

APPENDIX 5 – FINAL POLICY OPTION PROPOSALS

Ref Code	Policy Option/Initiative	Estimated net ongoing savings generated (£000s) from April			Impact of policy option on service/customers	Comments (including exit costs)
		17	18	19		
OP9	<p>Introduce a charge of £30 per year for the collection of green compostable material.</p> <p>Introduce a charge of £25 per year to have an extra green bin emptied.</p>	500	600	600	<p>Potential reduction in recycling rate and negative public reaction to the introduction of charging for this high profile service.</p> <p>The charge would be £30 per year and based on a take up rate of 35% from the 48,000 residential properties in the Borough would generate income of £500,000. The level of income would however be dependent on the take up rate, which is difficult to predict with certainty.</p>	<p>A comprehensive advertising and promotion campaign explaining the need for the change would take place as part of this proposal.</p> <p>A number of local authorities have already introduced this approach. Concerns that garden material will be diverted to the grey (residual) bin have not been recognised by these authorities. It has been promoted that the most environmentally beneficial and cost effective method of dealing with garden material is in the property's garden via home composting.</p> <p>There would be one off costs of implementing this new approach as well as administrative costs of collecting these charges. A staffing review would need to take place once the new system has been established, which could deliver additional savings in subsequent years.</p>

OP10	Removal of Static Recycling Sites across the Borough	6	6	6	This option would have only a minor impact as the Council provides a recycling service at the doorstep for all residents of West Lancashire. In addition supermarkets, parishes etc can still provide their own static banks if they wish to do so.	These sites used to generate income but they now run at a net loss as a result of the low price of recyclable material. Extra car parking spaces would be freed up.
OP11	<p>Full review of mechanical sweeping and street cleansing prestige work Borough-wide.</p> <p>This option would include two projects; a review of current sweeping routes and frequencies with a target reduction of one sweeper and a driver post. Overtime spend on prestige work would reduce in line with service needs with no staffing reductions.</p>	72	72	72	<p>Targeting resources more effectively should enable this option to be delivered without a significant service impact.</p> <p>These services are provided via dedicated routes that are visited at various intervals throughout the year. While the outline routes and frequencies are based on the Environmental Protection Act 1990, we currently adopt an 'it's not how often an area is visited it's how clean it is' approach.</p>	<p>Identified savings include reduction in vehicle fleet and employee expenses.</p> <p><u>Prestige work element:</u> After a review a more accurate service level could be agreed which would involve reducing the number and/or size of the teams used to carry out this work. This would realise a direct reduction in overtime budgetary requirements. While all sites receive visits both Saturday and Sunday it should not be difficult to, after a reassessment, allocate only one visit or remove altogether.</p>

OP12	Reduce time period for discretionary council tax discounts on empty properties by half (note - only 12% of the council tax is retained by the Borough Council).	15	15	15	Owners of empty homes will pay more in council tax.	<p><u>Unoccupied and unfurnished properties undergoing major structural work</u> currently receive a 50% discount for up to 12 months or 6 months after works are completed, whichever is the shorter.</p> <p><u>Unoccupied and unfurnished properties</u> currently receive a 50% discount for up to 6 months.</p> <p><u>Unoccupied properties that are substantially furnished</u> currently receive a 50% discount for 6 months from the date on which the property became unoccupied.</p>
OP13	Rationalise Public toilets provision and seek to achieve a 50% saving on current costs by considering a variety of initiatives including a “fewer but better” approach, commercial opportunities, asset transfers to parish councils and charging.	0	25	25	Lack of facilities to customers could impact on perception of Town Centres. Potential impact upon disabled and other groups. Issue of market traders and bus station customers would need to be addressed in the light of the Moor Street Gateway Project.	<p>Further work is required before this proposal could be implemented and to allow for this savings have only been taken into account from 2018.</p> <p>There could be potential one off costs to demolish / make safe facilities if some are closed.</p>
OP14	Reduction in CCTV ‘live’ monitoring of 35 hours per week in off peak times	20	20	20	Reduction in effectiveness in tackling crime whilst actually occurring. Reduced deterrent value and value as a tool for community reassurance.	This service is provided by a contractor and would involve a reduction in monitoring staff of 1.0 FTE.

OP16	Reduction of CCTV camera coverage through removal of 10 mainly broadband cameras.	7	14	14	No or reduced ability by this Authority to tackle crimes through CCTV coverage in specific areas, therefore significant reduction in deterrent value or as a community reassurance tool. Reduced ability to combat crime or fear of crime.	Savings on broadband and maintenance. However, one-off cost of between £16K and £27.5K, dependent upon whether the cameras are just removed (with site left safe & secure), or full removal of camera and pole & electrical isolation.
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