

The effectiveness of Scrutiny on the decisions taken by Cabinet in 2022/23

ITEM	SCRUTINY MEETING	CABINET MEETING	DECISION OF SCRUTINY	DECISION OF CABINET
Council Tax and NNDR Discretionary Funding Schemes	Executive O&S Cttee – May 2022	June 2022	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>A. That the Committee considered and noted the content of the Policy to underpin implementation of the Borough Council's proposed Local Council Tax Discretionary Energy Support Scheme as appended to the report.</p> <p>B. That the Committee note the Policy coverage to underpin the recently announced Government funded Schemes to support local Council Tax and Business Rate payers in meeting increased energy bills and the financial impact of Covid 19, as appended to the report, and that the following agreed comments of Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee be passed to Cabinet for their consideration:</p> <p>1. That Paragraph 10.1 of the Discretionary Council Tax Rebate Scheme Policy Document to read as follows: "The Council will not accept deliberate manipulation of this policy or fraud. Any person caught falsifying information to gain a discretion payment, the Council will look to prosecute under the Fraud Act 2006 and any amount awarded will be recovered from them.</p> <p>2. That Paragraph 11.1 of the 'CARF' Scheme to read as follows: "Where a ratepayer falsely applies for any relief, or where the ratepayer provides false information, makes false representation, or deliberately withholds information in order to gain relief, the Council will look to</p>	<p>A. That the content of the report and the agreed comments of the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee, be noted.</p> <p>B. That the following policies, as appended to the report be approved.</p> <p>1. WLBC Council Tax Discretionary Energy Support Scheme – Policy Document</p> <p>2. Government Council Tax Energy Rebate Scheme CT Bands A-D - Policy Document</p> <p>3. Government Council Tax Energy Rebate Discretionary Scheme - Policy Document</p> <p>4. Government NNDR CARF Scheme - Policy Document</p> <p>C. That it be noted that the Local Council Tax Discretionary Energy Support Scheme will be effective from 1st September 2022.</p> <p>D. That the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing and Resources be given delegated authority to make any minor/inconsequential amendments to the Policies.</p>

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			prosecute under the Fraud Act 2006" and any amount awarded will be recovered from them.	
Motorfest	Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – May 2022	June 2022	<p>That the Committee considered and noted the Motorfest report and that the following agreed comment be forwarded to Cabinet for their consideration:</p> <p>That recommendation 3.3 of the report, as contained on page 137 of the Book of Reports be amended, to remove the word 'nil' and to replace with the word 'reducing'.</p>	<p>A. That the agreed comments of the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted.</p> <p>B. That, based upon the projected costs provided by Aintree Circuit Club, the council contribute £7,610.00 to the running of the Motorfest event in 2022, subject to receipts being provided to evidence the expenditure.</p> <p>C. That Aintree Circuit Club match fund the contribution of £7,610 by using their own funds or by attracting income through other means and that in subsequent years, from 2023, they attract corporate/local sponsorship to fund the event in total in order to ensure nil cost to the authority.</p> <p>D. That going forward the Council supports Aintree Circuit Club to find a sustainable way to fund future Motorfest events from 2023 that does not draw on council funding.</p>
RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK & KEY RISK REPORT	Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Sept 2022	Sept 2022	<p>That the following agreed comment of Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee be considered by Cabinet:</p> <p>That the risk owner look again at the risk 'Delays In Preparation of new Local Plan' to change the rating higher than 'cautious'.</p>	That the progress made in relation to the management of the risks shown in the Key Risk Register (Appendix A) be endorsed.
22/23 Quarter 2 HRA Revenue and Capital Monitoring	Executive O&S Cttee – Nov 2022		A. That, the report be noted, and the following comment be submitted to the Housing Portfolio Holder, in advance of the Council meeting on 14 December 2022.	<p>A. That the 2022/23 HRA and Housing capital programme positions be noted.</p> <p>B. That the proposed budget adjustments identified in paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4 of the report be approved, namely to move £50k</p>

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			1. That the Carbon Neutral Dwellings Scheme be reviewed, with funding possibly reallocated to measures on existing stock that contribute towards overall carbon neutrality within the council.	budget from central administration to electrical testing; and £30k from contributions to bad debt provision to central heating servicing. C. That the significant budget pressures be noted.
Draft Housing Allocations Policy	Executive O&S Cttee – Jan 2023		That the Committee agreed comment to request that a rural local connection area be added to the Allocations Policy for all rural villages not already listed in the policy.	The Portfolio Holder advise that the agreed comment from Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee had recommended that all rural villages be added to the existing local connection areas detailed in Appendix 1 of the Policy. This proposal was put forward after a discussion around Lathom and the new build properties being developed. She further advised that Draft Policy already allowed these areas to be adjusted as there is a delegation to the Head of Service, and Lathom would now be considered.
MEMBERS ITEMS / CCfA (COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION) Allocation of Clean & Green services and the cleaning schedules across the Borough	Corporate & Environmental O&S – Sept 2022		That a report be brought back to Members at the December meeting, to provide more detailed figures for consideration.	
Review of Public Conveniences Topic	Corporate & Environmental O&S – Sept 2022		That a further report be submitted to the Committee and Cabinet, which will provide a full appraisal of the four options contained in paragraphs 9,10,11 and 12 of the report and will seek views from members on their preferred option. (The report is on the work programme for 2023/24)	

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Update of Actions taken on topics not selected for a full review	Corporate & Environmental O&S – Sept 2022		That the actions taken in relation to each topic be noted. ACTIONS: Detailed in the attached Appendix 2.	
ACTION ON CLIMATE EMERGENCY /CREATE/DESIGNATE HEDGEHOG AND WILDLIFE AREAS IN PUBLIC PARKS/GARDENS ACROSS THE BOROUGH	Corporate & Environmental O&S – Sept 2022		1. That the progress on the actions and recommendations of the Committee be noted. 2. That all remaining actions be amalgamated into the Climate Change Strategy Action Plan Strategy & Action Plan and reported to Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet	

Items considered by Scrutiny Committees, which were supported and referred to Cabinet without any agreed comments:

1. Council Tax and NNDR Discretionary Funding Schemes (May 2022)
2. One-year trial for Free Parking in Ormskirk after 1pm on Mondays and Tuesdays in 2022/23 (May 2022)
3. Risk Management Framework & Key Risk Report (Sept 2022)
4. Customer Contact Centre Call Handling – WL108 Performance Indicator (Sept 2022)
5. Corporate Peer Challenge (Sept 2022)
6. CIL Funding Programme for 2023/24 (Sept 2022)
7. Planning Service Review – Update (Sept 2022)
8. Development Options for Land at New Court Way, Ormskirk (Sept 2022)
9. Results of Citizen Survey 2022 (Nov 2022)
10. HRA Repairs Contractor Update (Nov 2022)
11. Risk Management Framework Update & Key Risk Register (Feb 2023)
12. Housing Regulator Consumer Standards – Key themes and approach (Feb 2023)
13. Update on Actions – Damp and Mould Management in Council Housing (Feb 2023)
14. Delegated Authority – Spending Under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (Feb 2023)
15. Corporate Performance Reporting 2023/24
16. Update on Peer Review (Feb 2023)