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3 September 2024
Scrutiny Commission

Democratic Services
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To Members of the Scrutiny Commission

Cllr. Nick Brown (Chairman - Scrutiny Commissioner)
Cllr. Neil Wright (Vice-Chairman - Scrutiny Commissioner)

Cllr. Royston Bayliss
Cllr. Adrian Clifford
Cllr. Luke Cousin

Cllr. Roy Denney
Cllr. Susan Findlay
Cllr. Janet Forey

Cllr. Antony Moseley
Cllr. Tracey Shepherd
Cllr. Matt Tomeo

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **SCRUTINY COMMISSION** will be held in the Council Chamber on **WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2024** at **5.30 p.m.** for the transaction of the following business and your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully



Louisa Horton
Monitoring Officer



AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Disclosures of Interests from Members
To receive disclosures of interests from Members (ie. The existence and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this agenda).
3. Minutes (Pages 3 - 8)
To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2024 (enclosed).
4. State of the Blaby District (Pages 9 - 24)
To consider the annual report of the Leader of the Council, Cllr. Terry Richardson to the Scrutiny Commission.
5. Corporate Parenting Responsibilities
Members will receive a presentation from the Environmental Health, Housing & Community Services Group Manager.
6. Homelessness & Social Housing Presentation
Members will receive a presentation from the Environmental Health, Housing & Community Services Group Manager and the Housing Services Manager.
7. Scrutiny Work Programme (Pages 25 - 32)
8. Consideration of Forward Plan Items (Pages 33 - 40)
9. Further Actions for Scrutiny arising from Meeting

SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

WEDNESDAY, 17 JULY 2024

Present:-

Cllr. Nick Brown (Chairman - Scrutiny Commissioner)
Cllr. Neil Wright (Vice-Chairman - Scrutiny Commissioner)

Cllr. Janet Forey

Cllr. Antony Moseley

Cllr. Tracey Shepherd

Officers present:-

Julie Hutchinson	- Communications, Consultation and Digital Services Manager
Karen Almond	- Communications and Consultation Officer
Sandeep Tiensa	- Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
Isaac Thomas	- Democracy Support Officer

Apologies:-

Cllr. Royston Bayliss, Cllr. Adrian Clifford, Cllr. Luke Cousin, Cllr. Roy Denney,
Cllr. Susan Findlay and Cllr. Matt Tomeo

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS

No disclosures were received.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2024, as circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

3. UPDATE/RESULTS OF RESIDENTS SURVEY

Considered – Presentation from the Communications, Consultation and Digital Services Manager (CCDSM) and the Communications and Consultation Officer (CCO).

The CCDSM and the CCO provided an update on the results of the Residents' Survey which was carried out earlier in 2024.

The CCDSM explained that the Resident's Survey is carried out once every two years and provides a valuable insight into how the Council and its services are perceived by the community. The CCDSM explained that 1000 survey responses were needed for the results to be deemed 'statistically significant.' As 1680 surveys were returned, the CCDSM explained that the team were 99% confident that the results were representative of the District's population as a whole.

Members were invited to ask questions throughout the presentation.

- 1) The Chair, Cllr. Nick Brown queried whether there may be an element of bias in the results as participants were self-selected (voluntarily chose to participate) and therefore the results would invariably represent the opinions of residents who are more engaged with the Council? The CCDSM explained that social media has expanded the Council's reach and audience, giving a better view of opinions than in previous years as residents who are unhappy with services are now given more opportunity to respond. However, the CCDSM acknowledged that it ultimately comes down to resident's willingness to respond.
- 2) The Vice-Chair, Cllr. Neil Wright asked whether there were the same number of questions as the 2022 survey? The CCDSM explained that only minor amendments were made to the questions from the 2022 survey as this allows officers to benchmark the data, enabling them to examine which areas have improved and which areas need improving. The CCDSM added that there would be a full review of the questions next year to ensure that they are fit for purpose.
- 3) Cllr. Nick Brown requested a breakdown of the response rate by village showing the percentage of respondents in relation to their village's population size. The CCO agreed to circulate this information after the meeting.
- 4) Members discussed the reasons why young people are less likely to respond to the survey than older generations and discussed methods of overcoming the challenges around engaging younger generations, particularly the younger renting sector. Cllr. Tracey Shepherd highlighted the benefits of using social media to engage with the younger demographic. The CCDSM explained that the team would be doing more to engage with the Youth Council and Higher Education establishments leading up to the next Residents Survey.
- 5) The CCO presented a word cloud showing resident's comments on services. Cllr. Nick Brown queried whether the presence of Glenfield

and Enderby on the word cloud was related to issues with developments in those areas? The CCO explained that none of these responses specified developmental issues.

- 6) While general satisfaction levels were high (in line with LGA survey data), the CCO informed Members that only 57% of respondents agreed that different ethnicities get along in their area. The CCO added that respondents in Thorpe Astley were particularly dissatisfied in relation to this question and also scored lower in the question, 'How strongly do you feel you belong?'. Members discussed the possible reasons for these divisions, such as international conflicts, and discussed the high number of rental properties and transient population in Thorpe Astley, as a possible reason that why these residents feel less pride in their local area.
- 7) Members discussed the possible reasons for Lubbesthorpe's low satisfaction rates in all aspects of the data and queried whether this related to the lack of community facilities in place. Cllr. Nick Brown highlighted the importance of learning lessons from Lubbesthorpe residents as their concerns can help to shape future developments elsewhere.
- 8) Cllr. Nick Brown added that Ward Councillors in Lubbesthorpe would be interested in this data and requested that this information be circulated to them. The Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer (SDSSO) asked whether there were any other areas of concern that needed to be relayed to Ward Councillors. The CCO responded that there were not.
- 9) Cllr. Janet Forey requested that Scrutiny be given early sight of the questions for the next survey in 2026.

4. **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2023/24**

Considered – report of the Accountancy Services Manager.

Members considered the report and commented that the detail was excellent. Members requested that the following queries be sent to the Finance Officers:

1. Pay award not yet agreed – what will be the impact on the budget/establishment if agreed?
2. Please clarify what the Levy Account Surplus Grant is at Appendix A.
3. Is there 2 budgets for homelessness (one is showing an underspend and an overspend on the other).
4. Ref. 4.3 of the report, Council tax. Please explain the deficit? How is it filled? What impact does it have on financial planning?
5. Why is there so much underspend? What impact does this have on service planning?
6. Housing benefit recovery – how much is likely to be recovered? How are overpayments made? How often?

It was agreed that the response to the above questions be considered at the next Scrutiny Commissioners meeting.

DECISION

That the financial performance for 2023/24 be accepted.

Reason:

It is appropriate that Scrutiny regularly considers financial performance updates.

5. **SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

Considered – report of the Scrutiny Commissioners.

The Chairman presented the 2024/25 Scrutiny Work Programme, which had been put together following a Scrutiny Work Programme Workshop in late May, where all non-executive Members had been invited to take part. The draft programme has also been circulated to the Senior Leadership Team, to assign their teams suitable dates for work items.

The Chairman reflected on low attendance at recent scrutiny task and finish meetings and urged Members to attend to ensure that vital scrutiny work is undertaken. The Chairman requested that invitations be sent to all non-executive Members of all planned scrutiny meetings being held in the autumn months.

DECISION

1. That the 2024/25 Scrutiny Work Programme be approved.
2. That details of the work programme are communicated with all Councillors and Senior Officers.

Reason:

As set out in the Council's Constitution, Part 4, Section 5, paragraph 7 it is a responsibility of the Scrutiny Commission to agree its work programme for the next municipal year.

6. **CONSIDERATION OF FORWARD PLAN ITEMS**

No items were raised for further information or examination.

7. **FURTHER ACTIONS FOR SCRUTINY ARISING FROM MEETING**

1. Circulate questions arising from the Financial Performance report to officers for a response.
2. Circulate the Scrutiny Work Programme to all Members and Senior Officers.
3. Invitations to scrutiny meetings being held in the autumn to be sent to all non-executive Members.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.35 P.M.

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A great place to live, work and visit



Leader's Statement to Annual Council May 2024



Terry Richardson
Leader, Blaby District Council

This past year has been filled with both opportunities and challenges for Blaby District. We've adopted our new Blaby District Plan, which will guide our course and vision for the next four years, while reflecting on our achievements over the previous four years. If you haven't had a chance to review it yet, I encourage you to do so. Some notable highlights include our strides in achieving Net Zero, the development of new walking and cycling routes, and the successful delivery of community grants.

Looking ahead, our focus remains on ensuring that Blaby District is a vibrant and welcoming place to live, work, and visit. Already this year, we've made significant progress by providing accommodation for our most vulnerable residents through the purchase of 15 new properties to support the homeless. Additionally, we've published our new Economic Development Strategy and enhanced facilities at our leisure centres, including expanded parking and a new soft play area at Enderby Leisure Centre.

This annual statement underscores our ongoing commitment to addressing climate change, supporting our communities, and driving economic development while ensuring sustainable services for our customers. Through a strategic approach to commerciality and financial sustainability, we strive to meet the evolving needs of our communities. This year, we've developed a Transformation Strategy to future-proof our services amidst ongoing financial challenges.

Despite challenges, we've continued to excel in leading partnerships on behalf of other Leicestershire authorities, prioritising efficient and customer-focused service delivery. Our Lightbulb and Housing Enablement Teams have played crucial roles in supporting residents across Leicester and Leicestershire to live independently and assisting those transitioning home after hospital stays. Additionally, the Leicestershire Building Control Partnership continues to offer services beyond our district boundary to the following district and borough councils of Hinckley and Bosworth, Harborough, Melton, Oadby and Wigston, and Rutland County Council.

Over the past year, we've welcomed new councillors following the May 2023 elections and witnessed some stepping away, all united in our commitment to advancing Blaby District. We've also restructured our Senior Leadership Team to ensure effective delivery of our plans going forward. While proud of our achievements, we recognise there is much work ahead, especially as we begin

to implement our new four-year corporate plan. As always, we approach these challenges with determination and ambition, embodying the 'Blaby Way' by placing our customers at the heart of all we do.

I extend my thanks to all officers and members who have contributed to the accomplishments highlighted in this statement and who continue to work tirelessly to enhance Blaby District's quality of life. I eagerly await the challenges and opportunities of the coming year and remain committed to delivering the best for our residents.



Councillor Terry Richardson
Leader of the Council



ENABLING OUR COMMUNITIES AND SUPPORTING OUR VULNERABLE RESIDENTS

◆ Improving walking and cycling routes

Improving local walking and cycling routes is a top priority for us. We're pleased to report progress on a £1.2 million project connecting our communities, including New Lubbesthorpe and Braunstone Town, to Meridian Leisure Park and Leicester City.

We're working with Leicester City Council to establish safe pathways for pedestrians and cyclists to reach these destinations. The new Meridian Access Point, opened in June last year, allows residents of Braunstone Town to easily access Meridian Leisure Park on foot or bike between the cinema and Chiquito restaurant. This route has become quite popular since its opening.



◆ Helping residents during the cost-of-living crisis

Many residents are facing financial hardship due to rising expenses in energy, food, and transportation. To assist the most vulnerable, we implemented support strategies, including:

- Continued operation of Wellbeing Hubs in partnership with Beacon Care at Whetstone, Sapcote, and Braunstone to provide practical community mental health support.
- Conducted outreach events using the All is Well van, offering health checks, advice, and resources.
- Introduced a Community Fridge at St Crispin's Church in Braunstone Town, providing free surplus food to those in need, donated by stores and individuals.

◆ Discount schemes on green initiatives

We're proud to offer residents several green initiative discount schemes that not only save money but also take advantage of the latest green technology, promoting sustainability:

- We support the Big Community Switch energy auction through iChoosr, enabling residents to secure competitive, green energy tariffs from trusted suppliers. The more participants, the better the deals available, and with a focus on 100% renewable energy it helps towards our goal of being carbon neutral by 2050.
- Through the Solar Together scheme, residents can access cost-effective solar panel installations from vetted suppliers, leveraging group buying power with iChoosr.
- Additionally, we're involved in a government-funded program to assist energy-poor households, providing Home Upgrade Grants to improve inefficient heating systems and reduce carbon emissions. Upgrades range from insulation and heat pumps to smart heating controls and LED lighting, contributing to a greener community.

◆ Storm Henk response

At the start of 2024, Storm Henk had devastating effects on parts of our District.

Over 150 homes experienced external or internal flooding, forcing some residents to evacuate and cope with extensive property damage and loss of belongings.

This was the worst flooding incident on record in the District, with the highest ever recorded river levels and widespread trauma for the affected families. Despite the challenges our Council responded admirably:

Customer service staff were exceptional in obtaining information to allow both Councillors and officers to go out across the District, checking on families, offering practical help and providing signposting advice.

We assisted affected households by removing bulky items, collecting extra waste and deploying street sweepers to clear debris and mud. Collaborative efforts with other local authorities and agencies ensured a co-ordinated response, including assistance with government financial support applications for residents.



◆ Kirby Muxloe gas outage

In February 2024, a burst water main led to hundreds of residents in Kirby Muxloe losing their gas supply after water leaked into the Cadent gas mains pipe in the neighbouring village of Ratby.

Again, our teams worked with other local authorities and agencies as Cadent worked to expel the water from the pipes and restore gas supplies.

Staff dedicated their evenings and weekends to door knocking and providing an information point and local command centre at Kirby Muxloe Village Hall.

The reaction to these incidents was once more an illustration of how we pull together as a Council and a shining example of the 'Blaby way.'



◆ Community Awards

I had the honour of hosting our annual Community Awards in January, celebrating unsung heroes who make a difference in our communities:

Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Suzann Miller, Sharon Denston and Kim Frain for their exceptional support of Ukrainian refugees locally.

Alleah Benson was the Young Volunteer of the Year, chosen thanks to dedicated and longstanding support of Stoney Stanton Youth Club and the village carnival, since childhood, and balancing this commitment alongside her job.



Sapcote Memory Hub won Community Group of the Year, receiving 599 out of nearly 2000 votes. They support those affected by dementia and their families.

John Harrison received a special recognition award for his outstanding volunteer efforts at Narborough train station, bringing in significant funding and improvements post-retirement from the railways.

◆ **New supported affordable housing**

Together with Homes England we have partially grant funded a new development of 11 one-bed apartments, providing specialist supported housing for adults with complex needs including mental health and substance misuse.

The site at The Villers in Whetstone is part of a 78 unit all affordable housing development and is being delivered by EMH Homes.

The supported provision is the first affordable supported housing scheme to be brought forward in the District for some time and has been five years in the making with our Strategic Housing Team closely involved to progress the scheme and bring it to fruition – a great achievement.



◆ **Blaby village centre toilets open**

Our long-awaited ambition to bring modern, fully accessible toilet facilities back to Blaby village was finally achieved in September.

The new block replaces the old brick building on Johns Court car park and features a Changing Places unit which has specialised equipment to cater for severely disabled children or adults who need assistance in their personal care as well as a standard accessible toilet.

The block has an environmentally friendly natural sedum plant roof and thanks to its smaller footprint two extra disabled parking spaces have been created immediately adjacent.

We worked hard to bring this project to fruition for the benefit of residents and visitors.

◆ **Investment in housing to provide new homes for homeless households**

The Council has continued to progress the acquisition of 16 new properties which will be used to house homeless households. This will reduce the reliance on B&B accommodation, which is considered unsuitable, particularly for families.

So far 15 of the new units have been acquired and these are currently being fitted out with fixtures and furnishings. The properties will be ready for the first occupants by the beginning of June. It is hoped that the final property will be purchased soon with the intention that it will be used for a refugee family from the Afghan Resettlement Scheme.

The project is funded by a £1.38m grant from the Department of Levelling Up, Homes and Communities and £2.5m of investment from the Council.



ENHANCING AND MAINTAINING OUR NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

◆ New Lubbethorpe milestones

Our award-winning community at New Lubbethorpe continues to develop:

- Phase 2 is well underway, adding 163 more homes and beginning construction on a local centre with retail units, a café and bistro, a GP surgery and a care home.
- Provision for wildlife including bird and bat boxes and hedgehog highways will be included in the expansion.
- Over 1,000 homes are now occupied – almost a quarter of the expected total number of houses on the site, with the first houses fitted with solar panels.



◆ Hinckley National Freight Interchange examination

Last year was incredibly challenging for us as a Council, particularly our planning team as we dealt with the examination of the Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange scheme by the Planning Inspectorate.

We've openly opposed this 662-acre warehouse and rail hub development, citing concerns about its impact on the countryside and increased traffic congestion affecting our communities district wide.

As a statutory consultee we've submitted official documents, attended and spoken at hearings and have made our final comments to the Planning Inspectorate. They will review all information and evidence before making a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport who will ultimately decide if the scheme will go ahead. We expect the decision in the autumn.



◆ Improvements to facilities at Enderby Leisure Centre

In partnership with Everyone Active, we have made significant improvements to our facilities at Enderby Leisure Centre.

We invested £188,000 to expand the car park by 50 spaces, totalling 279 overall. Everyone Active invested £300,000 on the installation of a new soft play area in the sports hall featuring slides, crawl tubes and a sports arena.

Opened in December the soft play, which is in the main sports hall, has proved a huge hit with families.



◆ **Revised Fosse Villages Neighbourhood Plan adopted**

In January, we formally adopted a revised Fosse Villages Neighbourhood Plan following consultation and independent examination. The revised plan includes protected open areas. These had been deleted during the original review, primarily because the independent examiner felt there was a lack of supporting evidence.

It's pleasing to see communities work together to forge a vision for the future of their locality and provide the extra evidence needed to ensure green spaces are protected.

Following national planning guidelines and working with communities means we can continue to enhance and maintain both our natural and built environment.

GROWING AND SUPPORTING OUR ECONOMY

◆ Economic Development Framework

Towards the end of last year we launched our Economic Development Framework, setting out a vision for the District to thrive by supporting and promoting business growth and development.

The Framework has five priority themes, supporting local business and innovation, shaping our work and skills agenda, growing and supporting the green economy, building pride in place and identifying investable propositions.

Our regular Business Breakfast meetings and Job Fairs already offer valued support and new initiatives include exploring boosting the District's tourism offering, increasing visitor numbers and accommodation options and signposting to expert advisers including the Leicestershire Business Advice Service, provided through consultants Exemplas.

◆ Fosse Foxes competition

Our Fosse Foxes Tourism Trail has proved a big hit since launching in 2021, showcasing the wonderful attractions we have here in our District. The hand painted Fosse Foxes sculptures were designed by local artists Pickle Illustration alongside our tourism partnership. Each fox is located at a place of interest and bears a symbol relating to that location.

Last summer our team at Visit Blaby District ran a competition around the Fosse Foxes once more and the tourism hotspots they highlight. Visitors were encouraged to take a selfie with their favourite fox and post it on social media with the tags @visitblaby and #fossefoxes. In return they were entered into a draw to win a unique, handcrafted toy Fosse Fox, from the talented crafters at Gather, Create, Grow, the people behind Cosby Yarn Bomb.

This was a real example of how we can work together with our own communities to promote Blaby as a great place to visit, supporting and boosting our economy.

◆ Summer tourism success

There are some fantastic events, festivals and celebrations which take place in our District and last year we were able to shout out about both an increase in visitor numbers and visitor spend. A huge bounce back from the obvious dip during Covid and a great boost to our economy.

Among the highlights were GlastonBlaby, a brilliant fundraising day of music and entertainment, The Victory Show which attracted 15,000 visitors from across the UK and the world to see history brought to life with WWII vehicles, battle re-enactments and a 1940s themed dinner dance and of course Cosby Yarn Bomb which pulled in an amazing 20,000 visitors over its three weeks of handcrafted creative art installation displays.

Our own Ice House tours were also successful with dozens of people visiting the historic landmark in Bouskell Park and extra dates added due to demand. The tours, their promotion and the safeguarding of the Ice House thanks to the restoration project also earned us a place as a finalist in the Leicestershire and Rutland Heritage Awards for the Protecting Heritage category.



Bluebell Park in Glen Parva played host to our summer family friendly community fair which saw more than 20 local businesses involved as well as our Health and Leisure Team.

We aimed to offer fun activities, music and games along with advice and information on our own services and support initiatives in Glen Parva. A great time was had by all and congratulations went to everyone involved in making it such a success.

◆ **PM visits District**

In September our Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak visited the headquarters of Topps Tiles at Grove Park, Enderby, as part of his regular PM Connect events.

Thanks to an invite from the offices of our local MP, Aberto Costa, representatives from the Council, including Chief Executive Julia Smith, Chairman Cheryl Cashmore and her consort and Councillors, Ben Taylor, Nigel Grundy and Susan Findlay were among those who attended.

When asked a question of local government by Julia Smith, the PM said he recognised the value of District Councils such as Blaby and the positive impact they have on communities. It was an honour to have the Prime Minister in our District and be able to hear his feedback on questions from both our Council leaders and local people.

◆ **Taste the Place launch**

In collaboration with Visit Leicester in January we launched Taste the Place, a campaign aimed at promoting the best local independent producers, restaurants, cafes, delis, farms shops, pubs and more to showcase the breadth and diversity of both the District's and the region's food and drink offer.

We now have a Blaby District 'Taste Adventure Map' highlighting a selection of our award-winning and unique food and drink businesses plus a fun video and a new dedicated section on the Visit Blaby District website.

The initiative not only seeks to entice more people, whether local or from afar, to try out what our food and drink businesses have to offer but also to provide a networking platform for the businesses themselves.



AMBITIOUS AND WELL MANAGED COUNCIL, VALUING OUR PEOPLE

◆ Blaby Planning Team wins award

In June our amazing team in planning took the honour of East Midlands Local Planning Authority of the Year in the Royal Town Planning Institute Awards for Planning Excellence 2023.

In taking the award the judges were impressed by the team's work in the four areas of service – planning policy, planning enforcement, development management and strategic growth.

It was well deserved recognition of the dedication our team shows, often in challenging and intense circumstances.

◆ Kings Fund identifies BDC as Best Practice

A report from the Kings Fund in July which focused on driving better outcomes with integrated care systems identified our Lightbulb and Housing Enablement Team (HET) as best practice.

The report focused on the valuable role District Councils play in health, being able to influence the wider determinants of health, act and react quickly and utilise their close connections with local communities.

In its recommendations the report centred on creating opportunities for District Councils to lead with systems-based approaches and place-based projects – hence the use of Lightbulb and HET as an example which works in exactly that way.

I was at the launch of the report and it was great to see Blaby DC recognised for leading the way in this arena.

◆ Work experience candidates welcomed

During the summer we were pleased to welcome a number of work experience candidates who visited different departments to get an idea of how the council and its officers work.

Teams were enthusiastic in sharing knowledge and experience. One of the young people had a particular interest in business growth so the Community, Business, Work and Skills Team made sure they spent time with them explaining about the types of support available to local businesses.

The candidate attended one of our regular Business Breakfasts and was able to network with District business leaders and chat to Councillor Les Phillimore, learning about the Federation of Small Businesses and his personal knowledge of the sector.

◆ Carbon footprint continues to improve

As a Council we are committed to reducing our carbon emissions and using hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) has been instrumental in achieving an impressive 80% reduction in emissions compared to our baseline year.

In the next few months, we'll report our latest statistics, using carbon emissions accounting tools, expecting further reductions due to our fleet's full year of HVO usage.

Our mission is to be net zero by 2030 and while HVO has been a highly successful move we strive to do more. In the longer term we are hoping to embark on an ambitious project to install electric charging infrastructure at our depot as we look to transition our fleet.



◆ Member Development Strategy

Ensuring our Councillors can respond to the ever-evolving challenges facing our District has inspired us to create a fresh Member Development Strategy for the next four years.

This sets out a vision for continuous learning, ensuring our Councillors have the knowledge and skills required to lead our communities.

We want to strengthen the skills and competencies needed by elected Members in the modern world, including effective communications, community leadership and digital competencies.

◆ New Corporate Plan

A major piece of work for us this past financial year has been to produce our new Corporate Plan, which we proudly call our Blaby District Plan 2024-28. This document charts a course for enhancing Blaby District, and it goes beyond being solely a Council initiative. It represents an inclusive journey which involves our residents, businesses, the voluntary sector, communities and partner organisations.

In the coming years it is inevitable Blaby District will undergo significant change. Our population will grow, commuting patterns will shift and businesses will evolve. This Plan lays the foundation for us to shape a prosperous and sustainable future, preserving the character of Blaby District and maximising opportunities for everyone.



◆ Youth Council campaign brings top level recognition and TV interest

We promote interest in politics and local government among young people through our Youth Council.

At last year's Youth Council conference attendees wrote letters to local MP, Alberto Costa, highlighting their concerns about vaping and how vapes were being targeted at young children.

Mr Costa wrote back, saying the Government had listened to the points outlined in their letters and would be closing a loophole that allows shops to offer free vape samples to children. He said there would also be tougher fines for shops illegally selling vapes to children and that the dangers of vaping would be included in the school curriculum.

This success sparked the interest of the BBC, leading to media coverage that included Youth Council members Nathan and Reuben on the issue of vaping, along with our Youth Council Champion Councillor Adrian Clifford.



◆ UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) provided £2.6 billion in funding to be invested by March 2025 to address inequalities and enhance opportunities nationwide. Blaby District Council received over £2.1 million in late 2022 from this fund.

Over the past two years, several projects have been funded, including:

- Installation of CCTV in Blaby Town Centre and at Narborough Railway Station, leading to reduced crime and antisocial behaviour.
- Participation in the Queens Green Canopy initiative, which distributed 2,100 trees to the local community to advance Net Zero commitments.
- Creation of new job roles to address domestic abuse, homelessness, business growth, and community activities.
- Implementation of mental health support in schools, offering personalised support for students dealing with anxiety and other issues.

◆ New Transformation Strategy

Approved by Cabinet Executive in November 2023 Transforming Blaby Together is our over-arching response to the challenges that we face as a council. The world is changing around us, and we need to adapt. The Strategy is designed to enable the authority to adopt a culture of continuous improvement, grasping opportunities and different ways of working to drive operational effectiveness and efficiencies. There are four key themes at the core of strategy delivery, Customers At Our Heart, Prioritise Digital, Challenge The Way We Work and Financial Resilience. Each key theme is influencing a range of projects and service deliverables across the council which will support delivery of the broader Blaby District Plan.

◆ Progress with our performance framework

We've made significant progress with our performance framework. A structure has been established for managing and sharing projects, measures, and risks across the Council based on priorities.

In the fourth quarter of 2022/2023, we invested in and developed an online platform to enhance visibility and management of these elements. This investment has positively impacted awareness, business planning, and decision-making processes.

Moving forward, our focus remains on refining the framework to more closely align operational activities with the corporate aims and objectives outlined in the Blaby District Plan. This ongoing development aims to establish clear connections between day-to-day activities and our overarching strategic goals.

KEEPING YOU SAFE AND HEALTHY

◆ Raising awareness of 'clean air'

On National Clean Air Day (15 June) our Environmental Services Team visited local primary schools, Greystoke, Sharnford Primary and The Pastures to raise awareness about pollution and clean air.

The team encouraged Active Travel walk-to-school group walks during each visit and provided fun resources such as a word search and design a superhero challenge.

The aim was to inspire the younger generation to play a part in reducing pollution levels by making greener lifestyle and travel choices.

As a Council we are committed to cutting pollution in our District. Clean air benefits our physical health and the environment but also because it can help protect our mental and brain health. The physical impacts of pollution on health – such as asthma, heart disease and cancers – have been recognised for decades.



◆ Council acts on improving air quality

Last year we were able to seek removal of three Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) in the District, Narborough Road South, the B4114 in Enderby and Narborough and Enderby Road in Whetstone. These areas, previously declared AQMA's due to high nitrogen dioxide levels from traffic emissions, consistently showed nitrogen dioxide levels well below Government limits over the past five years. The Government has recently approved the removal of the AQMA designations.

We installed Zephyr air quality monitoring stations at various sites in villages across the District as part of a new Government-backed project, Particulates Matter. Funded with £151,000 from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the project aims to monitor levels of some of the finest pollution particles like dust, dirt, smoke and soot.

Levels are being made available online so people can check their local air quality and make informed decisions about their own activities and behaviours which might impact those levels.



◆ Successful exercise scheme

In January the JUST Get Involved programme returned to Blaby District for the eighth year, working in partnership with Oadby and Wigston and Harborough District Council.

The JUST programme aims to encourage and empower women aged 18 plus to be more active by signposting them to local instructor sessions and offering rewards for attendance such as discounts and branded T-shirts as well as free give-aways.

The programme had a record number of sign-ups this time round with almost 800 women registering to take part across the three local authority areas.

Running for nine weeks from 15 January to 7 March the scheme allowed access to more than 100 activity sessions. The registrations translated into hundreds of women who otherwise might not have thought about getting involved with exercise taking part in regular activity – a huge success.



◆ **Active Blaby older adults' physical activity programmes**

Our Active Blaby team do a grand job helping to keep our residents fit and healthy with their work among older adults being particularly important.

Over the last year the team successfully delivered 24-week Steady Steps falls prevention programmes in Enderby, Kirby Muxloe, Braunstone Town, Whetstone, Sapcote and Blaby, supporting our most vulnerable residents who have a history of or fear of falling.

Through their weekly community-based classes running across the District they have recorded 5,376 attendances and supported more than 330 older adults to improve and maintain their strength, balance, health and independence.

The team received 420 referrals to an activity scheme run at Enderby Leisure Centre aimed at supporting those with long-term health conditions to be more active. From those referrals 88 people joined the programme. Of those who completed the programme, 87% said their health had improved and 56% agreed they made fewer visits to their doctor or healthcare professional.

◆ **Works on contaminated land**

We continue to face challenges posed by areas of our District which were once used as landfill sites. Extra funding was provided in October to support additional remediation at the Huncote Leisure Centre site as well as two other areas which had been identified.

In January we carried out borehole drilling and sampling at these two sites, a parcel of land to the rear of Sandhill Drive and the Southey Close recreation ground, both in Enderby. The report from the consultants is guiding our plans.

Mitigation measures are ensuring landfill gas levels are stabilising at Huncote and now much of the site is open.

Plans for the long-term use of the site will be discussed later in the Council agenda.

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Scrutiny Work Programme 24/25

Timescale	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
5 June 2024	Private residential care home	<p>Are there powers available that the Council may use in order to influence the number and location of these facilities.</p> <p>Concern regarding the Change of Use decisions – Officer delegation/Factors and reasons for the Change of use. Intensification?</p> <p>Are licences granted from LCC on these homes? External Regulation?</p>	Jonathan Hodge – Planning & Strategic Growth Group Manager	Scrutiny Commissioners	Jonathan Hodge presented a briefing note – agreed that this would be circulated to BT/TA Members and added to Members SP Site. Also agreed no further action on this item.
6 June 2024	Active Travel Strategy and LCWIP	Review of the Strategy	Luke Raddon-Jackson Phill Turner	Task & Finish	Following the discussion, Members agreed that a further update be brought back to Scrutiny in 6 months. (Nov/Dec24)
17 July 2024 (previously 12 June)	Residents Survey Update	Members will receive a presentation on the results of the resident's survey	Karen Almond Julie Hutchinson	Scrutiny Commission	Complete
31 July 2024	HR Review	To continue and 'wrap-up' the commission's work on current HR provision at The Council.	1 st meeting members only	Task & Finish 2 meetings	1 st meeting complete. Next meetings: Tues 1 October and Tues 26 November
11 September 2024	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Members will receive a presentation.	Caroline Harbour	Scrutiny Commission	
11 September 2024	State of the District	To provide the annual update on the state of the district and leader's annual statement.	Cllr Terry Richardson Julia Smith	Scrutiny Commission	

Timescale	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
11 September 2024	Homelessness & Social Housing	How many families/individuals have been impacted during this time (homelessness numbers)? Impact on the budget and the officers administering of the rise in homelessness and demand for social housing. Has it impacted on the resource needed? Will the team be able to continue absorbing the demand? Can we keep delivering our service? Other options, e.g. partnerships?	Caroline Harbour Ian Jones	Scrutiny Commission	
18 September (Brooks Room)	The Council's plans for historic contaminated land sites	The scope of what we have, how big is the potential danger? Information on Contaminated Land owned by the Council as well as sites that consume the Council's time and effort (even if the Council does not have direct liability). What do we know so far about these sites? E.g. their location, are they being monitored? Update on the current strategy to be given.	Caroline Harbour, Anna Farish and Declan Goodwin (Contaminated Land Officer)	Task and Finish	
18 September (Brooks Room)	Update on the Environmental Health, Environmental Services and Community Safety Enforcement and Compliance Policy	Provide an update on the proposed changes to the policy including an appendix specifically on environmental crime. Propose new FPN levels for environmental crime offences following a change in legislation.	Caroline Harbour and Phil Fasham	Task and Finish	

Timescale	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
	Update on proposed changes to Environmental Crime Fixed Penalty Notices				
<p>Tuesday 2 July 2024 – cancelled</p> <p>Thursday 26 September 2024</p> <p>Thursday 7 November 2024</p> <p>Monday 3 February 2025</p> <p>Thursday 3 April 2025</p> <p>Thursday 10 July 2025</p> <p>Thursday 18 September 2025</p> <p>Thursday 6 November 2025</p>	iPlan Workshop (Corporate Measures)	To examine areas of concern, trends and poor performance through iPlan – the Council’s Corporate Measures system.	Luke Clements	All Commission Members as a Working Group to log into iPlan	<p>21 November 2023 – Members were successful in logging into iPlan. Queries were raised on P1 Measures which have now been added onto a spreadsheet for senior officers to respond to. One of the key areas raised was that you could not easily find the underperforming areas.</p> <p>6 March 2024 – Members reviewed the responses from SLT from queries raised at the previous meeting. Members discussed and reviewed the current P1 Measures. Members reviewed evidence and delivery of the Blaby Corporate Plan Actions</p>

Timescale	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
15 October 2024	Blaby District Growth Plan	<p>BDC has appointed Business Tourism Solutions to review the current 2020-2025 Tourism Growth Plan and prepare a new Growth Plan for 2025-2030.</p> <p>The Growth Plan is being developed in consultation with the Council and Tourism Stakeholders and will provide a framework of action for the next five years. The plan will be closely aligned to and effectively integrate with the key existing tourism strategies across Leicestershire and will play a vital role in the delivery of the Blaby District Plan 2024-2028, Economic Development Framework, and Blaby Action Plan.</p> <p>There is a three-stage process to develop and deliver the new Tourism Growth Plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of Blaby District's position in the marketplace 2. Industry engagement and consultations 3. Development of tourism growth and action plan for 2025-2030 <p>As part of stage two of the project, a consultation with members to gain their valuable input has been factored in. During this Scrutiny Session BTS will present key findings from the progress review and gather views from members to feed into the final Tourism Growth Plan.</p>	Tracy Gaskin, Nadia Alam, Kirsty Beauchamp	Task and Finish	
30 October 2024	New Food Waste Collection Scheme	Scrutiny to feed into and examine the Council's proposed approach.	Paul Coates	Briefing	

Timescale	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
		Scrutiny requested early sight of this to feed into draft proposals for implementation.			
11 November 2024 (previously 26 June)	Net Zero by 2050 target	<p>Which projects are contributing to our target? What is the budget and are we thinking of dropping any projects?</p> <p>Is our target realistic? Can we do more to achieve it?</p> <p>Have we understood all potential challenges, what gaps are there?</p> <p>Potential area for exploration at a subsequent meeting: Our community leadership role e.g. supporting parish councils to implement their own net zero measures.</p> <p>Information on electrification of the fleet with a specific focus on ongoing budgetary requirements to be provided to Commissioners.</p>	<p>Caroline Harbour Anna Farish</p> <p>Jill Stevenson (to potentially come to later meetings)</p>	Working Group	
11 December 2024	Lightbulb	<p>Scrutiny requests a breakdown of Blaby's contribution compared to other partner authorities.</p> <p>Exploration of Lightbulb pilots and suggested outcome.</p>	Caroline Harbour	Task & Finish	
13 November 2024	Establishment Budget Quarter 2 Budget Review Revised Capital Programme	Early involvement in Budget setting to provide comment on proposals; understand possible risks and impacts on budget proposals	Finance Group Manager	Scrutiny Commission	

Timescale	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
	Proposed Capital Programme				
15, 22, 29 January 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget context setting Portfolio Holder Sessions Draft Scrutiny response 	Consider financial picture in context of setting a balanced budget. Examine and respond to Portfolio Holder proposed draft budgets and funding priorities.	All SLT/Cabinet Executive	Scrutiny of the 25/26 Administration's Budget Proposals	
TBC	Regulation of Investigatory Powers	Consider the annual monitoring report (statutory requirement)	?	Scrutiny Commission	
TBC	Corporate Action Plan Updates (Half Year and year end report?)	Examine delivery against Blaby Plan vision and themes	?	Scrutiny Commission	
13 November 2024/12 February 2025	Gender Pay Gap	Annual reporting reviewed by Scrutiny	HR/Lisa Boland	Scrutiny Commission	
TBC	Annual Complaints Report	Reviewed annually	Luke Clements	Scrutiny Commission	
TBC	Footpaths and Cycle Routes.	<p>Is there a means by which the Council may enforce better interconnectivity between new and existing settlements through footpaths and cycle routes?</p> <p>Can section 106 be utilised to support/maintain the creation of footpaths and cycle routes?</p> <p>Members will also examine this when the Active Travel Strategy is considered by Scrutiny on the 6 June.</p>	Jonathan Hodge – Planning	Task & Finish	Complete – pending a review of the Active Travel Strategy in 6 months.

Timescale	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
			Luke Raddon-Jackson/Phill Turner		
TBC	Car Parks	Scrutiny requests early sight of the revised strategy/plan. Scrutiny to explore what residents want from car parks compared to our current offering.	Caroline Harbour Anna Farish	Working Group	Deferred to the 25/26 work programme following discussion with officers and agreement from Commissioners.
TBC	Local Police	Updates are not consistently provided from local police to ward members/parishes. Why? What can be done to improve the channels of communication between the two? Examine the level of communication between local police with ward members/parish councils.	Caroline Harbour Rebecca Holcroft	Scrutiny Commission	
TBC	Health and Leisure offering	How are the Health and Leisure service responding to a reduced funding? What is the proposed new offer?	Luke Raddon-Jackson	Scrutiny Commission	

Information to be provided to Commissioners:

Neighbourhood services fees and charges – Paul Coates

The recent increase in discretionary fees and charges to be provided to Commissioners. Where has the increase been applied in the service?

Available Scrutiny Dates

Available Scrutiny Dates		Scrutiny Topic:	Scrutiny Commission Dates		Scrutiny Topic:
Date of meeting:	Report deadline		Date of Meeting	Report Deadline	
31 July (rearranged from 25 June)	22 July, publish 23 July	HR Scrutiny	17 July – NEW (previously 12 June)	8 July, publish 9 July	Residents Survey presentation
29 July 2024	18 July, publish 19 July	N/A	11 September	2 September, publish 3 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of the District • Homelessness • Corporate Parenting
1 October	20 September, publish 23 September	Recruitment and Retention – HR	13 November	4 November, publish 5 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment report • Gender Pay Gap?
15 October	3 October, publish 4 October	Tourism Growth Plan	12 February 2025	3 February, publish 4 February	Gender Pay Gap?
30 October	21 October, publish 22 October	Food Waste Collection Scheme	2 April	24 March, publish 25 March	
11 November	31 October, publish 1 November	Net Zero by 2050	11 June	2 June, publish 3 June	
26 November	15 November, publish 18 November	Recruitment and Retention	10 September	1 September, publish 2 September	
11 December	3 December, publish 4 December	Lightbulb	12 November	3 November, publish 4 November	
10 March 2025	27 February, publish 28 February				
26 March 2025	17 March, publish 18 March				

**BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL
Forward Plan
FOR THE PERIOD: September 2024 – March 2025**

What is the Plan?

It is a list of the Key Decisions to be taken by the Cabinet Executive during the period referred to above. The Council has a statutory duty to prepare this document, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended). The Plan is published 28 clear days before a meeting of Cabinet Executive is to be held. The Plan is available to view at the Council's main offices in Narborough, or on the Council's website, www.blaby.gov.uk.

What is a Key Decision?

Definition of a key decision as detailed in Part 2 Article 11 of the Council's Constitution:

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- (i) Is, in value, worth more than £50,000 of the annual revenue budget for the service or function or of the capital allocation to the scheme concerned, or
 - (ii) Has a significant impact because it either:
 - Affects individuals or organisations outside the District;
 - Affects individuals or organisations in more than one Ward; or
 - Will have a long term (more than 5 year) or permanent effect on the Council or District
 - (iii) Involves significant changes to the policy and budget framework (involves the adoption or amendment of a policy or strategy or to the budgets which the Executive has the power to adopt).

Who makes Key Decisions?

Under the Council's constitution, Key Decisions are made by:

- Cabinet Executive
- The Leader or Deputy Leader (in matters of urgency only)
- Individual officers acting under delegated powers. (it is rare for any decision delegated to an officer to be a Key Decision)

Are only Key Decisions published on the Plan?

The Council has a statutory obligation to publish Key Decisions in the Plan. However, the Council has voluntarily decided to list non-key Cabinet Executive and Council decisions as well. To clarify matters, Key Decisions will be identified on the Plan with a Yes, non-key decisions with a No.

What does the List tell me?

The List gives information about:

- Upcoming Key and Non-Key Decisions (identified by **Yes** or **No** next to them)
- Whether the decision will be made in public or private.
- When decisions are likely to be made.
- Who will make these decisions.
- Who you can contact for further information.

Who are the members of the Cabinet Executive?

The members of the Cabinet Executive and their areas of responsibility are:

• Cllr. Terry Richardson	Leader of the Council & Cabinet Executive	cllr.terry.richardson@blaby.gov.uk
• Cllr. Maggie Wright	Deputy Leader and Finance, People & Performance	cllr.maggie.wright@blaby.gov.uk
• Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore	Health, Leisure, Climate and Economic Development	cllr.cheryl.cashmore@blaby.gov.uk
• Cllr. Nigel Grundy	Neighbourhood Services & Assets	cllr.nigel.grundy@blaby.gov.uk
• Cllr. Les Phillimore	Housing, Community Safety and Environmental Services	cllr.les.phillimore@blaby.gov.uk
• Cllr. Ben Taylor	Planning, Transformation and ICT	cllr.ben.taylor@blaby.gov.uk

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What is the role of Overview and Scrutiny?

The Council's Scrutiny Commission's role is to contribute to the development of Council policies, scrutinise decisions of the Cabinet Executive and hold them to account and to consider any matter affecting Blaby District or its citizens. Dates of these meetings can be found on the Council's website.

Who do I contact, and how?

Each entry on the Plan indicates the names of the people to contact about that item. They can be contacted via the switchboard on 0116 275 0555.

Request to view Background Papers

Should you wish to request copies or extracts of any documents listed under the column entitled 'Background Papers', for items which are considered to be Key Decisions, please contact Democratic Services at, Blaby District Council, Desford Road, Narborough, Leicestershire, LE19 2EP. Please note that copies or extracts of documents which contain information of a confidential or exempt nature cannot be disclosed to the public.

Submission of Additional Documents

Additional documents which are deemed relevant to a particular Key Decision item may be submitted to the Cabinet Executive for consideration. Copies of such documents may also be requested under the same process for requesting to view Background Papers.

Confidential and Exempt Information

This list may also include items to be considered which contain confidential or exempt information, but will not disclose any detail of a confidential or exempt nature. Such items will be identified with '(Exempt)' in the report title.

<u>Report Title</u> and Expected Decision	Background Papers	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Key Decision?	Report Available/ Portfolio Holder/ Contact Officer	Decision to be taken in public or private session?
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September 2024

<p><u>Quarter 1 Treasury Management Update 2024/25</u></p> <p>This report provides Members with an update on the Council's treasury activities for the quarter ended 30th June 2024, and the economic factors that have affected those activities.</p>	None	<p>Cabinet Executive</p> <p>Council</p>	<p>16 September 2024</p> <p>24 September 2024</p>	No	<p>Cabinet Executive: 6 September 2024</p> <p>Council: 13 September 2024</p> <p>Councillor Maggie Wright</p> <p>Sarah Pennelli, Executive Director - S.151 Officer</p>	Public
<p><u>Quarter 1 Capital Programme Review 2024/25</u></p> <p>This report provides Members an update on expenditure against the Capital Programme for the first quarter of 2024/25.</p>	None	<p>Cabinet Executive</p> <p>Council</p>	<p>16 September 2024</p> <p>24 September 2024</p>	No	<p>Cabinet Executive: 6 September 2024</p> <p>Council: 13 September 2024</p> <p>Councillor Maggie Wright</p> <p>Katie Hollis, Accountancy Services Manager</p>	Public

<u>Report Title</u> and Expected Decision	Background Papers	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Key Decision?	Report Available/ Portfolio Holder/ Contact Officer	Decision to be taken in public or private session?
<u>Quarter 1 Budget Review 2024/25</u> This report provides Members with an overview of the financial performance against the revenue budget for the quarter ending 30th June 2024.	None	Cabinet Executive	16 September 2024	Yes	6 September 2024 Councillor Maggie Wright Katie Hollis, Accountancy Services Manager	Public
<u>District of Blaby (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2024</u> Approval of an updated Car Parking Order to rationalise the existing order.	Car Parking Strategy 2022-2027 Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2024-2034	Cabinet Executive	16 September 2024	Yes	6 September 2024 Councillor Les Phillimore Anna Farish, Environmental Services Manager	Public
<u>Developer Contribution Supplementary Planning Document adoption</u> Consideration of any responses to the consultation received and any amendments proposed.	None	Council	24 September 2024	No	13 September 2024 Councillor Ben Taylor Vicky Chapman, Development Strategy Manager	Public

<u>Report Title</u> and Expected Decision	Background Papers	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Key Decision?	Report Available/ Portfolio Holder/ Contact Officer	Decision to be taken in public or private session?
<u>Braunstone Village Conservation Area</u> Consideration of any responses to the consultation received and any amendments proposed.	None	Council	24 September 2024	No	13 September 2024 Councillor Ben Taylor Martin Needham, Senior Planning Policy Officer	Public
<u>Appointment of Monitoring Officer</u> To approve the appointment of the statutory role of Monitoring Officer.	None	Council	24 September 2024	No	13 September 2024 Councillor Terry Richardson Louisa Horton, Executive Director - Communities and Monitoring Officer	Public
<u>Affordable Housing Contributions</u> To brief Members of the proposed contribution of funds towards supported housing provision in the District.	None	Council	24 September 2024	No	13 September 2024 Councillor Les Phillimore Ian Jones, Housing Services Manager	Public

<u>Report Title</u> and Expected Decision	Background Papers	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Key Decision?	Report Available/ Portfolio Holder/ Contact Officer	Decision to be taken in public or private session?
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November 2024

Page 38	<u>Environmental Crime Fixed Penalty Notices</u> To approve revised fixed penalty notice amounts for specified environmental crime offences.	Blaby District Council Schedule of Charges 2024/25	Cabinet Executive	4 November 2024	Yes	25 October 2024 Councillor Les Phillimore Caroline Harbour, Environmental Health, Housing & Community Services Group Manager	Public
	<u>Environmental Health, Environmental Services & Community Services Enforcement & Compliance Policy</u> To approve the Environmental Health, Environmental Services & Community Services Enforcement & Compliance Policy 2025 - 2028.	Environmental Health, Environmental Services & Community Services Enforcement & Compliance Policy 2021 - 2024.	Cabinet Executive	4 November 2024	Yes	25 October 2024 Councillor Les Phillimore Caroline Harbour, Environmental Health, Housing & Community Services Group Manager	Public

Report Title and Expected Decision	Background Papers	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Key Decision?	Report Available/ Portfolio Holder/ Contact Officer	Decision to be taken in public or private session?
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March 2025

<u>A Strategic Guide to Empty or Occupied Eyesore Premises</u> The purpose of this strategy is to set out how Blaby District Council will deal with empty or occupied eyesore premises and it is intended to replace the existing empty homes strategy.	Equalities impact assessment Carbon neutral / net zero benefits	Cabinet Executive	24 March 2025	Yes	14 March 2025 Councillor Les Phillimore Caroline Harbour, Environmental Health, Housing & Community Services Group Manager	Public

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