

## Vision

**West Lancashire together; the place of choice to live, work, visit and invest**

### Our Priorities

#### ❖ Create empowered, engaged and inclusive communities

##### **We want:**

- Healthy resilient and engaged communities that work together to improve the places they live and work
- Everyone to have the same opportunities
- Thriving voluntary and community groups that support innovation and collaboration
- To work with partners for the good of local people
- Our citizens to access the benefits of being digitally engaged
- Councillors that are active and knowledgeable and support change at a local level
- To improve customer satisfaction

##### **We will:**

- Build on and develop strengths within local communities
- Engage with communities when making key decisions
- Use community networks to gain views from hard to reach groups
- Create innovative ways to listen to different community views
- Use Councillors' existing reach and influence to provide community feedback to shape decision making
- Work with partners to develop a meaningful offer to support citizens to become digitally included
- Adopt a best practice model of consultation
- Listen and provide feedback to customers about how their views have improved services
- Develop neighbourhood plans with key partnerships committed to meeting the needs of our communities

#### ❖ Support businesses to adapt and prosper

##### **We want:**

- West Lancashire to be the place of choice to locate your business
- Our 3 towns to be thriving hubs for their communities
- To support our businesses to succeed and grow
- A strong rural business economy
- A vibrant and modern Ormskirk market that attracts visitors to the town centre

### **We will:**

- Support the recovery and growth of existing and new businesses
- Lead the regeneration of Skelmersdale Town Centre
- Develop the market offer and reinvigorate Ormskirk's Eastern gateway
- Adopt an inclusive procurement approach which supports local businesses to tender for opportunities
- Promote West Lancashire as a place to invest through the Skelmersdale Place Board & Ambassadors
- Signpost and support businesses to innovate and diversify
- Develop a strong web presence which positively promotes West Lancashire
- Create enlivened town centres offering diverse leisure opportunities and night time economy

### **Become a Greener West Lancashire**

#### **We want:**

- To become a Carbon Neutral Council by 2030
- Local business and citizens to embrace the green agenda
- Council housing stock to meet high standards of efficiency - insulation, design, technology
- To minimise waste disposal and improve recycling services to meet national targets
- To embed green infrastructure into our thinking and planning for West Lancashire's future development and regeneration
- To safeguard the natural landscape and maintain our green environment

#### **We will:**

- Be a role model and lead good practice; develop a Climate Change strategy and action plan
- Ensure all council buildings are operating to highest efficiency standards – insulation, design, and technology
- Encourage local businesses and service providers to set their own targets for becoming carbon neutral and promote their achievements
- Commit to maximising Council energy requirements from renewable sources
- Maximise the use of solar panels on Council owned buildings and housing stock
- Increase the use of environmentally friendly products
- Optimise the development of solar/wind farm investment
- Use the supply chain to maximise energy efficiency, design out waste and reduce our carbon footprint
- Optimise the Council fleet; increase route efficiency and maximise low emissions

- Enhance green spaces promoting diverse leisure uses and explore the option of developing an Eco park
- Support the development of green transport
- Use green credentials to form part of our procurement selection criteria
- Reduce waste and improve recycling, implement a Waste strategy with a focus on sustainable solutions
- Develop a Local Plan policy encouraging green developments – green space, energy efficiency, sustainable supply chains

## ❖ Be a financially sustainable Council by 2023

### **We want:**

- To be confident, capable and financially sustainable
- To continue to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of service provision
- To be able to invest in high priority service areas
- To maximise available government funding and generate income to reinvest in West Lancashire
- To provide value for money services

### **We will:**

- Make sure our internal financial and decision-making processes continue to be strong
- Continue the implementation of the Council's Sustainable Organisation Review
- Maximise the returns from Tawd Valley Development Company to reinvest in West Lancashire.
- Optimise inward investment
- Review fees and charges across all council services
- Continuously develop, find better ways to do things and embrace new technology
- Consider the merits of all service options to ensure value for money is achieved
- Review existing contract savings and work with suppliers to achieve economies of scale
- Maximise commercial investment opportunities through a commercial strategy
- Maximise the value from existing assets and focus on value for money

## ❖ A clean, safe environment with affordable homes to buy or rent for everyone in West Lancashire

### **We want:**

- To provide a cleaner physical environment to enhance the Borough
- West Lancashire to be safe for all citizens
- A Local Plan that supports quality growth and infrastructure in the Borough

- To provide quality and genuinely affordable homes

**We will:**

- Deliver high quality street cleansing services based on demand
- Invest resources within services to achieve an improvement to the local environmental quality
- Develop environment ward reports for members
- Develop homes to rent/buy/for shared ownership through Tawd Valley Development Company
- Increase the supply of homes to bring cheaper private rents/more choice
- Get the right mix of properties for each community
- Continue to drive forward the community safety agenda
- Review WLBC/public estate land holdings
- Lead estate regeneration creating attractive places where people want to live
- Review our Housing Strategy
- Identify strategic regeneration areas and investment plans

❖ **Everyone to be healthy, happy, safe and resilient**

**We want:**

- To help businesses in West Lancashire to thrive, grow and connect
- An engaged and motivated Council workforce
- To design services that help people stay healthy and independent
- To invest in sports and leisure services and facilities
- To protect, invest and continue to develop our green leisure spaces

**We will:**

- Deliver our food poverty strategy and action plan
- Deliver our fuel poverty strategy and action plan
- Deliver our financial inclusion strategy and action plan
- Deliver our people strategy with Council staff that results in a continuously improving culture
- Deliver our health and wellbeing strategy embedding school initiatives
- Work with partners to focus on prevention and reducing health inequalities
- Develop a quality range of health, wellbeing and leisure facilities and services
- Bring in additional money/services to support our most deprived areas

❖ **Everyone to be proud of their Council**