



Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey  
Chief Operating Officer

52 Derby Street  
Ormskirk  
West Lancashire  
L39 2DF

Wednesday, 6 December 2023

**TO: COUNCILLORS D WEST, P HOGAN, T DE FREITAS, J FINCH, J GORDON,  
P HENNESSY, P HESKETH, K JUCKES, S LAWTON AND  
K LLOYD**

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** will be held in the **CABINET/COMMITTEE ROOM, 52 DERBY STREET, ORMSKIRK L39 2DF** on **THURSDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2023** at **7.00 PM** at which your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully

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

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey  
Chief Operating Officer

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

- 1. APOLOGIES**
- 2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE**  
To be appraised of any changes to the membership of the Committee in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.
- 3. URGENT BUSINESS, IF ANY, INTRODUCED BY THE CHAIRMAN**  
Note: No other business is permitted unless, by reasons of special circumstances, which shall be specified at the meeting, the Chairman is of the opinion that the item(s) should be considered as a matter of

urgency.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** 1 - 2  
If a member requires advice on Declarations of Interest, he/she is 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 any particular item is included at the end of this agenda sheet.)
5. **DECLARATIONS OF A PARTY WHIP**  
In accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rule 16, Members must declare the existence of any Party Whip, and the nature of it, when considering any matter in the following categories:
- The review of any decision of Cabinet or
  - The performance of any Member of the Cabinet
- N.B. The Secretary of State believes whipping is incompatible with Overview and Scrutiny.
6. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2023** 3 - 6  
To receive as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 21 September 2023.
7. **PUBLIC SPEAKING** 7 - 10  
Residents of West Lancashire, on giving notice, may address the meeting to make representations on any item on the agenda except where the public and press are to be excluded during consideration of the item. The deadline for submissions is 10.00am on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023. A copy of the public speaking protocol and form to be completed is attached.
8. **ITEMS FROM THE MEMBERS' UPDATED INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA AT THE REQUEST OF A MEMBER**  
No requests received.
9. **MEMBERS ITEMS / CCFA (COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION)**  
There are no items under this heading.
10. **UPDATES FOR THE LITTER CLEARANCE IN WEST LANCS, INCLUDING FLY TIPPING AND GROT SPOTS AND TASK AND FINISH GROUP** 11 - 20  
  
To consider the report of the Director of Transformation, Housing and Resources.
11. **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING COMMUNITY ORCHARDS, TASK & FINISH GROUP** 21 - 24

To consider the report of the Director of Transformation, Housing and Resources.

## **12. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

- Crime and Disorder Scrutiny – To consider a presentation from a representative of West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Paul Charlson / Cliff Owen
- Items from the Members' Update (as advised)
- Members' Items/CCFA (as advised)
- Future Work Programme

**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:-  
Democratic Services on 01695 585389  
christine.wood@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 4

## 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

|    | <b>General</b>  |  |  |
|----|---|--|--|
| 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 <b>because</b><br>it affects my financial position or the financial position of a connected person or, a body described in 10.1(1)(i) and (ii) <b>and</b> 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<br><br>or<br><br>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) <b>and</b> 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"/><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><input type="checkbox"/>   | <i>You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 or 6 below</i><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><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:<br><br>(i) Housing where I am a tenant of the Council, and those functions do not relate particularly to my tenancy or lease.<br><br>(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.<br><br>(iii) Statutory sick pay where I am in receipt or entitled to receipt of such pay.<br><br>(iv) An allowance, payment or indemnity given to Members<br><br>(v) Any ceremonial honour given to Members<br><br>(vi) Setting Council tax or a precept under the LGFA 1992 | <input type="checkbox"/><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><input type="checkbox"/><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><input type="checkbox"/><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><input type="checkbox"/><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><input type="checkbox"/> | <i>You may speak and vote</i><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><i>You may speak and vote</i><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><i>You may speak and vote</i><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><i>You may speak and vote</i><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><i>You may speak and vote</i><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><i>You may speak and vote</i> |
| 5. | A Standards Committee dispensation applies (relevant lines in the budget – Dispensation 15/09/20 – 14/09/24)  | <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**

**Prescribed description**

Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation

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

Sponsorship

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—<br>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and<br>(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)—<br>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and<br>(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—<br>(a) that body (to M's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and<br>(b) either—<br>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or<br>(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.



# Agenda Item 6

## CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

HELD: Thursday, 21 September 2023

Start: 7.00 pm

Finish: 7.40 pm

### PRESENT:

Councillor: D West (Chairman)  
P Hogan (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: T De Freitas J Finch  
J Gordon K Jukes  
S Lawton K Lloyd  
T Marsh-Pritchard

In attendance: Councillor Neil Furey (Portfolio Holder for Street Scene)

Officers: Kathryn Sephton, Head of Environmental Services  
Adam Spicer, Assistant Solicitor  
Dan Massey, Outdoor Recreation Manager  
Stephen Bissette, Clean & Green Operations Manager  
Jacky Denning, Democratic Services Manager

### 15 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Paul Hennessy.

### 16 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

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

### 17 URGENT BUSINESS, IF ANY, INTRODUCED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no items of urgent business.

### 18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 19 DECLARATIONS OF A PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip.

### 20 PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no items under this heading.

### 21 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2023, be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**22 ITEMS FROM THE MEMBERS' UPDATE INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA AT THE  
REQUEST OF A MEMBER**

There were no items under this heading.

**23 MEMBERS ITEMS / CCFA (COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION)**

There were no items under this heading.

**24 PROGRESS REVIEW COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS INC.  
COMMUNITY ORCHARDS**

The Outdoor Recreation Manager introduced the report of the Corporate Director of Transportation, Housing and Resources, as contained on pages 11 to 32 of the Book of Reports, which provided an update to the Committee on the actions completed to plant the orchards at six sites in West Lancashire.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- Tree Planting Policy being drafted
- Tree seed planting
- Removal of fallen fruit
- Fruit variety and types of trees

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

**25 PROGRESS REVIEW LITTER CLEARANCE IN WEST LANCS. INC.FLY-TIPPING  
& GROT SPOTS**

The Clean & Green Operations Manager introduced the report of the Corporate Director of Transportation, Housing and Resources, as contained on pages 33 to 72 which provided an update to the Committee on the actions completed for the Litter Clearance in West Lancashire, including Fly Tipp and Grot Spots.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- Community Skip days
- Fly tipping and camera evidence
- Education – school visits and freshers week attendance

RESOLVED: That the update showing the progression of the project be noted.

**26 WORK PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED: That the updated Work Programme be noted.

.....  
**Chairman**



## **PUBLIC SPEAKING – 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 The form attached as an Appendix to this Protocol should be used for submitting requests.

### **2.0 Deadline for submission**

2.1 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](mailto:member.services@westlancs.gov.uk) or by sending to:

Member Services  
West Lancashire Borough Council  
52 Derby Street  
Ormskirk  
West Lancashire  
L39 2DF

2.2 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 details of the issue to be raised will be published.

2.3 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.

### **3.0 Scope**

3.1 Any matters raised must be relevant to an item on the agenda for the meeting.

3.2 The 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.

#### **4.0 Number of items**

- 4.1 A maximum of one form per resident will be accepted for each Agenda Item.
- 4.2 There will be a maximum of 10 speakers per meeting. Where there are more than 10 forms submitted by residents, the Borough Solicitor 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.
- 4.3 All submissions will be circulated to Members of the relevant body and officers for 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).

#### **5.0 At the Meeting**

- 5.1 Speakers will be shown to their seats. At the commencement of consideration of each agenda item the Leader/Chairman will invite members of the public to make their representations. 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.
- 5.2 Members may discuss what the speaker has said along with all other information, 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.
- 5.4 If residents feel nervous or uncomfortable speaking in public, then they can ask someone else to do it for them. They can also bring an interpreter if they need one. They should be aware there may be others speaking as well.
- 5.5 Speakers may leave the meeting at any time, taking care not to disturb the meeting.

(Please see attached form.)



## REQUEST FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING 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

Note: This page will not be published.

(P.T.O.)

PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE MATTER YOU WISH TO RAISE

Agenda Item      Number .....

                         Title .....

Details              .....

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Name .....                              Dated .....

*Completed forms to be submitted by 10.00am on the Friday of the week preceding the meeting to:-*

*Member Services, West Lancashire Borough Council, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2DF or  
Email: [member.services@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto: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 published.





**CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
OVERVIEW &  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 14 December  
2023**

**Report of:** Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing and Resources

**Relevant Portfolio Holders:** Councillors Neil Furey

**Contact for further information:** Stephen Bissette (Ext 5290)

**Email:** [stephen.bissette@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.bissette@westlancs.gov.uk)

**SUBJECT: UPDATES FOR THE LITTER CLEARANCE IN WEST LANCS,  
INCLUDING FLY TIPPING AND GROT SPOTS TASK AND FINISH  
GROUP**

Wards affected: All Wards

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1. This report is to provide an update to the Committee on the actions completed for the Litter Clearance in West Lancashire, including Fly Tipping and Grot Spots

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

- 2.1 That the update in this report be noted to show the progression of the project.

## **3.0 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 It was agreed at the Corporate and Environmental Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 that due to the significant progress that has been made with the Litter Clearance in West Lancashire, including Fly Tipping and Grot Spots that the project would continue.

- 3.2 The project involved a detailed action plan to set out the vision and following actions:

1. To roll out Community Skip Days in other parts of the Borough in conjunction with Parish Councils.
2. Eco Schools, to invite the 58 Primary Schools within West Lancashire to enter a competition to design a Poster showing their 'Eco School Ethos. Winning schools

will receive a Character Bin and will receive an educational visit by the Environmental Enforcement Team.

3. Volunteer litter picking:
  - (a) Handbook for Volunteer Litter Picking Groups
  - (b) Gifting Litter Picking Equipment to Volunteer Groups/Individuals, including litter pickers, bags, hazard tape and Hi Vis tabards with logo (Community Litter Picking Volunteer)
4. Environmental Borough Improvements to tackle Grot Spot Locations, four locations were identified by Clean and Green Services to benefit from environmental improvements, to be set as project work:
  - a. Project 1 - East Gillibrands, Skelmersdale
  - b. Project 2 – West Pimbo, Skelmersdale
  - c. Project 3 – Old Boundary Way, Ormskirk
  - d. Project 4 – Elmers Clough, Skelmersdale

#### **4.0 CURRENT POSITION**

4.1 The update for each project is below:

1. **To roll out Community Skip Days in other parts of the Borough in conjunction with Parish Councils.**

No further communications have been received from Parish Council's.

2. **Eco Schools, to invite the 58 Primary Schools within West Lancashire to enter a competition to design a Poster showing their 'Eco School Ethos. Winning schools will receive a Character Bin and will receive an educational visit by the Environmental Enforcement Team.**

There were 56 entries received from 4 primary schools:

- Burscough Village Primary School, Burscough
- Pontville School, Ormskirk
- Hesketh-with-Becconsall All Saints CE School, Hesketh Bank
- St Johns RC Primary School, Burscough

The 6 winning entries for the Eco School competition were chosen by the Portfolio Holder for Street Scene.

Burscough Village Primary School, and St Johns RC Primary School, Burscough were presented with their character 'Monster' bin by the Mayor Cllr Maureen Nixon on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

Pontville School, Ormskirk were presented with their bins on 12<sup>th</sup> October and was attended by Stephen Bissette (Clean and Green Operations Manager), Sharon Cranny (Clean and Green Area Manager), Cllr Neil Furey (Portfolio holder for Street Scene), and Mayoress Maureen Nixon and her consort Mr Laughton Wilkinson. (Appendix 1)

All Saints CE Primary School in Hesketh Bank have made arrangements for their bin presentation to be completed in January 2024

### **3. Volunteer litter picking:**

- (b) Handbook for Volunteer Litter Picking Groups/Individuals**
- (c) Gifting Litter Picking Equipment to Volunteer Groups/Individuals, including litter pickers, bags, hazard tape and Hi Vis tabards with logo (Community Litter Picking Volunteer)**

There has been a slight drop off in requests for litter picking equipment, but this is normal in the Winter months.

### **4. Environmental Borough Improvements to tackle Grot Spot Locations, four locations were identified by Clean and Green Services to benefit from environmental improvements, to be set as project work:**

- a. Project 1 – East Gillibrands, Skelmersdale**
- b. Project 2 – West Pimbo, Skelmersdale**
- c. Project 3 – Old Boundary Way, Ormskirk**
- d. Project 4 – Elmers Clough, Skelmersdale**

5.0 Project 1 – East Gillibrands. Work was completed during the months of April – July

5.1 Project 2 – West Pimbo. Work was completed during September 2023 (Appendix 2)

5.2 Project 3 – Old Boundary Way. Work was completed during October 2023 (Appendix 3)

5.3 Project 4 – Elmers Clough. Work will commence 25<sup>th</sup> November and take approximately 4 weeks.

## **5.0 SUMMARY**

5.1 It is estimated that both outstanding actions will be completed before the end of January 2024 without any issues.

## **6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 This project will have a positive impact on the local areas. The cleansing of 'Grot Spot' locations will improve the access to the industrial areas of Skelmersdale.

## **7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 Budget provision is in place for the delivery of the project.

## **8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT**

8.1 Officers completed and reviewed risk assessments prior to the completion of each project and all required work.

## **9.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLACATIONS**

9.1 Tackling litter clearance, fly tipping and grot spot locations will have a positive impact on community health and wellbeing in West Lancashire. The engagement of primary schools promotes the importance that littering and fly tipping has on the environment and protecting our planet.

### **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**

As part of the consultation, members of the public were asked if they had any concerns about the project and if they had any protected characteristics. No equality issues were raised.

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1  
Appendix 2  
Appendix 3

## Appendix 1 – Pontville School, Ormskirk





## Appendix 2 – West Pimbo, Skelmersdale

### Before



### After

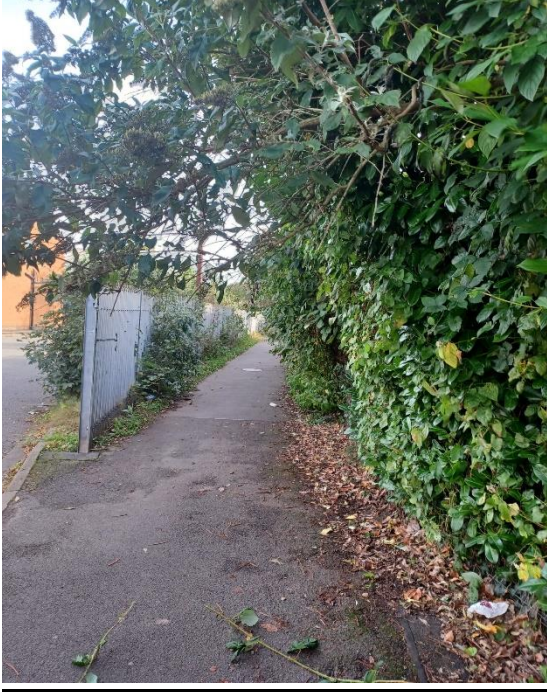






## Appendix 3 – Boundary Way, Ormskirk

### Before



### After







**CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
OVERVIEW &  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 14<sup>th</sup>  
December 2023**

**Report of:** Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing and Resources

**Relevant Portfolio Holders:** Councillor A Yates

**Contact for further information:** Dan Massey (Ext. 5265)

Email: [daniel.massey@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.massey@westlancs.gov.uk)

Gillian Wossick, (Ext. 3424)

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**SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING COMMUNITY ORCHARDS, TASK &  
FINISH GROUP**

Wards affected: Skelmersdale, Burscough and Ormskirk

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To provide an update to committee on the actions completed to plant the orchards at six sites in West Lancashire

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

2.1 That the update be noted.

## **3.0 BACKGROUND**

3.1 In November 2020, West Lancashire Borough Council (the Council) adopted a new 'Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2030' (Strategy) to assist in the delivery of the Council's aspiration to be carbon neutral by 2030 at the latest, to be committed to climate action in other areas and to progress towards a low carbon West Lancashire.

3.2 The Strategy identified seven key priority areas for action, they are:

1. Delivering a carbon neutral Council,
2. Sustainable procurement,
3. Transport and travel,
4. Residential buildings,
5. Commercial activity,
6. Community action and the

## 7. Natural environment.

The Community Orchards Project has directly assisted the council to implement Priority 7: Natural Environment, and action: Protect and Promote Green Infrastructure.

3.3 Councillors were invited to propose locations in the borough for community orchards. 11 sites were visited to assess their suitability, with 6 sites short-listed at:

1. The Community Garden in Elswick, Tanhouse, Skelmersdale.
2. Pocket greenspace in Eskdale, Tanhouse, Skelmersdale.
3. Kiln Lane playing fields in Greenhill, Skelmersdale.
4. Manor Road Estate play park and pocket greenspace, Burscough.
5. Thompson Avenue field, Ormskirk.
6. Pocket greenspace on Brookhouse Road and Cotton Drive, Ormskirk.

3.4 Cabinet approved a consultation be undertaken within the short-listed areas.

### 5.0 CURRENT POSITION

5.1 Council officers conducted a community consultation with the communities surrounding the short-listed sites. The on-line survey went live on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and closed on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Approximately 260 letters and questionnaires were hand delivered to residents directly surrounding the proposed sites on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and postal responses were accepted until Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Posters were displayed in the six areas to promote the consultation to residents from the wider area. The posters included a QR code to the online survey.

4.2 In addition, residents at the Brookhouse Road and Cotton Drive site, completed a longer questionnaire and were asked if they wanted wildflower in addition to fruit trees. To increase the response rate, the Community Connectors Team door knocked and completed the questionnaire with residents.

4.3 The consultation received 164 responses, of these:

- 124 were completed via 'Your Voice... West Lancashire'
- 27 postal responses for all sites but Brookhouse/Cotton, 3 did not give their consent.
- 13 postal responses for Brookhouse/Cotton (8 were received by the Community Connectors), 1 did not give their consent.
- 9 volunteering expressions of interest – 1 did not give their consent.

4.4 Overall, the responses were positive, with:

| Location   | In Favour | Unsure | Not in Favour |
|--|-----------|--------|---------------|
| The Community Garden in Elswick, Tanhouse, Skelmersdale. | 100%      | 0%     | 0%            |
| Pocket greenspace in Eskdale, Tanhouse, Skelmersdale.    | 93%       | 7%     | 0%            |
| Kiln Lane playing fields in Greenhill, Skelmersdale.     | 85%       | 10%    | 5%            |

|  |     |    |     |
|--|-----|----|-----|
| Manor Road Estate play park and pocket greenspace, Burscough.    | 87% | 0% | 13% |
| Thompson Avenue field, Ormskirk.                                 | 88% | 4% | 8%  |
| Pocket greenspace on Brookhouse Road and Cotton Drive, Ormskirk. | 93% | 0% | 7%  |

- 4.5 Following a review of the concerns raised by residents and the ground utility surveys at all sites, changes were made to four of final orchard locations and wildflowers were not planted at Brookhouse Road/Cotton Drive.
- 4.6 The Community Orchards between April and June 2023 at the six sites.
- 4.7 As part of replanting proposals included in the forthcoming Tree Policy, fruit trees will be considered where appropriate.
- 4.8 Relating to the above, a site in Banks has been identified as suitable for 3 fruit trees to be planted, following the removal of three mature, diseased Elms.
- 4.9 The website is now live, however the QR codes are yet to be installed and are currently being printed, with a view to installation early in the new year, when any failed trees will also be replaced.

## **5.0 ISSUES**

- 5.1 Due to the early summer, high temperatures and reported vandalism, some trees will be replaced. These have been identified and will be replaced when the QR codes are installed.
- 5.2 Due to competing work demands, the design and procurement of the QR codes was delayed, however they are now with the printers.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 This project will have a positive impact on the local areas. They will help to mitigate climate change, will improve local air quality, provide a wildlife habitat and will help struggling pollinators.

## **7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 A budget of £6000 for Community Environmental Improvements, including Community Orchards was used to conduct the community consultation, purchase the trees. The remainder of the budget will be used to purchase QR code signs and to replace any damaged or dead trees.
- 7.2 Due to the high cost of the information signage boards, the Task and Finish group agreed to purchase and attach QR code signs to some of the tree stakes at each site. The QR code will link to a new Community Orchards webpage on the Council website.

## **8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT**

8.1 Officers completed and reviewed risk assessments prior to completing the consultation, utility surveys and tree planting.

## **9.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Tackling climate change and enabling a low carbon future has many links to health and well-being. The impacts of climate change include warming temperatures and increases in the frequency or intensity of extreme weather events such as heat waves, cold spells, storms and flooding. Such events can threaten our health (especially for the most vulnerable), the food we eat, the water we drink and the air we breathe.

9.2 Planting fruit trees in these communities will help to improve the health of the residents through the availability of free fresh fruit, providing shade during hot weather and improving green spaces that help to lower stress.

### **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**

As part of the consultation, members of the public were asked if they had any concerns about the project and if they had any protected characteristics. No equality issues were raised.

### **Appendices**

1.