chequer Lane

Up Holland - Dewberry Fields

Up Holland - Lawns Avenue

Up Holland - Mill Lane

Westhead - School Lane

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmoor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Response 31

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs have always been allowed on the recreation field. It is not dogs left off lead who cause the mess. It is owners who arrive before light and let their dogs roam without even getting out of the car.

Do not punish all responsible dog owners who need to exercise their dogs because of the few.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Same as before.

Response 32

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Response 33

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There is no need for dogs to be kept on a lead in these areas.

There are already sufficient restrictions limiting the ability of owners to exercise their dogs in public places.

Response 34

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I believe they should be banned from being allowed on this field as too many times there is dog faeces on this field and as both adult and child rugby is played on the field regularly it is a hazard and also the members of Ormskirk Rugby Club regularly have to pick up dog faeces to allow themselves to play.

Response 35

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Church fields is going due to a new swimming pool so dogs won't be allowed off lead anywhere in ormskirk which is ridiculous - the police and council should tackle littering and young adults/teenagers smoking pot instead of targeting responsible dogs owners - my two dogs are well trained and sensible and we always pick up their poos
Where should I walk my dogs if I cannot let them off the lead in church fields or rugby club? I live in Southport road - what are the alternative suggestions?

Response 36

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I often walk my dog off his lead on this playing field and it is usually very quiet, with only one or two other dogs being walked on there (unlike say, Coronation Park). I have never had or witnessed trouble from out of control dogs on there so I do not understand why good dog owners who control their dogs should be penalised by not allowing them off their leads.

Response 37

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I walk my dogs here about 4 times a week. I have never seen a problem with any dog off a lead in this area. Also apart from the Rugby players and dog walkers the area is rarely used. I have never seen children playing on the field and although there is a small play area again this is rarely used. I would be very surprised if local residents have objected to dogs being walked off the lead in this area. More of a concern is the drug dealing you often see outside the Rugby Club around lunchtime. Keeping dogs on leads will not stop the small minority of irresponsible owners not picking up which I suspect is the real reason for your proposal.

Response 38

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I have walked my dog around Carr Lane Cricket and Football pitches for ten years and I have never seen the behaviours that were described by the Cricket Club, namely people getting out of their cars, staying in the car park, throwing balls for their dogs, letting their dogs poo wherever they like, and not picking up after their dog. I am told, however, that there are a couple of people who do do this, and that is wrong. However, the Protection Order is massive overkill for this issue as it brands all dog owners as irresponsible and reckless. By all means prosecute those people as described above but do not persecute those of us who are responsible. This Order will not make those irresponsible people act any differently unless you target them and prosecute them. Dog walkers in Tarleton perform a lot of other "Sports Club friendly acts" and I can easily see such people thinking, "Well I am not doing that anymore". What acts? Here are a few examples: picking up litter around the fields and in the woods, especially plastic bottles left by sports teams; putting up signs asking people not to leave litter and to use the bins in the car park; stopping youths from setting fires in the woods; calling the fire brigade when such fires are lit and need dealing with; stopping youths vandalising the football dug-outs, pavilion etc; contacting the Cricket Club to inform them that youths are behaving badly on the cricket square and messing about with the Covers; cleaning out the ditches that run parallel to the fields; etc etc etc. If the responsible dog owners feel aggrieved, which they currently do, then a great deal of goodwill could be lost. Lastly, how are you hoping to enforce these rules? If someone says their name and address is Mickey Mouse, Disneyland, Paris, what are you going to do about it? If you cannot enforce this Order, then why bother? By all means deal with transgressors of current laws about dog fouling but why bring in a blanket ban that applies to everyone, and which the transgressors will ignore anyway?

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I have walked my dog around Carr Lane Cricket and Football pitches for ten years and I have never seen the behaviours that were described by the Cricket Club, namely people getting out of their cars, staying in the car park, throwing balls for their dogs, letting their dogs poo wherever they like, and not picking up after their dog. I am told, however, that there are a couple of people who do do this, and that is wrong. However, the Protection Order is massive overkill for this issue as it brands all dog owners as irresponsible and reckless. By all means prosecute those people as described above but do not persecute those of us who are responsible. This Order will not make those irresponsible people act any differently unless you target them and prosecute them. Dog walkers in Tarleton perform a lot of other "Sports Club friendly acts" and I can easily see such people thinking, "Well I am not doing that anymore". What acts? Here are a few examples: picking up litter around the fields and in the woods, especially plastic bottles left by sports teams; putting up signs asking people not to leave litter and to use the bins in the car park; stopping youths from setting fires in the woods; calling the fire brigade when such fires are lit and need dealing with; stopping youths vandalising the football dug-outs, pavilion etc; contacting the Cricket Club to inform them that youths are behaving badly on the cricket square and messing about with the Covers; cleaning out the ditches that run parallel to the fields; etc etc etc. If the responsible dog owners feel aggrieved, which they currently do, then a great deal of goodwill could be lost. Lastly, how are you hoping to enforce these rules? If someone says their name and address is Mickey Mouse, Disneyland, Paris, what are you going to do about it? If you cannot enforce this Order, then why bother? By all means deal with transgressors of current laws about dog fouling but why bring in a blanket ban that applies to everyone, and which the transgressors will ignore anyway? Prosecute those who deserve it - don't persecute those who don't.

Tarleton Rugby Club already have a "No Dogs" Policy which apparently does not apply to their own staff when they are working in the grounds, nor to supporters of visiting Clubs whose dogs are welcome along the sidelines.

Response 39

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmoor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I am a dog owner and disgusted with some dog owners how they walk their dogs they go into a space let the dog of the lead walk away get on the phone and have no idea were the the dog is or what it is doing or if it make mess so it then never gets picked up what we want is dog wardens an a big FINE for not picking up the mess . it gives dog owners like myself a bad name i have poo bags in all my dog walking coat pockets i can understand why you have make restrictions because i see the mess for my self.

Response 40

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I believe dangers dogs on the list should be kept on lead , in all these area listed , they will soon be now where to let your dog excersice .

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

because I live near there , we meet other dog owners who live near its like a community the dogs run togeather . Other people in those areas have the same reason too.We will have to travel to let our dog off the lead now if this happens its not affective , what about older people or people with mobility problems
why what is the problem, why are dog owners being penailised , we pick up the our dogs foul, what about the ones that do not pick they are the ones to go after, you have not gave us a reason sound like some one got a problem with Dogs. We keep them on the lead in the Towns and where they are crowds of people, Most of us are responsible dog owners why are we paying for it looks like we will have to pay for it soon cause some one will make money out of this

Response 41

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There are many many more dog walkers that use the Green Lane fields than there are children playing. Also the childrens area could very easily have a fence built around it to keep the dogs out as is the case in many other areas.
Has any body bothered to actually monitor the play area as to how much it is used. I walk on there almost every day and there are whole weeks when no children are to be seen even in school holidays the use is absolute minimal compared to the dog excercising.
The simplist solution is to fence the childrens area and request dogs on a lead when sport is being played, which dog owners most likely do already anyway.
In this area the council are already going to take a huge chunk of green land on Churchfields for the new swimming pool, and so it is grossly unfair to put controls on Green Lane dog exercising area when Coronation Park is already being controlled and the ratio of use by children on the childrens play area in Green lane being so small compared to that of the dog walkers.
If this goes ahead where in Ormskirk can dogs be exercised off lead.... nowhere. !

Response 42

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There are already a limited number of open spaces around Ormskirk where dogs can safely run off their leads, especially areas that benefit from areas that are lit by the surrounding streetlights. In the winter months when hard-working people with full-time jobs can only walk their dogs out of daylight hours, this is an ideal space. I speak not only as a respectable dog owner who controls his dog and never leaves any waste behind but also as playing member of the rugby club for over 25 years and now coach of a junior team. I have been hugely frustrated over the years at other dog-owners who are not as respectable and I / other members of the rugby club have had to clean up after them but these owners are very much in the majority and the majority of dog owners who benefit from this space should not be punished!

Response 43

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

It is unfair to ban dogs from areas, parents with children and dogs should be able to enjoy time outside with both and not have to choose between taking one or the other at a time. Not all dogs/ owners should be tarnished with the same brush as those who are irresponsible. Why should dogs be punished and not allowed freedom in park lands? For years it's never been an issue, people are becoming far too soft in this world these days!

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As before, ridiculous to punish dogs and responsible owners.

Response 44

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

This is an area enjoyed responsibly by many local dog owners and is a focal point of the community for many residents. The area is regularly cleared of rubbish, debris and drug paraphernalia by the dog walking community. Whilst we respect the need to keep dogs under control at all times they are entitled to responsibly enjoy the area. Whilst we appreciate the proposal currently allow for dogs to be off lead on the adjoining field, there is no means to keep the dogs over the proposed boundary.

Response 45

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Response 46

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We presumed that the rugby club already was so do not use this space! However, Carr Lane fields are a public space to be enjoyed by all. It's a very social thing walking dogs together and letting them play and to socialise with each other. Lots of people including myself enjoy socialising there and meeting friends. We are very conscientious and always clean up after our dogs and pick up any litter discarded by the children and teens. We have often picked up broken glass from the woods and sharp tins and dangerous items. I'm afraid that if the dog walkers are excluded then the park and woods will not be as safe and clean for my children to play there anymore. The dog walkers keep the park clean and tidy and a safe place to be!

Response 47

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

It is an area leading up to the wooded coppice and s great open space for dogs also to have fun

Response 48

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Carr Lane fields are a wonderful place for my high energy dog to run off lead in a safe environment away from a busy road. The field has been instrumental in socialising her and training her to the high standard I have already. As with any dog, training and socialisation is ongoing. I always pick up any mess made and any other mess I come across

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As stated in the previous page. Training and socialisation

Response 49

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Responsible owners control there dogs . Control orders should be imposed for gangs of youths hanging around in large numbers

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Responsible owners keep there dogs under control . Unlike the jobs around these areas that council take no action

Response 50

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We have nowhere else in the village to let dogs off the lead. The fields are for everyone in the community not just sports players. We also look after the field and pick up litter from the football players.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

If the cricket field is fenced off for dogs to use the side and back fields I have no objection to the cricket field being an on lead area.

Response 51

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Response 52

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

My 3 wonderful well train dogs need and love space to run round. I am an extremely responsible dog owner. I realise there are other places where I can take my dogs for a walk off the lead however most of these places involve the dogs getting wet, muddy or sandy where carr Lane is just perfect. My dogs are well known in the community as they're so well trained and I would hate for them to not have there normal running round space.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

My dogs have been coming here for years. My family is and always have been members of tarleton cricket club and I am friend with everyone who plays there. There has never ever been an issue with any of my 3 dogs there. It's unfair. My dogs adore it there and I don't always want to be tricking all up the fields just so they can get a run they love and deserve

Response 53

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I disagree

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Disagree

Response 54

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Because dogs cause the least nuisance but they are an easy target. People littering, vandals, drunks and drug users/dealers are all far more antisocial, dirty and damaging to the areas under discussion.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Because there are fewer and fewer places to exercise dogs which, in turn, does not help dog owners to keep their pets healthy either physically or mentally. I don't believe that dogs cause the most nuisance in those areas.

Response 55

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs need off lead exercise and there is no other space without livestock.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs need off lead exercise.

Response 56

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Response 57

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

All dogs and dog owners I've met at Carr lane have behaved very responsibly and dogs need exercise and social interaction with others.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Response 58

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

It is one of the only area my dogs get to go off lead. No car to be able to get to other areas and I have big dogs that are frowned upon on public transport

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Response 59

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Only decent large exposed fields with sufficient drainage to let your dog be a dog

Response 60

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

No other areas locally for off lead walking. Canal footpaths are dangerous and not maintained

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There are no alternatives at all. This is a sociable area for dog walkers, a community space with responsible dog owners picking up dog mess
Not all fields should be restricted, some should be excluded so ALL members of the community can benefit from the open space

Response 61

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

my dog is only ever off lead on on his full extended lead when we are the only ones around.. im responsible enough to know this .. why should me and my dog be punished for others stupidity

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

there are far worse things on those areas than dogs ..

Response 62

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

This is the only accessible open space area for dog walking within the village that can be reached on foot. The canal paths in winter are not accessible or safe. There is nowhere else where dogs can run safely away from traffic and pedestrians for exercise and socialisation.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

It has been proposed that a suitable alternative will be provided for the community to be able to access safe and appropriate dog walking areas. Until this has happened then the fields at Carr Lane are the only open space for the community to use for off lead dog walking. I walk there every day and have VERY rarely come across dog waste that has not been picked up. There have been more instances of drug paraphernalia and litter including used condoms and empty alcohol containers.

Many elderly people use the open space to walk their dog off lead as it is easily accessible from the road and flat so be can be accessed via wheelchair and is suitable for those with limited mobility. I myself following surgery needed this space to exercise my dog off lead and would not have been able to do this had Carr Lane fields not been there.

I have a cocker spaniel who needs off lead walks rather than road walking and I am a responsible dog owner. I have made friends within our community through dog walking at Carr Lane and to out an end to this is just another example of our community spirit being decimated.

I wholeheartedly disagree with these proposals

Response 63

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Responsible dog owner who doesn't need nanny state telling me where I can walk my dog off lead

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Please see my previous answer - I'm a responsible dog owner

Response 64

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There are very few places where dogs can be exercised off the lead.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As previous

Response 65

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I disagree with all the areas at Carr lane playing field being banned to dogs and their walkers, whilst I could accept to the main cricket field being protected for a number of reasons I feel to place a ban on all three fields to be unrealistic.

All our community pay their council tax and the upkeep of the Carr lane playing fields is included in our fees.

For many people this would remove their use of the area completely, although the cricket club does not use these facilities all year round.

Most of our dogs require daily exercise and this area gives most dog owners a safe place for their animals to run. Responsible dog owners will always support the parish council and any reasonable guidelines they want to impose, although to remove any use of the fields seems to be unrealistic.

There is no other open space within our community for people to walk their dogs. There is no upkeep to our canal paths and as far as I know other than this nowhere else to walk a dog.

It seems to be that the parish council seems to prioritise individual community groups who pay added funds rather than look at a reasonable solution for the whole community although all our community pay for the upkeep of this area.

Response 66

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I enjoy exercising my dogs off lead -
the plans would be acceptable if you make a secure dog park for well behaved dogs and their owners

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Responsible dog ownership should be enforced rather than excluding all dogs to control the few

Response 67

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There is already a shortage of spaces for dogs to be allowed off the lead around the area, aslong as people respect others, clean up after their animal and control their dogs they should be allowed off the lead.

I haven't yet seen a bad mannered dog or owner at Carr Lane field, each member of the community respect the rules

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

The same reasons as previously stated, shortage of areas for dogs to be off the lead without the current area. Make more places for dogs to be off the lead and this wouldn't be an issue

Response 68

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I think dogs should be allowed off lead at Carr Lane as this has always been the case, this is one of the only areas in the village that dogs are currently allowed off lead. I think if youths are allowed to be there unsupervised and cause damage to the park and surrounding properties, take drugs, drink alcohol and leave litter, dogs should be allowed off lead when an owner is present. I believe most dog walkers at Carr lane are responsible owners, even leaving an old bottle full of poo bags for others to use. A lot of the time I have seen another dog walker or have myself picked up litter and taken it into the bins from the cricket field. I strongly believe dogs aren't the issue and the rules of having your dog on a lead at all times should be changed.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Same reasons as before.

Response 69

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Most dog owners are responsible people. We control our dogs and always clean up after them. Dogs need freedom to run. Irresponsible owners should be targeted and responsible dog owners should not be penalised.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs need off lead time. We need safe areas for them to do this. We are responsible dog owners who control our dogs and always clean up after them. We have walked their for years. The minority of irresponsible dog owners should be targeted

Response 70

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Increasingly due to building expanding across the local area there are fewer and fewer places available for people to walk their dogs.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As my previous comment. Also it is a well established dog walking area and the only access points to Carr Lane woods.

Response 71

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

This is a perfect place for dogs to be able to run free, socialise with other dogs and a place where dog owners can socialise too - all good for emotional well-being. Taking this facility away will limit this. Some people may not be able to drive to alternative dog friendly fields

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

This is a perfect place for dogs to run and a place where dog owners gather together to socialise - it is fabulous to have this facility for the people of Tarleton. Many of whom are unable to access transport to take their dogs to other available spaces

Response 72

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Response 73

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We are responsible dog owners, whose dogs are well trained and have good 're call, we always, always clean up any mess !!!!!!!

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We are very responsible dog owners, we have our rights too and dogs need freedom to run!!!!!! We also pay our taxes and have lived in Tarleton for 30 plus years, my husband has lived in Tarleton all his life, 63 years !!!!!!!!

Response 74

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

People have been exercising their dogs on the field for years. It seems unfair to change the rules now.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Most dog owners are responsible. Why change the rules now.

Response 75

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Being a responsible dog owner who picks up dog poo, I also pick up the rubbish that some people leave on the fields.

Response 76

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

This is the only area of open space to walk & exercise your dog in this area. I would say 99% pick up their dog and are respectful of keeping dogs on leads when cricket/football is being played. This area is for all of the community to use & I personally walk the fields & woods 3 times a day everyday of the year & clear up after all the football/cricket people leave rubbish behind & alert police/fire when youths are vandalising/setting fire to woods. I have also assisted when I have found people have tried to self harm in this area. If you stop the dog walkers from exercising here who will do all of this. We organise yearly litter picks etc, that's not done by the rugby or cricket club. The football/cricket club do not utilise the field daily. Do we park 50+ cars down the road blocking it to emergency vehicles & residents, preventing pedestrians from being able to walk safely along the pavements blocking access to the park, blind /partially sighted from being able to walk safely , no that is the rugby& football& cricket, why not work together & be inclusive as a community. The rugby club field has always been a dogs must be in lead area.

Response 77

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs need somewhere to run. Owners pick up poo and keep the woods clean keeping dogs on leads doesn't mean owners that don't pick up poo will because they are on their leads.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Where else is there to go?

Response 78

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There is not many places you can walk dogs off lead any more. I always used to go there with mine and always picked up after my dogs . It ideal for pensioners too who can't walk miles and let their dogs off the lead for a run about .

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Responsible people pick up after their dogs. Keeping dogs on a lead isn't gonna stop irresponsible owners picking up the dog poo after them . Dogs need proper exercise you can't give them that on a lead. They are related to wolves they need to run free. This isn't a free country anymore it getting more and more like a concentration camp.

Response 79

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I agree if it is red lined area in front of cricket pavilion as a sensible compromise. The other fields and woods at this location should remain areas free for responsible dog walkers to let their dogs exercise off lead.

Response 80

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

This is one of the only areas locally where dogs can run free. I have never encountered any issues with this as it is usually used respectfully. If they ban this areas there will be very limited areas where dogs can actually run free which will therefore make them more congested causing more issues.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As previously mentioned there is already limited areas to dog walk. Banning these areas will cause more issues in the long term. With more houses being build constantly in the area the more dogs there will be and nowhere to walk them off lead safely.

Response 81

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We need areas for dogs too. Let us have an area specifically for off-lead exercise.

Response 82

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Response 83

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There is limited space in Tarleton to walk your dogs, this is an area with woodland and is well looked after by local dog walkers. Taking this space away will mean there are no safe spaces to walk dogs in the village which may increase bad behaviour on dogs who are not given the opportunity to burn off energy.

Response 84

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We are not disrespectful and always clean up after our dogs.
Allowing dogs to be allowed to run free gives them far more freedom to play ball and fetch which would be rather difficult if they had to be kept on their leads. Open space is important. Taking away our freedom to do this limits our needs to live and care for our animals

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As a rate payer we should be able to exercise and enjoy open spaces

Response 85

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Cause the dogs love to walk here and i believe the dog walkers who have dogs off lease pick up all the rubbish and actual keep ot tidy .

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Response 86

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I agree that this should be in place when sporting activities are taking place only. When I walk my dog at 7am I don't think this is necessary.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

People have asked for this as they are annoyed with people not cleaning up after their dogs not because of them running around. Putting a dog on a lead does not mean the owner will pick up it's poo. This is unfair for the people who are responsible and use this area daily.

Response 87

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

The woods is an excellent space for dogs to roam free humans are not kept on leads so why should animals be restricted

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Why should we'll behaved dogs be penalised and not be allowed to run free even inmates get to go outside without a lead

Response 88

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Tarleton rugby club is privately owned land - and dogs are NOT allowed , my son plays rugby here and doe it want to land in dog dirt whilst playing rugby . We pay a monthly subscription for our children to play on this field so dogs should not be allowed - it's not council land

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Privately owned land that children pay to play rugby on - don't want kids landing in dog dirt

Response 89

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

IN Principal I do not have an objection to keeping my dogs on a lead on the Cricket Pitch side.

AS LONG AS WE ARE ABLE TO LET THE DOGS OFF LEASH ON THE FIELDS TO THE NORTH OF THE PAVILION AND THE BACK FIELD AND THE WOODS.

IT IS FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY AND NEEDS TO BE INCLUSIVE AS MANY ELDERLY WHO ONLY MEET PEOPLE THROUGH WALKING THEIR DOGS USE THE GROUNDS..... ALSO I HAVE BEEN USING THE FACILITY FOR 14 YEARS AND LIVE ON CARR LANE WHERE WE HAVE TO PUT UP WITH A LOT OF BAD PARKING AND INCONSIDERATE DRIVERS WHEN THEY ARE LATE FOR MATCHES AND PLAYING/TRAINING ON THE FIELDS.

IS THIS JUST A SLIPPERY SLOPE OF BIG BROTHER, AS WE HAVE NOWHERE ELSE IN TARLETON TO WALK OUR DOGS OFF LEASH. AND IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE DOG WALKERS ON THOSE FIELDS MORE MONEY WOULD HAVE TO BE LAID OUT FOR THE PICKING UP OF RUBBISH THAT WE DO AND THE PICKING UP OF DRUG RELATED PARAPHANALIA THAT IS REGULARLY FOUND AROUND THE CONCRETE DUGOUTS AND NEAR THE CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND.

IF YOU MADE A RULING THAT DOGS SHOULD BE ON A LEASH WHEN THEY ARE TRAINING OR PLAYING ON THE FIELDS I WOULD FULLY UNDERSTAND BUT AS THAT IS NOT MOST OF THE WEEK WHEN I AND OTHER WALKERS ARE THERE WE COULD FULLY COMPLY.

THE GENERAL FEELING AMONG DOG WALKERS IS THAT YOU ARE TRYING TO ALIENATE US AND WE ARE VERY VALUABLE LONGSTANDING MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY AND CARE ABOUT OUR VILLAGE AND DO NOT WANT TO BE VICTIMISED.

Response 90

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Appley Bridge - Playing Fields, Appley Lane South

Aughton - Belvedere Way

Aughton - Holt Green

Aughton - Redsands

Aughton - Winifred Lane

Banks - Abrams Fold/Lancaster Gate

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Bickerstaffe - Playing Field

Burscough - Mere Avenue

Burscough - Pickles Drive

Burscough - Priory Close/Vicarage Gardens

Burscough - Rees Park

Burscough - Richmond Park

Great Altcar - Engine Lane

Halsall - Memorial Hall

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Hilldale - Playing fields

North Meols - Schwartzmans Drive

Ormskirk - Bracknel Way

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Ormskirk - Halsall Lane

Ormskirk - Mawdesley Terrace

Ormskirk - Mawdsley Terrance

Ormskirk - Westend

Parbold - Burnside

Parbold - Village Hall, The Green

Scarisbrick - Daisy Way

Scarisbrick - Moy Park

Scarisbrick - Southport Road

Scarisbrick - Village Hall, Smithy Lane

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Gillibrands Road, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Abbeystead, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Alderley, Little Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Banksbarn, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Cascades, Ormskirk Road

Skelmersdale - Eavesdale/Edenhurst

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Ennerdale, Tanhouse Park

Skelmersdale - Evington, Tanhouse

Skelmersdale - Fairhaven

Skelmersdale - Firbeck, Skelmersdale Town Centre

Skelmersdale - Greenhill, Old Skelmersdale

Skelmersdale - Hawksclough

Skelmersdale - Helmsdale, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Holland Moor, Digmaor

Skelmersdale - Inglewhite, Birch Green

Skelmersdale - Stanley Coronation Park

Skelmersdale - Tanfields, New Church Farm

Skelmersdale - White Moss Road

Skelmersdale - Willows, Victoria Park

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Up Holland - Beacon Country Park

Up Holland - Beacon Park Golf Club

Up Holland - Broadacre

Up Holland - Chequer Lane

Up Holland - Dewberry Fields

Up Holland - Lawns Avenue

Up Holland - Mill Lane

Westhead - School Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs need exercise and this includes being able to run free.

Owning a dog is beneficial to people for the following reasons:

Walking a dog provides their owner with physical exercise which helps general health as well as tackling the ongoing problems of obesity and diabetes which are draining the NHS

Dogs provide companionship for people thus helping their mental health.

Dog walking is a social activity as people with dogs frequently engage with other dog walkers helping to prevent isolation and depression.

Banning dogs will not prevent the problems of dog fouling as irresponsible owners, who make up a very small percentage of dog lovers, will ignore the ban taking their dogs out at quiet times as they do now.

To introduce the rule of dogs on leads will not solve any problems merely penalise the responsible majority of dog owners.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmaor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Restricting the areas where people can exercise their dogs will not solve the problem of dog fouling or bad behaviour the minority of irresponsible owners will carry on regardless whilst the majority, responsible owners will be penalised

Response 91

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

One of the only areas that dogs can get a good run about, and the majority of dog owners are responsible and cause no disruption

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Again, most dog owners are responsible and being a member of the cricket club myself, the dogs their usually being much more joy than disruption.

Response 92

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I think dogs should be free in the woods

Response 93

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs and owners paying council tax contributing to the parish council are entitled to access to playing areas where dogs can play, interact and socialise off the lead with other dogs

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

It is fair to expect dog owners to keep their dogs under control during any rugby, football or cricket matches are taking place. They should ensure at all times that at any dog mess is picked up and disposed of accordingly. To have your dog on a lead in those areas during these matches would be fair and understandable. However, to enforce the public i.e. the responsible dog owners etc to keep their dogs on a lead at all times irrespective of whether there are matches taking place or not, is unfair and has much wider implications. Using this area twice daily I am regularly picking up rubbish that is left from children playing and football matches, glass, plastic, rubbish and drug paraphernalia from the woods, the fields, shelters and Pavilion areas. People will choose to use other areas and cease to help maintain a rubbish free and safe zone for all the public to access. This is an excessive measure to place permanent full time restriction that could be more effectively managed to accommodate all parties and alleviate any concerns.

Response 94

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

It really depends on whether Tarleton Woods are included in this and also whether all the fields are included. I recently lost my lovely springer spaniel, but I always walked him responsibly and picked up his faeces. I would usually put him on the lead, if there was a game in process, or keep to the edges of the fields. However, it is important that dogs have places to exercise off the lead and I think they should be allowed to run free in Tarleton Woods, as long as owners are responsible.

I would also like to point out that there seems to be more of a problem with mess created by children and young people and by this I mean the thoughtless dropping of litter, including items that can be recycled, like plastic bottles and drinks cans. The fields are often littered by these items, as well as sweets wrappers etc and nobody is interested in stopping this from happening. There is often leftover drug paraphernalia lying around where older kids congregate and this should be more of a concern to you, as most dog owners I know, pick up after them and keep their dogs under control.

You should also be more worried about the frequent fires that are started in the Woods, again by children. I have been in the Woods on two occasions, when the fire brigade have had to be called. Fires are often discovered and reported by dog walkers.

Furthermore, dogs cannot always be kept on the lead. It is cruel. They need exercise off the lead and those dog owners using the fields are usually throwing their dogs' own balls, for them to retrieve and do not interfere with games being played.

I would also like to point out the noise pollution from players and spectators. It is difficult to enjoy a quiet walk in the woods, with men (and it is usually men) yelling.

I also wonder whether you have considered the impact on the environment and on bees in particular, of constantly cutting the grass to within an inch of its life, destroying wildflowers and spraying with weed killer, which also, incidentally, harms dogs?

Response 95

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Hesketh Bank - Poppyfields

Hesketh with Becconsall - Glen Park Drive

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Hesketh Bank - Enclosed children's play area, Station Road

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Response 96

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs can still defecate on a lead and are more inclined to do so and the issue is picking it up. Sensible owners would clearly avoid times the grounds are being used by children

Each of the sites would benefit from a small fenced off area with long grass and small trees

The Ormskirk site would benefit from this being effectively a corridor of land running across the bottom of the park from County road to the other road. I am sure given the size of the areas in question this would reasonably accommodate both the needs of the children and dog walkers

Response 97

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There are a lack of open spaces where dogs are able to have a great time and being stimulated by being able to run free and sniff at their leisure.
My dogs are well behaved and controlled off and on the lead and I always clear up their waste. Why should those who cannot manage this ruin it for those of us who can?

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs need freedom too and increasingly spare land is being built on. Dogs are life companions for many people and allow those of their own to go out and about and provide an opportunity for human interaction too.

Response 98

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs should be allowed except in the play park area

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Have walked our dog on here for years

Response 99

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I agree with having areas that dogs will not be permitted although I find that a total ban on dogs is not the most appropriate way on doing this. I believe that the community fields are there for exactly that and feel that you are prioritising a cricket club and the few people in the community who pay to go can dictate why is best for a full community.

The local fields are busy all day long with people walking dogs and many of them act in a responsible way. It is exactly these people who are being punished for the small number who do not behave this way.

Response 100

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Many responsible dog owners use the area

A lot of older people find the park accessible for their dog when travelling is not an option

Carr Lane is an attractive green space that attracts walkers to the area and increases footfall to local business

Many families have children and dogs. Allowing dogs to run around whilst children play in the park ensures that parents continue to use the play area

Running and playing with a dog in a safe space allows children to exercise safely increasing public health, lowering obesity, addressing poor mental health. It is a travesty to make time-strapped parents choose between exercising the kids, exercising the dogs and exercising themselves.

The local council must support exercise strategies that appeal to all age groups. Local health services are already stretched. Many older people have dogs as companions. Don't make them isolated.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Digmoor - Enclosed sports area, Evermore Hub

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

You are isolating dog owners

You are restricting exercise choices

The impact upon local physical and mental health will add to a burdened health service

Walkers will not visit the area and this will impact upon footfall for local business

Digmoor has very few communal spaces

THE LOCAL COUNCIL REALLY SHOULD BE PROUD OF ITS ACTIVITIES THAT INCREASE EXERCISE OPPORTUNITIES NOT DECREASE THEM

BE A FORWARD THINKING PARISH COUNCIL. IF YOU EMBRACE DOGS AND WALKERS YOU ARE HELPING TO IMPROVE LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH

THESE SPACES ARE NEEDED AND USED. THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY FROM DOG WALKERS REALLY IS A PLUS FOR LOCALS.

ANY PARISH COUNCIL INTERESTED IN PUBLIC HEALTH WILL SHOW A KEEN AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ENCOURAGING BUILDING COMMUNITY CAPACITY

Response 101

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Because I regularly let my dog run off lead there early in the morning and late evening when the area is not being used for activities and it is a village friendship group activity

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We have little areas here in the village as it is too let our pets have a run around

Response 102

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I regularly walk in those areas with my dog . She enjoys the freedom when off lead . Unfortunately walking around the streets of Tarleton recently I have noticed an increase in dog faeces on pavements . These dogs will of been walked on a lead ! So having a dog on a lead certainly doesn't make any difference .

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There are many dog owners who regularly walk in this area with there dog off lead . The dogs enjoy the freedom to play and interact . Unfortunately whether you dogs on a lead or not to a very few people makes no difference if the pick up dog faeces or not . Which ruins it for the rest of us who are responsibly dog owners

Response 103

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Well behaved dogs should be allowed off the lead for exercise. Responsible owners always clean up and use the bins provided.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Dogs who are well behaved and under control are fine off the lead to exercise.
Owners should and do clean up after them.

Response 104

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

1. Unless this area is to be fenced, a dog may stray into it.
2. This is the tip of the iceberg.
3. Under European Law, animals must be allowed to be animals. For a dog this means a place to have some freedom.

Response 105

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As a responsible dog own I take my dog there with her ball she runs and has a blast and being responsible I always pick up any mess

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As it's part of the same area it is hard to keep dogs from that area

Response 106

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I don't have a problem with keeping dogs on a lead on the Cricket field at Tarleton as long as dogs are allowed off the leads on the two fields along side the woods at the back off the Cricket pitch. I feel that is a good compromise.

Response 107

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I agree the front field should be lead only and if there are matches on, but the back field should be useable for dogs off the lead at safe times, from what I believe it sounds the cricket club want to ban all dogs off leads and are trying to push this through on the sly!!

Response 108

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I agree the front field should be dogs on leads. But dogs should be allowed off the leads at the correct situation on the back field whilst respecting others, but it seems the cricket club want to be totally selfish and ban dogs off leads at any time or place and do it on the sly holding local meetings but not sharing the information and outcomes! We live in a community and our views should be considered

Response 109

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Because it's a rural farming village.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Because it's a rural farming village village not the middle of a town

Response 110

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We have no areas for well behaved dogs off lead. How about installing fines for irresponsible dog owners instead? Pick up or pay up

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We do not have a problem with any of these spaces. So why?

Response 111

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

A park is the only opportunity to let a dog run around to exert their energy. The reasons for keeping all dogs on the lead is restricting all dogs for the sake of the odd one or two dogs who MAY attack another dog. This is unfair to all dogs...the rule is unfairly discriminatory to well behaved, respectable and well socialised dogs (and their owners) at the expense of the minority (who probably wouldnt abide by the rules anyway).

I dont fully understand why a huge expanse of park with three large fields cannot accomodate all. The main field with the football and cricket pitch may prevent dogs off lead as it is mainly for sports so i understand (to a point) but the other two fields should allow freedom for everyone...human and dog!! We dont have notices putting restrictions and fines on disrespectful foul mouthed humans who leave their litter on the park....so why do this to dogs? Why should a human have more right to run, exercise and experience freedom over mans best friend? It is just WRONG..on every level

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There are FAR TOO MANY restricticive places as it is!!! I am horrified that we cannot live in harmony with our doggie friends. All over europe dogs are welcome in restaurants...parks...beaches.

That is because they realise the benefits of walking a dog in a green space in terms of mental health, exercise and social interaction for both humans and dogs. Restrictions on dogs only serve to restrict owners and make dog walking less enjoyable.

Response 112

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Tarleton - Trinity Walks

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

It is simply the tip of the iceberg in restrictions. Targeting the many responsible dog owners because the very few 'irresponsible' dog owners do not pick up their dogs poo! Do you really think that these restrictions will change the behaviour of those individuals? Do you believe that dog owners who allow their dogs to foul are likely to adhere to the rules? No, of course they won't!! All it will do is make the policy makers feel that they have 'tried' to address the issue - but it is unlikely to be effective.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I am absolutely incensed about this suggestion. This is a large field that is not utilised in the winter and after 6pm in the summer - why should dogs not be allowed to run 'off lead' and enjoy themselves. It gives ME immense pleasure to throw a ball for my dog for as far as I can and watch him race after it, then back again to me - he loves it and I LOVE IT!! The more space dogs have the less crowded it will be for everyone. You think, in your detached policy making offices, that you are supporting the sports/organisations/business who complain and do not want to spend more money on ground maintenance - but you are not representing the ENTIRE community who use these spaces. You are restricting my rights as a dog owner, and we are the in many (but sadly don't have the spending power within the community to lobby the council!) who also pay our parish council tax

Response 113

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

A long established walking route providing the only access to Carr Lane woods

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Due to extensive building of houses on existing green spaces there are fewer and fewer places to walk dogs

Response 114

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Totally disagree, you need to give reasons why it should be restricted and factual evidence

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Give me factual reasons why it should, it's a two way objection then I'll give you mine

Response 115

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Response 116

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Banks - Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Response 117

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlincs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Response 118

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I agree with protecting the children's play area, but why is protection necessary for cricket and rugly fields?

Response 119

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Tarleton - Carr Lane

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There are very few areas to walk dogs off lead in Tarleton. In my experience owners are courteous when using the fields. The dog walkers are diligent in ensuring they don't leave any trace, plus we also collect other litter left behind. Without the dog walkers the fields would often be an empty lonely place. When there are matches being played or the fields are busy it's common sense for owners to pop their leads on anyway

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

Would the 3 fields to the other side of the cricket field be available for off lead? Providing this is the case I would think this is an acceptable proposal, however, I do feel that having used the fields for over one year there never appears to be any issues that I can see? All dog owners are diligent in collecting waste and also pick up rubbish left by other users. They also make the area safe by their very presence. When it's busy or a match is being played dogs would be taken elsewhere, common sense.

Response 120

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Hesketh with Becconsall - Shore Road

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

There is no where I can take my chihuahua's to have a run and chase a ball. To be honest children cause more damage than dogs. People who take dogs a walk are generally responsible for their dogs. It's getting bad now where else can we take our pets. We are treated as second class citizens.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Tarleton - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

No where to let our dogs run and chase balls. Children definitely do more damage than dogs, which I have witnessed. Disgusted.

Response 121

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q2. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (please select all that apply to you)

Ormskirk - Coronation Park

Ormskirk - Coronation Park, Park Road

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We are responsible dog owners who always pick up the dog dirt and are mindful of other residents when exercising our dog. However, the council are already planning to build on most of the field adjoining Coronation Park (next to county road) with a new leisure center. If we cannot exercise our dogs on the Ormskirk Rigby Field off the lead, and you remove most of the open space next to county rd, where are we supposed to exercise our dogs? Please advise us on this, as we will be struggling to find other nearby open areas of land within walking distance.

Also, I do not walk my dog when the rugby field is in use by the club, only when it is empty. Would it not be a better idea to make sure dogs are on leads during rugby matches only, and not penalize all dog owners with a blanket decision which affects everyone?

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We are responsible dog owners who always pick up the dog dirt and are mindful of other residents when exercising our dog. However, the council are already planning to build on most of the field adjoining Coronation Park (next to county road) with a new leisure center. If we cannot exercise our dogs on the Ormskirk Rugby Field off the lead, and you remove most of the open space next to county rd, where are we supposed to exercise our dogs? Please advise us on this, as we will be struggling to find other nearby open areas of land within walking distance.

Also, I do not walk my dog on the rugby field when the rugby field is in use by the club, I only walk her there when it is empty. Would it not be a better idea to make sure dogs are on leads during rugby matches only, and not penalize all dog owners with a blanket decision which affects everyone by making us put them on leads at all times?

Dogs need to run. They need to exercise. They are not supposed to be on leads for a slow walk at all times. It's like telling children that they must walk everywhere and not run freely in a field.

Response 122

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlincs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q3. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

We would like three further areas added.

1.Parish Council Recreation Ground, Shore Road. This ground is used as football pitch by Junior teams and also as a recreation ground for the Village Primary School as they do not have any land of their own. Notices have been in place for over 15 years requiring dogs to be kept on leads.

2.Village Football Pitch at the Centenary Sports Ground, Station Road.

3.Village Cricket Ground at the Centenary Sports Ground, Station Road.

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Response 123

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

No need if owners behave and are responsible.

Response 124

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Tarleton - Cricket Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

As a responsible dog owner I do not understand why the council feel the need to extend the public space protection order to include the whole of the field. If I exercise my dog on the field I always keep to the field edges avoiding the area of the cricket pitch. There are very few open spaces where balls can be thrown for retrieval and as a member of the Tarleton community I feel that any space should be shared - the cricket / football matches only generally take place at weekends so I can't understand why dogs should be kept on a lead during the remainder of the week. I can fully understand why dogs should be on a lead whilst matches are in progress but not when the areas are not being used.

Response 125

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

Yes

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No

Q5. Which area or areas do you disagree with? (Please select all that apply to you from the list below)

Ormskirk - Rugby Club

Q6. Please tell us why you disagree with this?

I live opposite Ormskirk rugby club and have done for quite a few years, it's a pleasure to watch dog owners exercising their dogs on the field. I can honestly say all the owners are respectful of the area, always cleaning up after their pets and all the dogs that use it enjoy running free with each other. I have never seen any incidents to which I would recommending the dogs should be on a lead. Even on the days when rugby is being played, the dogs seem to know they should only run around the edge of the field, it's unbelievable to watch but it's true. Some owners do prefer to keep their dogs on a lead but the dogs that do run free do so without issue, my husband has health issues and is at home most days and he agrees how well behaved the dogs are on a daily basis and how uplifting it is to watch them run free. Please don't take away this privilege for the animals especially when their owners are so respectful. Thank you for your time in reading my opinion.

Response 126

Q1. Do you agree with the current areas where dogs are restricted by the public space protection order? To view the full list of locations please visit <https://www.westlincs.gov.uk/environment/dogs/dog-control.aspx>

No

Q4. We are looking to add 5 more areas to the public space protection order where dogs will be restricted, do you agree with this proposal?

No



COUNCIL: 26 FEBRUARY 2020

Report of: Chief Operating Officer

**Contact for further information: Mr Thomas Lynan (Extn. 5013)
(E-mail: tom.lynan@westlancs.gov.uk)**

SUBJECT: WEST LANCASHIRE ELECTORAL REVIEW

Wards affected: All Borough Wards

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To enable the Council to comply with its obligations in facilitating the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE) Electoral Review of West Lancashire (the Review).

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the outline timetable for the Review as set by the LGBCE (Appendix 1 of this report) be noted.

2.2 That an Electoral Review Working Group of Council be established with the following Terms of Reference:

2.2.1 To develop proposals for submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

2.2.2 To make recommendations to Council.

2.3 That the Working Group comprise of 3 Labour Members, 2 Conservative Members and 1 Our West Lancashire Member.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 West Lancashire Borough last underwent a boundary review in 1999/2000 as part of the Local Government Commission for England's programme of Periodic Electoral Reviews (PERs). The Local Government Commission for England has been superseded by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (the Commission). The 1999/2000 review resulted in a reduction in Wards and Councillors from 26 to 25 and 55 to 54 respectively.

- 3.2 An electoral review considers:
- the total number of councillors elected to the local authority;
 - the number and boundaries of wards for the purposes of the election of councillors and;
 - the name of any ward.

3.3 On 14 June 2019 the Commission wrote to the Chief Executive advising that a review of West Lancashire would be undertaken as part of their new programme of periodic reviews of authorities who have not been reviewed for 12 or more years. The Commission's approach coincides with the activation of the Council's decision (October 2018) to request a review following determination of the SORP proposals in July 2019.

3.4 On 9 January 2020 the Chief Executive and Chairman of the Commission met with the Leader of the Council, the Chief Operating Officer and officers. This marked the start of the 'Preliminary Period' of the Review.

4.0 CURRENT POSITION – PRELIMINARY PERIOD OF REVIEW

4.1 There are various stages in the Commission's Electoral Review process. More details on each of the stages can be found on the Commission website at www.lgbce.org.uk/how-reviews-work.

4.2 The Council is currently at the beginning of the process in the Preliminary Period. During which time the LGBCE meets with the Council and interested parties to explain the review process and to allow the authority to prepare the information needed by the LGBCE for the review.

4.3 At the end of the Preliminary Period the Council is required to make a 'Submission of Council Size' proposal to the Commission for their consideration. Council Size is the starting point in any electoral review since it determines the average number of electors per councillor to be achieved across all wards of the authority. The Council must consider how many councillors are required, having regard to the political management arrangements, regulatory and scrutiny functions and the representational role of councillors in their ward work and representing the Council on external bodies.

4.4 The Council may also wish to consider its Electoral Cycle and whether to retain Election by Thirds or move to a cycle of All Out Elections once every four years. Should the Council wish to formally consider a change in electoral cycle, a public consultation would be required.

4.5 During this Preliminary Period no consideration is given to the number of wards or the boundaries of wards. These are only considered once the Commission have determined the size of the Council going forward.

5.0 ELECTORAL REVIEW WORKING GROUP

5.1 The Council must present its 'Submission of Council Size' proposal to the Commission by Thursday 15 October 2020.

5.2 Given the relatively short period for this stage of the review it is suggested that a working group be established to work with officers in developing detailed

proposals for consideration by Council. The final proposals for submission to the Commission will be subject to approval by the full Council.

5.3 It is proposed that the membership of the working group be six Members, consisting of three members from the Labour Group, two members from the Conservative Group and one Member from the Our West Lancashire Group.

5.4 Due to the tight deadlines at each stage of the review, Members appointed to the working group would need to be reasonably flexible as meetings would need to be arranged at relatively short notice.

5.5 The remit of the working group will be to:

- Work to the Technical Guidance of the Local Government Boundary Commission of England;
- Collect and consider evidence to determine the proposal to be made to Council relating to council size and revised warding patterns;
- To make recommendations to Council within the required timescales.

6.0 FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

6.1 As stated in the timetable at Appendix 1, the Review is due to be completed in the final quarter of 2021. After publication of its Final Recommendations, the Commission will lay an order before Parliament for final approval.

6.2 If the expected timescales are met, revised electoral boundaries will come into force for the elections in May 2022.

7.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder, however the aim of the Review is about ensuring as much as possible that there is electoral equality across all areas of the Borough.

8.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The budget figures for 2020-21 contained elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting include provision to meet the costs of the financial/resource implications arising from this report.

9.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

9.1 Establishing the Electoral Review Working Group will provide a forum for Members and officers to work together to produce proposals within the timescales required by the Commission whilst allowing for consideration by Council.

10.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and or stakeholders. Therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal Equality Impact Assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been taken into account when undertaking the actions detailed within this article.

Appendices

1. The Commission's Review Timetable
2. EIA

West Lancashire Borough Council: Electoral Review Timetable

These timetables outline the key dates and activities for both the Council (shown in bold) and the Commission during the review process.

Preliminary Period

Briefings	Involvement		Key Dates
	Council	LGBCE	
Initial Meeting	Council Leader Chief Executive	Chair Chief Executive	9 January 2020
Officer Briefing	Council Officers involved in review	Review Manager Review Officer	26 February 2020
Group Leader Briefing	Council Group Leaders	Lead Commissioner Review Manager Review Officer	
Full Council Briefing	All Councillors	Lead Commissioner Review Manager Review Officer	

Council Size

Activity	Involvement		Key Dates
	Council	LGBCE	
Develop council size proposal	Council Political Groups	Officers will be available to answer any technical queries on making a submission.	March to October 2020
Submission of council size proposals	Council Political Groups	Officers will acknowledge receipt of submissions.	15 October 2020
Commission Meeting: Council Size	Not required	Commission	17 November 2020

Warding Patterns

Activity	Involvement		Key Dates
	Council	LGBCE	
Consultation on warding patterns	Council Political Groups General Public	Run consultation, collate & analyse responses.	8 December 2020 – 15 February 2021
Commission Meeting: Draft Recommendations	Not required	Commission	18 May 2021
Consultation on Draft Recommendations	Council Political Groups General Public	Publish draft recommendations. Run consultation, collate & analyse responses.	1 June 2021 – 9 August 2021
Commission Meeting: Final Recommendations	Not required	Commission	19 October 2021
Final Recommendations publication	Not required	Commission	2 November 2021

Order

Activity	Involvement		Key Dates
	Council	LGBCE	
Order laid	Not required	Commission	2022
Order made	Not required	Commission	2022
Implementation	Council	Not required	2022/2023

<h1>Equality Impact Assessment Form</h1>	
Directorate: Transformation & Resources	Service: Legal and Democratic Services
Completed by: Thomas Lynan	Date: 17/01/2020
Subject Title: Electoral Review of West Lancashire	
1. DESCRIPTION	
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	No
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	Yes
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	No
Is a programme or project being planned:	Yes
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	Yes
Details of the matter under consideration:	Electoral Review of West Lancashire
<i>If you answered Yes to any of the above go straight to Section 3</i>	
<i>If you answered No to all the above please complete Section 2</i>	
2. RELEVANCE	
Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>	
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups:	
3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION	
Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and or other stakeholders.
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	All groups are affected.



Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?	
Age	No
Gender	No
Disability	No
Race and Culture	No
Sexual Orientation	No
Religion or Belief	No
Gender Reassignment	No
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No
Pregnancy and Maternity	No
4. DATA ANALYSIS	
In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?	Members of the public, employees, elected members and or other stakeholders currently use the service because it is a universal service integral to the function of the Council.
What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?	Changes to electoral arrangements.
What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	All relevant stakeholders will get the opportunity to express their views through consultation.
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?	All relevant stakeholders will get the opportunity to express their views through consultation.
If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	All relevant stakeholders will get the opportunity to express their views through consultation.
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	No changes are proposed at this stage.
6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).	As there are no changes at this stage, there is no impact to consider.
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	No actions

	<i>If no actions are planned state no actions</i>
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	This assessment will be reviewed before any further report on this issue is released.



**COUNCIL:
26 FEBRUARY 2020**

Report of: Borough Solicitor

**Contact for further information: Mrs J Denning (Extn. 5384)
(E-mail: Jacky.Denning@westlancs.gov.uk)**

SUBJECT: PUBLIC SPEAKING PROTOCOL – REVIEW

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To review the current 'Public Speaking – Protocol' for meetings of Cabinet, Overview & Scrutiny Committees, Audit & Governance Committee and Standards Committee (Constitution 14.1 – the "Protocol") and consider proposals for change recommended by the Corporate and Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 10 December 2019.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the number of requests to speak, listed in paragraph 5 of the report, under the current 'Public Speaking – Protocol' for meetings of Cabinet, Overview & Scrutiny Committees, Audit & Governance Committee and Standards Committee (Constitution 14.1 – the "Protocol"), be noted.

2.2 That the following recommendations of the Corporate and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee, set out in paragraph 5 below, suggesting revisions to the 'Protocol' attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be considered:

- 1) Include reference to Parish Councils
- 2) Provide for a resident to be represented by a Borough Councillor (without the need for that resident to attend).
The Councillor should not be a member of the body considering that item.
- 3) Provide for written representations to be considered without the need for the resident to attend

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Public Involvement in Meetings Working Group established the 'Public Speaking – Protocol' for meetings of Cabinet, Overview & Scrutiny Committees,

Audit & Governance Committee and Standards Committee (Constitution 14.1 – the "Protocol") as part of a task and finish review in 2015/16: “To consider extending public involvement at meetings, to create an open, transparent and democratic Council”. The Protocol was introduced in April 2016. Following the cessation of the Working Group, it was agreed that any future reviews of the protocol would be considered at Corporate & Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

3.2 The Protocol was reviewed and amended at Council in December 2017 to allow public speaking at the commencement of the appropriate item on the agenda (rather than at the start of the meeting) and to extend the deadline for applications.

4.0 CURRENT POSITION

4.1 Since the introduction of these arrangements the following requests to speak have been received:-

	DATE	ITEM
Cabinet	10 January 2017	Granville Park Conservation Area Review (1 request)
	9 January 2018	Funding of Voluntary & Other Organisations Working Group (Request withdrawn prior to the meeting)
	11 September 2018	The Local Plan Review – Proposed Options (2 requests)
	6 November 2018	Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version (2 requests)
	11 June 2019	Called in item – Local Plan Request not published as it was considered inappropriate (1 request)
	10 September 2019	Local Plan Review (4 requests)
	14 January 2020	CIL Funding Programme 2020/21 (1 request)
Corporate & Environmental O & S Committee	2 March 2017	Improved Planting (1 request)
Executive O&S Committee	28 March 2018	Called in Item – Local Plan (1 request)

4.2 There have been no requests to speak at the Audit & Governance Committee or at the Standards Committee.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 5.1 Since the last review in December 2017, general feedback has been received from a number of sources on the Protocol and its implementation. The Corporate and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee considered the feedback during its review of the Protocol and has submitted the following recommendations for revisions to the current Protocol:

5.1.1 Include reference to Parish Councils

(A request was received from the Parish Clerks Liaison Meeting on 7 June 2019, when considering the Parish Council Charter, that there should be specific reference to Parish Council's eligibility to speak at meetings.)

Under the existing protocol Parish Council representatives are able to submit a request as a member of the public, however the Parish Clerks Liaison Group felt that in the spirit of the Charter, Parishes should be acknowledged specifically in the Protocol.

The suggested changes are included as tracked changes in the Protocol attached as an Appendix to this report, which specifically acknowledges that Parish Councils as being eligible to speak.

5.1.2 Provide for a resident to be represented by a Borough Councillor (without the need for that resident to be in attendance)

(Feedback was received from a Borough Councillor who had submitted a request in his own name, on behalf of a resident.)

Under the current protocol, if residents feel nervous or uncomfortable speaking in public, then they can ask someone else to do it for them, but they must be in attendance at the meeting.

The suggested changes are included as tracked changes in the Protocol attached as an Appendix to this report, which allow for a Borough Councillor to speak on the residents behalf, without the need for that resident to be in attendance.

Given that in some instances, issues of predetermination/bias it has been recommended that the Councillor should not be a member of the body considering the item.

5.1.3 Provide for written representations to be considered without the need for the resident to attend

(Feedback was received from a member of the public when he was unable to attend a meeting in person, but wished his written representations to be taken into consideration.)

In accordance with the current protocol, requests to speak are published and subsequently circulated to Members of the relevant body, including relevant officers.

The suggested changes are included as tracked changes in the Protocol attached as an Appendix to this report, which advises that the relevant body will consider representations without the need for the resident to attend.

- 5.2 Revisions to the protocol require approval by Council, therefore the first meeting for operation of any agreed revisions would be Cabinet on 10 March 2020.

6.0 PUBLICITY

6.1 Currently, publicity arrangements include a page on the Council's website, all agendas are published on the website and an agenda sheet is placed on the Council's noticeboard. A press release, aimed at promoting these arrangements to members of the public, is also produced prior to each Cabinet meeting, which sets out the deadlines for submitting requests to speak at future meetings of Audit & Governance Committee, Scrutiny Committees, Standards Committee and Cabinet.

7.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The provision of public involvement in meetings provides another method to enable local people to raise concerns or state their views to the Council providing an additional feedback mechanism for the community and improving access for all.

8.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Any revisions to the protocol should be accommodated within existing resources.

9.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

9.1 The Public Speaking Protocol provides an opportunity to further develop transparency and openness through public involvement at meetings.

10.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D (5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required, a formal equality impact assessment is attached as Appendix 2 to this report, the results of which have been taken into account in the Recommendations contained within this report

Appendices

1. Public Speaking Protocol (Constitution 14.1)
2. Equality Impact Assessment

PUBLIC SPEAKING/WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS – PROTOCOL

(For meetings of Cabinet, Overview & Scrutiny Committees, Audit & Governance Committee and Standards Committee)

1.0 Public Speaking

1.1 Residents of West Lancashire may, on giving notice, address any of the above meetings to make representations on any item on the agenda for those meetings, except where the public and press are to be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the item.

1.2 A Parish Council Representative may, on giving notice, address any of the above meetings to make representations on any item on the agenda for those meetings, except where the public and press are to be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the item.

2.0 Written Representations

2.1 Residents of West Lancashire may submit written representations, which will be considered by the relevant body if the Resident is unable to attend for any reason.

~~1.2~~—The form attached as an Appendix to this Protocol should be used for submitting requests.

23.0 Deadline for submission

32.1 The prescribed form should be received by Member Services by 10.00 am on the Friday of the week preceding the meeting. This can be submitted by e-mail to member.services@westlancs.gov.uk or by sending to:

Member Services
West Lancashire Borough Council
52 Derby Street
Ormskirk
West Lancashire
L39 2DF

32.2 Completed forms will be collated by Member Services and circulated via e-mail to relevant Members and officers and published on the Council website via Modgov. Only the name of the resident (and representative) and details of the issue to be raised will be published.

23.3 Groups of persons with similar views should elect a spokesperson to speak on their behalf to avoid undue repetition of similar points. Spokespersons should identify in writing on whose behalf they are speaking.

43.0 Scope

43.1 Any matters raised must be relevant to an item on the agenda for the meeting.

43.2 The Legal & Democratic Services Manager~~Borough Solicitor~~ may reject a submission if it:

- (i) is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- (ii) is substantially the same as representations which have already been submitted at a previous meeting; or
- (iii) discloses or requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

54.0 Number of items

54.1 A maximum of one form per resident will be accepted for each Agenda Item.

54.2 There will be a maximum of 10 speakers per meeting. Where there are more than 10 forms submitted by residents, ~~the Borough Solicitor~~Member Services will prioritise the list of those allowed to speak. This will be considered having regard to all relevant matters including:

- a. The order in which forms were received.
- b. If one resident has asked to speak on a number of items, priority will be given to other residents who also wish to speak
- c. Whether a request has been submitted in relation to the same issue.

No amendments will be made to the list of speakers once it has been compiled (regardless of withdrawal of a request to speak).

54.3 All submissions received will be published on the Council's website and circulated to Members of the relevant body and officers for consideration information, although no amendments will be made to the list of speakers once it has been compiled (regardless of withdrawal of a request to speak).

65.0 At the Meeting

65.1 Speakers will be shown to their seats. At the commencement of consideration of each agenda item the Leader/Chairman will invite ~~the speakers~~members of the public to make their representations. ~~Speakers~~Residents will have up to 3 minutes to address the meeting. The address must reflect the issue included on the prescribed form submitted in advance.

65.2 Members may discuss what the speaker/s haves said, along with any other information/representations submitted under this protocol, when all public speakers on that item have finished and will then make a decision. Speakers should not circulate any supporting documentation at the meeting and should not enter into a debate with Councillors.

65.4 If residents feel nervous or uncomfortable speaking in public, then they can ask someone else to do it for them, including a Parish or Borough Councillor representative. They can also bring an interpreter if they need one. They should be aware there may be others speaking as well.

6.5 A Borough Councillor is able to speak on behalf of a resident (without the need for the resident to be in attendance), if requested to do so. However that Councillor must not be a member of the body considering the item.

6.65.5 Speakers may leave the meeting at any time, taking care not to disturb the meeting.

(Please see attached form.)



REQUEST FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING/REPRESENTATIONS AT MEETINGS

MEETING & DATE

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

Post Code

PHONE

Email

Please indicate if you will be in attendance at the meeting

YES/NO*

*delete as applicable

Please indicate if someone will be speaking on your behalf at the meeting

YES/NO*

*delete as applicable

If someone is speaking on your behalf please provide their contact details:

NAME

PHONE

Email

Note: This page will not be published.

Email: member.services@westlancs.gov.uk

If you require any assistance regarding your attendance at a meeting (including access) or if you have any queries regarding your submission please contact Member Services on 01695 585065

Note: This page will be [circulated to Members of the Committee and](#) published.

Equality Impact Assessment Form



Directorate:	Service:
Completed by: Sue Griffiths	Date: June 2019
Subject Title: Public Involvement in Meetings	
1. DESCRIPTION	
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	Yes
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	Yes
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	No
Is a programme or project being planned:	No
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	Yes
Details of the matter under consideration:	To review the current arrangements for public involvement in meetings
<p><i>If you answered Yes to any of the above go straight to Section 3</i> <i>If you answered No to all the above please complete Section 2</i></p>	
2. RELEVANCE	
Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>	
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups: <i>You do not need to complete the rest of this form.</i>	
3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION	
Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	Members of the Public, Parish Councillors, Borough Councillors
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	Members of the Public, Parish Councillors, Borough Councillors

Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?	
Age	Yes
Gender	Yes
Disability	Yes
Race and Culture	Yes
Sexual Orientation	Yes
Religion or Belief	Yes
Gender Reassignment	Yes
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Yes
Pregnancy and Maternity	Yes
4. DATA ANALYSIS	
In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?	Members of the public have an opportunity to speak at Planning & Licensing, Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Audit & Governance Committee and Standards Committee
What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?	Possible revisions to the current arrangements to extend the current arrangements
What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	Possible revisions to current arrangements will enable participation by a wider audience
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?	n/a
If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	n/a
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	Possibly extend the current opportunity for members of the public to engage with the Council
6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).	None
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	None
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	12 months By Corporate & Environmental Overview and Scrutiny Committee



COUNCIL: 26 February 2020

Report of: Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources

Contact for further information: Mrs J Denning (Extn. 5384)
(E-mail: jacky.denning@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2020/21

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To approve the timetable of meetings for the Municipal Year 2020/21.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the timetable for the meetings for the 2020/21 Municipal Year, attached as an appendix to this report, be approved.

3.0 BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

3.1 It is important to establish a timetable of meetings to enable the work of the Council, its Committees and the Cabinet to operate effectively and to enable Members and Officers to plan work commitments/deadlines.

3.2 The attached timetable has been based on the timetable for the current year, with some changes to reflect issues arising during the year.

3.3 The timetable attempts to ensure good links between Cabinet and Overview & Scrutiny Committee meetings and also to ensure that meetings are held at the most suitable time (such as in late February for setting budgets etc). The regular frequency of Planning Committee meetings is also important to enable the Council to determine planning applications in accordance with statutory and other deadlines. Audit & Governance Committee dates take into consideration requirements for the production and approval of the Council's Statement of Accounts. Other meetings are scheduled to give an appropriate number of meetings to enable the work of the Council to be conducted.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and in particular, no significant impact of crime and disorder.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no significant financial or resource implications arising from this report.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 A timetable of scheduled meetings is important in enabling the Council to plan the conduct of its business, ensuring that decisions are made at the appropriate time to meet statutory requirements, such as setting the Council Tax.

7.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendix

Timetable of meetings 2020/21.

WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Timetable of Meetings of Council, Cabinet and Committees - 2020/21

MEETING	MAY 2020	JUN 2020	JUL 2020	AUG 2020	SEPT 2020	OCT 2020	NOV 2020	DEC 2020	JAN 2021	FEB 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2021	MAY 2021
Council (7.30 pm, Wednesday)	20 Annual		22	R		14		16		24		14	19 Annual
Cabinet (7.00 pm, Tuesday)		9		E	8		10		12		9		
Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee (7.00 pm, Thursday)		25		C	24		26		28		25		
Corporate and Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee (7.00 pm –Thursday)		11		E	17			10			11		
Licensing and Appeals Committee (7.30 pm, Tuesday)		2	29 (Wed)	S		6		1		9	30		
Audit and Governance Committee (6.30 pm, Tuesday)	26		28	S		27			26				25
Planning Committee (7.00 pm, Thursday)	21	18	23		10	15	26		14	11	18	22	20
Standards Committee (5.00pm, Tuesday)					15						16		

Notes:

1. Licensing & Gambling Committee meets at 7.00pm on the same day as Licensing & Appeals Committee (only if there is business to discuss).
2. Dates for all other meetings will be convened on an ad-hoc basis.
3. Public Holidays – 8 & 25 May, 31 August, 25 & 28 December 2020, 1 January 2021, 2 & 5 April and 3 & 31 May 2021.
4. Elections – 7 May 2020 (Borough & PCC) 6 May 2021 (County Council)



COUNCIL: 26 FEBRUARY 2020

Report of: Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources

Contact for further information: Mrs J Denning (extn 5384)
(email: jacky.denning@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: MAYOR ELECT 2020/21

Wards Affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To seek nominations for the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2020/21.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That an indication be given as to the name of the Member to be designated as Mayor-elect for the Municipal Year 2020/21 and the name of the Member to be designated for appointment as the Deputy Mayor.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 This year the Annual Meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 20 May, and, as usual, the first items of business will be to elect the Mayor and appoint the Deputy Mayor for the next Municipal Year.

3.2 As in previous years, it would be helpful if an indication could be given as to the names of the Members likely to be elected as Mayor and the names of the Members likely to be appointed as the Deputy Mayor, to enable those Members to make any necessary arrangements in advance. If no choice is made in advance of the Annual Meeting, the member to be elected would have very little time in which to make appropriate arrangements (for example, with his or her employer).

3.3 It is important that both the member involved and the officers have as much time as possible to make arrangements for the Annual Meeting and indeed for the incoming Mayor's year of office. This would greatly assist in ensuring that the Annual Meeting runs smoothly and that the first weeks of the Mayor's term of office are organised as efficiently as possible.

3.4 In general terms, the points raised above in relation to the Mayor-elect also apply to the position of Deputy Mayor-elect, although, of course, to a lesser extent.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The remuneration for the posts of Mayor and Deputy Mayor will remain at the same level for 2020/2021, (£9,000 and £1,780 respectively) and these will be funded from existing resources.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 It is sensible in the interests of the efficient running of the Council for an indication to be given in advance of the Members to be designated as Mayor elect and Deputy Mayor elect respectively.

7.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

None

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

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