

To Members of the Council

Cllr. Roy Denney (Chairman)
Cllr. Janet Forey (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. Shabbir Aslam
Cllr. Royston Bayliss
Cllr. Dr John Bloxham
Cllr. Lee Breckon JP
Cllr. Nick Brown
Cllr. Nick Chapman
Cllr. Adrian Clifford
Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore
Cllr. Stuart Coar
Cllr. Luke Cousin
Cllr. Tony Deakin
Cllr. Alex DeWinter

Cllr. Susan Findlay
Cllr. Helen Gambardella
Cllr. Hannah Gill
Cllr. Nigel Grundy
Cllr. Paul Hartshorn
Cllr. Richard Holdridge
Cllr. Mark Jackson
Cllr. Becca Lunn
Cllr. Antony Moseley
Cllr. Les Phillimore
Cllr. Terry Richardson
Cllr. Ande Savage

Cllr. Tracey Shepherd
Cllr. Dillan Shikotra
Cllr. Mike Shirley
Cllr. Roger Stead
Cllr. Ben Taylor
Cllr. Matt Tomeo
Cllr. Bob Waterton
Cllr. Jane Wolfe
Cllr. Maggie Wright
Cllr. Neil Wright

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held in the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Narborough on **TUESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2025** at **5.30 p.m.** for the transaction of the following business and your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully



Gemma Dennis
Corporate Services Group Manager and Monitoring Officer



AGENDA

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

To receive apologies for absence, disclosures of interest from Councillors, and Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

1. Apologies for absence
2. Disclosures of Interests from Members

To receive disclosures of interests from Members (i.e. the existence and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this agenda).

3. Minutes (Pages 7 - 14)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2025 (enclosed).

SECTION 2 - STANDARD COUNCIL BUSINESS

To receive announcements from the Chairman and the statement of the Leader of the Council.

Any reports for consideration listed under this section will be moved in one block without discussion, unless any Member present requests otherwise.

4. Chairman's Announcements
5. Leader's Statement
6. Local Government Act 1972, Section 85(1) – Approval of Absence (Pages 15 - 18)

To consider the report of the Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer (enclosed).

SECTION 3 - PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

To consider any presentations from Council Officer's or an external body/partner agency.

7. Presentation: Local Government Reorganisation Proposal

Members will receive a presentation from the Chief Executive and Cllr. Ben Taylor - Leader of the Council.

SECTION 4 - QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

To receive questions to Councillors submitted by members of the public and to receive any petitions submitted in accordance with the Council's petitions scheme.

8. To receive a petition to Re-open the Huncote BMX Track

Petition request:

We the undersigned, petition Blaby District Council to reopen the Huncote BMX track, which has long been a valued recreational space for riders of all ages.

The track has provided a safe, accessible, and fun environment for children, teenagers, and adults to enjoy cycling, develop skills, and stay active. Since its closure, local riders have lost a much-loved facility that supported physical health, mental well-being, and community spirit.

With BMX cycling now recognised as an Olympic sport, and more young people than ever inspired to take part, reopening the Huncote track would encourage healthy lifestyles, reduce anti-social behaviour, and give local families a place to come together.

We urge Blaby District Council to prioritise repairing and reopening the BMX track so our community can once again enjoy this.

The Council will receive the Petition and refer it to the relevant Portfolio Holder and Director for a response.

9. Public Speaking Protocol

Requests received by the Protocol deadline to be reported by the Monitoring Officer with details of the Agenda Item to which they relate. (Such persons entitled to use the Protocol attend for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business of the meeting and the time allocated to each person is a maximum of three minutes unless extended at the discretion of the Chairman).

SECTION 5 - MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

To receive any questions submitted by Councillors.

10. Questions from Members

Any Members wishing to submit questions must do so to the Monitoring Officer no later than 5 working days before the meeting.

The Monitoring Officer will report if any questions have been submitted.

SECTION 6 - REPORTS FOR DECISIONS

To consider any reports submitted for consideration by Council.

11. Recommendations of the Parish Remuneration Panel (Pages 19 - 22)

To consider the report of the Elections and Governance Manager (enclosed).

12. Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (Pages 23 - 30)

To consider the report of the Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer (enclosed).

13. Annual Corporate Action Plan 2024-25 (Closure Report) (Pages 31 - 50)

To consider the report of the Business Systems & Information Manager (enclosed).

14. Quarter 2 Capital Programme Review 2025/26 (Pages 51 - 60)

To consider the report of the Accountancy Services Manager (enclosed).

15. Treasury Management Mid Year Monitoring Report 2025/26 (Pages 61 - 80)

To consider the report of the Finance Group Manager (enclosed).

SECTION 7 - MOTIONS/ DEBATES/CONSULTATIONS & MEMBERS' FEEDBACK

To consider Motions submitted by Councillors, take part in a debate or receive Member feedback from attendance at national briefings, key training initiatives or work on any Outside Bodies.

SECTION 8 - EXEMPT REPORTS

To receive any reports submitted which require consideration under exempt status.

16. Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider passing the following resolution:

"That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that the items involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act.

Agenda Item 17: Investment in Housing to Provide Temporary Accommodation and increase the Council's Affordable Housing Provision

Exemption Category: 3

Reasons for Exemption:

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Public Interest Test: The public interest test has been considered and, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption is considered to outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information."

17. Investment in Housing to Provide Temporary Accommodation and increase the Council's Affordable Housing Provision (Pages 81 - 84)

To consider the report of the Executive Director (Section 151 Officer) (enclosed).

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

Present:-

Cllr. Roy Denney (Chairman)
Cllr. Janet Forey (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. Shabbir Aslam	Cllr. Alex DeWinter	Cllr. Ande Savage
Cllr. Royston Bayliss	Cllr. Susan Findlay	Cllr. Mike Shirley
Cllr. Dr John Bloxham	Cllr. Helen Gambardella	Cllr. Roger Stead
Cllr. Lee Breckon JP	Cllr. Hannah Gill	Cllr. Ben Taylor
Cllr. Nick Brown	Cllr. Nigel Grundy	Cllr. Bob Waterton
Cllr. Nick Chapman	Cllr. Paul Hartshorn	Cllr. Jane Wolfe
Cllr. Adrian Clifford	Cllr. Richard Holdridge	Cllr. Maggie Wright
Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore	Cllr. Mark Jackson	Cllr. Neil Wright
Cllr. Luke Cousin	Cllr. Les Phillimore	
Cllr. Tony Deakin	Cllr. Terry Richardson	

Officers present:-

Julia Smith	- Chief Executive
Sarah Pennelli	- Executive Director - S.151 Officer
Marc Greenwood	- Executive Director - Place
Louisa Horton	- Executive Director - Communities
Gemma Dennis	- Corporate Services Group Manager
Katie Hollis	- Finance Group Manager
Paul Coates	- Neighbourhood Services Group Manager
Michelle Ikin	- Senior Dog Warden
Jamie Osborne	- Licensing Team Leader
Katie Shevas	- Elections and Governance Manager
Sophie Wisher	- Senior Elections & Governance Officer
Nicole Cramp	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer
Avisa Birchenough	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer

Honorary Alderman in attendance as observers:-

Iain Hewson

Apologies:-

Cllr. Stuart Coar, Cllr. Becca Lunn, Cllr. Antony Moseley, Cllr. Tracey Shepherd

92. A MINUTES SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF IAN DAVIES AND THE DUCHESS OF KENT

The Chair, Cllr. Roy Denney invited Members and Officers to hold a two minute silence for both Ian Davies and the Duchess of Kent who sadly passed away on 4 September 2025.

Ian Davies, Development Services Team Leader, a long serving Officer at Blaby District Council with 36 years of dedicated service sadly passed away on 1 August 2025.

93. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS

No disclosures were received.

94. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 20 May and 8 July 2025, as circulated, were approved subject to two amendments:

- In the minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2025, that Cllr. Antony Moseley's name be corrected at minute item 5 – Election of Leader of The Council.
- In the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2025, that Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore's name be corrected against item 58 – Questions Under Council Rules Procedure.

95. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman, Cllr. Roy Denney made announcements in respect of the following:

- Attended the Leicestershire Melton Proms at St Mary's Church in Melton on 10 March 2025.
- Joined 500 other attendees at Glenfield's annual Picnic in the Park.
- Invited by the High Sherriff of Rutland and High Sherriff of Leicestershire alongside Parish Councillor Oliver Hall to a charity cruise on Rutland Water, in aid of the Warning Zone charity.
- Attended a meeting of Blaby Tourism Partnership at Stanton Lakes.
- The High Sheriff of Leicestershire, Stephen Bryan held a Garden Party at his home which was also attended by 6 other High Sheriffs in full uniform.
- Officiated the VJ Day flag raising ceremony at the Council grounds.
- Accompanied a party of veterans to the National Memorial Arboretum, which was extremely moving.
- A tiger hunt to find the memorial to the Royal Leicester Regiment, which has a brass tiger proudly displayed.

Cllr. Denney thanked the Vice-Chair Cllr. Janet Forey for attending two events on his behalf whilst he was abroad, and invited the Vice Chairman to make her announcements in respect of the following:

- VJ Day ceremony at Leicester Cathedral
- The Gala Day at Badgerbrook Primary School in Whetstone.

96. LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader, Cllr. Ben Taylor presented his statement in respect of the following:

- Remembrance of Ian Davies
- Specialist supported housing formally opens
- Food waste consultation
- Works at Huncote
- Fosse Meadows biodiversity project
- Volunteering initiatives
- Milestone for New Lubbesthorpe
- Local Government Reorganisation update
- Armed Forces support

97. PUBLIC SPEAKING PROTOCOL

No requests were received.

98. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

99. QUESTION UNDER COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE

Cllr. Paul Hartshorn raised the following question, - to Cllr. Ben Taylor, Leader of the Council:

“Back when the soft play at Enderby Leisure Centre re-opened, Cllr Gill didn't receive an invite to the event. We raised this in Council and were told processes were in place to ensure that wouldn't happen in future. Unfortunately, myself and Cllr. Moseley were excluded from the recent opening of Frost Court, an oversight, I'm sure, but one that our residents noticed. Please can the appropriate Cabinet member explain the process in place to invite ward members to these events, and give confidence to our residents that ward councillors will not be excluded from such events in future?”

Cllr. Ben Taylor, Leader of the Council, responded:

“The official opening of Frost Court was a celebratory event held after the opening of the scheme, and it was arranged by the developer.

In terms of a process to invite ward members to such events there is not a set practice, that is because events/opportunities are all different in terms of size, attendees, arrangements and organisers.

In terms of the future, I can give assurance that where appropriate given the specifics of events, Ward Councillors will be invited where the Council is involved in arranging the event.”

Cllr. Paul Hartshorn asked the following supplementary question: Thank you for your response. The Council knew about the event at Frost Court and although it's understood the event was organised by the developer, someone should have made the Councillors from that Ward aware. The reason I have raised this is because we have had to do quite a lot of work, me and Cllr. Moseley, to reassure residents about Frost Court and about what it was going to be and how it was going to be represented in the community. We have had to calm a few residents down and then to not be invited to the event by the developer kind of leaves a little bit of bittersweet taste in your mouth, thinking why did I bother when the developer is not interested. I wonder if the Leader, Cllr. Ben Taylor would like to pass this information back to the developer to say that they should have invited the Ward Councillors, because they did a lot of work on your behalf. I am wondering whether the Leader would like to put a little more effect into informing residents when its not organised by Blaby District Council.”

The Leader, Cllr. Ben Taylor did not add anything further to the supplementary question.

100. QUESTION UNDER COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE

Cllr. Luke Cousin raised the

characteristics?”

Cllr. Les Phillimore, Housing, Community Safety and Environmental Services Portfolio Holder, responded:

“The Community Safety Team work very closely with our Police colleagues and other partners to ensure that anyone within the district who may be negatively impacted by potential criminal actions such as hate incidents, targeted harassment or similar are supported to feel safer. We also provide education and increased awareness across the District through work in schools and with partners at community events and local national campaigns.

We have long standing, effective partnership arrangements that have been in place over a number of years such as our regular Tactical group meetings, and Community Safety Partnership which brings together key partners from Police, Fire, Public Health, Police and Crime Commissioner and the County Council who work to not only assess emerging threats within our district but also proactively plan to take actions to reduce these. The priorities for the Community Safety Partnership are to reduce offending and reoffending, to tackle serious violence and to support vulnerable people.

Work to achieve these priorities is ongoing and constantly evolving to meet the needs of changing circumstances and issues as they arise.

Graffiti Stance – Offensive graffiti is removed as soon as possible with the support of the Council. Other graffiti is the responsibility of the owner of the property impacted, in the instances listed above they are primarily the County Council and therefore it is down to them to determine the most appropriate course of action. Any actions that maybe be considered criminal damage would also be a matter investigated by the Police.

In relation to the role elected members can play in helping to make all members of the public across Blaby District feel heard and supported we would ask that any concerns or frustrations are highlighted to the Community Safety Mailbox (

can be immune to Social / Mainstream Media noise and it is beholden to us all to keep our eyes and ears open. At Blaby District Council we have a fantastic Community Safety Team so please keep them informed if you have any concerns. I am very satisfied that the right mechanisms are in place and that the collective agencies and teams are conscious of what is going on.”

101. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET EXECUTIVE: QUARTER 1 CAPITAL PROGRAMME REVIEW 2025/26

Considered - Report of the Accountancy Services Manager, presented by Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore – Finance, People and Performance Portfolio Holder and Deputy Leader.

DECISIONS

1. That the report be accepted.
2. That the latest Capital Programme for 2025/26, totalling £7,438,038, be accepted.

Reasons:

1. To ensure that the Council has adequate resources in place to meet its capital expenditure commitments.
2. To reflect additions or other changes to the Capital Programme since it was approved by Council on 25th February 2025, including the carry forward of unspent budget from 2024/25.

102. DEPOT ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE

Considered - Report of the Neighbourhood Services Group Manager - Place, presented by Cllr. Nigel Grundy– Neighbourhood Services & Assets Portfolio Holder.

DECISIONS

1. That the additional capital expenditure of £379,000 to fund the shortfall in project costs be approved and the capital programme be updated accordingly.
2. That delegated authority be given to the Executive Director (S151) in consultation with the Neighbourhood Services & Assets Portfolio Holder to make the final decision to progress with the project in full or a reduced

specification within the authorised programme costs.

3. That the project is designed to align with the latest fleet replacement programme and will future-proof the depot for the transition to electric refuse collection vehicles (RCVs) and other electric fleet assets at the appropriate time.

Reasons:

1. Approval will allow the project to progress and give opportunity for the Council to meet the timescales within the grant terms.
2. Delegation will allow an assessment to be made to take advantage of funding available or consider progressing the project at a reduced specification within the authorised project costs.
3. Having an electrification-ready depot supports existing electric fleet assets and ensures the Council is positioned to respond to Government plans to phase out diesel and petrol HGV production in the 2035.

103. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER - DOGS RENEWAL

Cllr. Hannah Gill left and returned to the meeting during this item.

Considered - Report of the Environmental Health Manager, presented by Cllr. Les Phillimore – Housing, Community Safety and Environmental Services Portfolio Holder.

DECISIONS

1. That The Public Spaces Protection Order - (Blaby District Council) 2025 set out in Appendix A of the report be approved.
2. That the Public Spaces Protection Order - (Blaby District Council) 2025 be approved to come into force on 21 November 2025.
3. That delegated authority be granted to the Environmental Services Group Manager in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to make future minor amendments to the PSPO.

Reasons:

1. To renew the current Public Space Protection Order to allow continued enforcement of dog related offences across the district.
2. To allow minor amendments to be made to the Public Space Protection Order without need for Cabinet approval.

104. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Considered – A proposed resolution to exclude the public from the meeting.

Following consideration of this item the Chair, Cllr. Roy Denney announced that the livestream would end to allow the item to be considered in closed session.

DECISION

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that the item involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act.

Agenda Item 12: Approval of Restricted Minutes
Exemption Category: 3

Reason for Exemption:

The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Public Interest Test: The public interest test has been considered and, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption is considered to outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information.

105. APPROVAL OF RESTRICTED MINUTES - COUNCIL MEETING 20 MAY 2025

Blaby District Council Council

Date of Meeting	18 November 2025
Title of Report	Local Government Act 1972, Section 85(1) – Approval of Absence This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan
Lead Member	Cllr. Ben Taylor - Leader of the Council
Report Author	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
Strategic Themes	All Themes: Enabling communities and supporting vulnerable residents; Enhancing and maintaining our natural and built environment; Growing and supporting our economy; Keeping you safe and healthy; Ambitious and well managed Council, valuing our people

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 To seek approval of a waiver of the six-month attendance rule pursuant to section 85(1) Local Government Act 1972 for Cllr. Stuart Coar.

2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That Council approves the waiver of the six-month attendance rule provided for within section 85(1) Local Government Act 1972 for Cllr. Stuart Coar due

attend was due to a reason approved by the Authority, in advance of the six-month period expiring.

Cllr. Stuart Coar has not been able to attend any Council meetings since the meeting of Council on 20 May 2025 due to illness. A formal request from the Conservative Group for an extension to this six-month rule to enable him to remain in office has been received.

The Authority can only consider approval of any reasons for non-attendance before the end of the relevant six-month period, which will be 20 November 2025.

Once any Councillor loses office, through failure to attend for the six-month period, the disqualification cannot be overcome by the councillor subsequently resuming attendance nor can retrospective approval of the Authority be sought for an extension in time.

4.2 Proposal(s)

That Cllr. Stuart Coar's absence from Council meetings be approved until 12 May 2026.

4.3 Relevant Consultations

The Conservative Group.

4.4 Significant Issues

Legal Implications

If approval is not provided

6. What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?

6.1 Not applicable.

7. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

7.1 None.

8. Other options considered

8.1 None.

9. Appendix

9.1 None.

10. Background paper(s)

10.1 [Local Government Act 1972](#)

11. Report author's contact details

Sandeep Tiensa	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
sandeep.tiensa@blaby.gov.uk	0116 272 7640

This page is intentionally left blank

Blaby District Council Council

Date of Meeting	18 November 2025
Title of Report	Recommendations of the Parish Remuneration Panel This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan
Report Author	Elections and Governance Manager
Strategic Themes	All Themes: Enabling communities and supporting vulnerable residents; Enhancing and maintaining our natural and built environment; Growing and supporting our economy; Keeping you safe and healthy; Ambitious and well managed Council, valuing our people

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 To advise Members of the Council of the recommendations of the Parish Remuneration Panel.

2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That the recommendations detailed in 4.1 be noted by Council.
- 2.2 That Council refer the report to the Parish and Town Councils within Blaby District.

3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

The Panel last convened in 2015, where it made its first set of recommendations to Parishes. Given the request from Glenfield Parish Council, and the time that has passed since the panel last convened, it was considered appropriate for the recommendations of the Panel to be reviewed.

The Blaby District Council's Constitution requires that this Council receive the report and refer it to the Parish and Town Council's in the District.

The recommendations of the Parish Remuneration Panel were that:

1. An allowance to elected Parish/ Town Councillors can be paid, and that allowance should be no more than £300 per year.
2. An allowance cannot be paid to a co-opted Councillor
3. The Chairman of a Parish/Town Councillor can receive a higher amount of an allowance to those of other Councillors, but all other Councillors must receive the same amount.
4. The amount payable for travel and subsistence should be based on the HMRC rates and those contained in the Blaby District Council Allowances Scheme. Councillors should not seek to recover travel expenses when travelling within the parish.

It should be noted that the recommendations of the Parish Remuneration Panel are not binding on any Parish or Town Council in the Blaby District. When and if allowances and expenses are considered by the Parish or Town Council, they must however have regard to the recommendations. They may determine not to pay allowances or expenses, or pay at a different rate to that recommended.

4.2 Proposal(s)

That the report be noted and officers asked to circulate the findings and recommendations of the Parish Remuneration Panel.</

5. Environmental impact

- 5.1** No Net Zero and Climate Impact Assessment (NZCIA) is required for this report.

6. What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?

- 6.1 None.

7. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

- 7.1 None.

8. Other options considered

- 8.1 None. The recommendations of the Parish Remuneration Panel must be taken to Council before being circulated to Parish and Town Councils.

9. Appendix

- 9.1 None.

10. Background paper(s)

- 10.1 [Agenda for Parish Remuneration Panel on Wednesday, 1st October, 2025, 6.00 p.m. - Blaby District Council](#)

This page is intentionally left blank

Blaby District Council Council

Date of Meeting	18 November 2025
Title of Report	Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel
Report Author	This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
Strategic Themes	All Themes: Enabling communities and supporting vulnerable residents; Enhancing and maintaining our natural and built environment; Growing and supporting our economy; Keeping you safe and healthy; Ambitious and well managed Council, valuing our people

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 To advise Members of Council of the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.2 That the recommendations detailed in Paragraph 4.2 are approved and are applicable from the May 2025 Annual Council and that the increase in allowances are backdated accordingly.
- 2.3 That the Member Allowances Scheme in the Constitution be amended.

The Council is required to have regard to the Panel's recommendations in determining the Member Allowances Scheme. Additionally, the Council must also publish the Panel's recommendations and conclusions, together with the approved scheme.

The Panel Members:

The Panel consisted of the following:

- Luke Pulford
- Anne Senior
- Louise Spiers

Regulations stipulate that Members of the Panel must not be a Member of the Council, or of a Sub-Committee of the Council, or be disqualified from being a Member of an authority.

Scope of Work for the Panel:

The Panel, in considering the Members' Allowance Scheme, considered the following:

1. At a full Council meeting on Tuesday 30 January 2024, Members considered a report by the IRP. The recommendations as detailed in the report were approved, apart from one recommendation which Council asked the IRP to reconsider.

The following recommendation: *'That Opposition Group Leaders be paid a SRA if Group consists of 5 or more Members. (Note - this will remove the SRA for the Green Group Leader)'* was referred back to the Panel to enable Opposition Group Leaders and other Members to make representations on the proposal.

Representations given on Planning Committee Allowance:

- High expectations of Members on this committee:
 - attending annual mandatory training
 - attending additional training in the form of masterclasses,
 - the agendas can be quite long and technical and refer to key planning policies which members must be aware of
- It is a long day for members of the committee; site visit starts after lunch and then rolls into Committee which can last a few hours.
- The committee deals with contentious planning applications, leading to an increase in communication from the public. As it is a public-facing committee – it has the highest number of public attending.
- That Councillors ought to receive food/subsistence as part of their duties
- There has been no review of the current allowance since it was introduced.
- It is difficult to find Councillors to substitute on this Committee – they must have attended the mandatory training and be available for half a day.
- There should be a level of competency applied when considering who can be appointed to this committee as it requires significant training.

Other comments:

- Member Champions allowances should be reviewed depending on their work. Regular updates should be provided to Council on their work – how is their allowance determined? Does it provide value for money?

Next Steps

Members are required to have due regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel detailed in paragraph 4.2.

Reason:

The Panel were sympathetic to the representations put forward by Members and acknowledged that if the allowance was withdrawn, the Leader of a smaller minority group would still be required to carry out duties similar to other larger Group Leaders.

Special Responsibility Allowance – Chairman of Audit and Corporate Governance Committee

2. That the SRA for the Chairman of Audit and Corporate Governance Committee be increased to £2,500.

Reason:

The Panel considered the benchmarking data presented to them and the duties placed on the Chairman in the work they undertook. They also took into account the representations made from Members in support of increasing the allowance.

Allowances for Members and Substitute Members of Planning Committee

3. That the allowance for Members and Substitute Members of Planning Committee be increased to £60 (excluding the Chairman and Vice-Chairman)

Reason:

The Panel recognised the intense duties and pressure placed on Planning Committee Members in attending site visits, understanding complex information, responding to numerous calls/emails from the public and considered that as no review of the allowance had taken place since its introduction, it was comfortable in increasing it. The Panel also recommends that the

Reason:

The Panel, in considering all representations and the benchmarking data felt that linking all the roles to the NJC would be fair and equal in ensuring that all roles would receive an annual increase.

4.3 Relevant Consultations

All District Councillors were able to provide verbal or written representations to the Panel to consider at its meeting.

4.4 Significant Issues

Legal implications:

It is a requirement of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 that an Independent Panel on Members' Allowances may decide to put forward recommendations for the Council to consider.

It is for the Council to decide on the Members' Allowances Scheme that is put in place, having regard to the Panel's recommendations.

- 4.5 In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities and there are no areas of concern.

5. Environmental impact

-

7. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Other options considered

8.1 None. Members are required to have due regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel when determining the Member Allowances Scheme.

9. Appendix

9.1 There are no appendices to this report.

10. Background paper(s)

10.1 None.

11. Report author's contact details

Sandeep Tiensa	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
sandeep.tiensa@blaby.gov.uk	0116 272 7640

This page is intentionally left blank

Blaby District Council Council

Date of Meeting	18 November 2025
Title of Report	Annual Corporate Action Plan 2024-25 (Closure Report) This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan
Lead Member	Cllr. Ben Taylor - Leader of the Council
Report Author	Business Systems & Information Manager
Strategic Themes	All Themes: Enabling communities and supporting vulnerable residents; Enhancing and maintaining our natural and built environment; Growing and supporting our economy; Keeping you safe and healthy; Ambitious and well managed Council, valuing our people

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide councillors with a closure report that demonstrates the closing position as outlined in the Annual Corporate Action Plan for 2024-25 period. This action plan was approved by Council on 27 February 2024.

2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That Council notes the closing position against the Corporate Action Plan 2024-25.

4.2 Proposal(s)

The actions outlined in the Corporate Action Plan 2023-24 are detailed in the report at Appendix A. Members are invited to review and note the closure report.

4.3 Relevant Consultations

Executive Directors and Senior Responsible Officers were consulted for each of the objectives and priority projects contained within the Corporate Action Plan 24-25 in order to gain the most recent and relevant information.

4.4 Significant Issues

There are none within this report, however, individual projects may have associated issues, and these will be detailed in the appended report.

4.5 In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities and there are no areas of concern.

5. Environmental impact

5.1 Each of the objectives and priority projects within the appended action plan will have considered their environmental impact individually. Some of these (such as the impact of solar panels at the depot) have been described directly within the progress updates provided within the action plan.

6. What will it cost and are

7. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

Current Risk	Actions to reduce the risks
That the projects and actions within the Corporate Action Plan 2024-25 are not sufficiently progressed, meaning the key strategic aims found in the Blaby Plan may also be diminished. The delivery of the action plan will be monitored by SLT with reports to Council on a six-monthly basis. In addition, relevant Portfolio Holders will be kept up to date with specific activities.	That the projects and actions within the Corporate Action Plan 2024-25 are not sufficiently progressed, meaning the key strategic aims found in the Blaby Plan may also be diminished. The delivery of the action plan will be monitored by SLT with reports to Council on a six-monthly basis. In addition, relevant Portfolio Holders will be kept up to date with specific activities.
Council members are unaware of key projects and their progress meaning they are unable to exert any influence or communicate this to residents, business and other stakeholders. The provision of the appended progress report in addition to frequent updates to cabinet members collectively and portfolio holders individually.	Council members are unaware of key projects and their progress meaning they are unable to exert any influence or communicate this to residents, business and other stakeholders. The provision of the appended progress report in addition to frequent updates to cabinet members collectively and portfolio holders individually.

8. Other options considered

No other options were considered. It is important that residents, partners, Elected Members, and staff are familiar with how the Council is delivering against its agreed actions and priorities.

9. Appendix

9.1 Appendix A – Annual Corporate Action Plan 2024-2

