

**To Members of the Council**

Cllr. Roy Denney (Chairman) (Outgoing Chairman)  
Cllr. Janet Forey (Vice-Chairman) (Outgoing 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. 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 **ANNUAL COUNCIL** will be held in the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Narborough on **TUESDAY, 12 MAY 2026** 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. Outgoing Chairman's Announcements

4(a) Election of Chairman

4(b) Declaration of Acceptance of Office

4(c) Investiture of Chairman with Chain of Office

5. Chairman's Announcements

6. Presentation of Past Chairman's Badge to Outgoing Chairman

7(a) Appointment of Vice-Chairman

7(b) Declaration of Acceptance of Office

7(c) Investiture of Vice-Chairman with Chain of Office

8. Minutes (Pages 5 - 8)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2026 (enclosed).

9. Leaders Annual Statement 2025-26

To consider the Leader's Annual Statement (To follow).

10. Scrutiny Statement to Annual Council 2025-26

To consider the report of the Scrutiny Commissioners (To follow).

11. Audit & Governance Committee Annual Report 2025-26

To consider the report of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee Chairman (To follow).

## **SECTION 2 - STANDARD COUNCIL BUSINESS**

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

12. Delegation Scheme of the Cabinet Executive and Cabinet Appointments 2026/27 (Pages 9 - 12)

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

13. Appointment to Chairman and Vice-Chairman to Committees 2026/27 (Pages 13 - 14)

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

14. Appointment of Members to Serve on Outside Bodies 2026/2027 (Pages 15 - 18)

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

15. Appointments to Committees 2026/27 (Pages 19 - 22)

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

16. Schedule of Meetings 2026/27 (Pages 23 - 26)

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

## **SECTION 3 - PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL**

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

17. Presentation: Youth Council Update

Members will receive a presentation from the Blaby District Youth 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.

18. 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.

### 19. 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.

### 20. Annual Corporate Action Plan 2025/26 (Closure Report) (Pages 27 - 48)

To consider the report of the Business Systems & Information 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**

There are no items of business for consideration under this Section.

## COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

**TUESDAY, 14 APRIL 2026**

### **Present:-**

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

Cllr. Shabbir Aslam	Cllr. Hannah Gill	Cllr. Mike Shirley
Cllr. Royston Bayliss	Cllr. Nigel Grundy	Cllr. Roger Stead
Cllr. Dr John Bloxham	Cllr. Paul Hartshorn	Cllr. Ben Taylor
Cllr. Lee Breckon JP	Cllr. Mark Jackson	Cllr. Matt Tomeo
Cllr. Adrian Clifford	Cllr. Becca Lunn	Cllr. Bob Waterton
Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore	Cllr. Antony Moseley	Cllr. Jane Wolfe
Cllr. Stuart Coar	Cllr. Les Phillimore	Cllr. Maggie Wright
Cllr. Tony Deakin	Cllr. Terry Richardson	Cllr. Neil Wright
Cllr. Susan Findlay	Cllr. Ande Savage	
Cllr. Helen Gambardella	Cllr. Tracey Shepherd	

### **Officers present:-**

Julia Smith	- Chief Executive
Marc Greenwood	- Executive Director - Place
Sarah Pennelli	- Executive Director - S.151 Officer
Jonathan Hodge	- Planning & Strategic Growth Group Manager
Gemma Dennis	- Corporate Services Group Manager
Sandeep Tiensa	- Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
Avisa Birchenough	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer
Nicole Evans	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer

### **Honorary Alderman in attendance:-**

Iain Hewson

### **Apologies:-**

Cllr. Nick Brown, Cllr. Nick Chapman, Cllr. Alex DeWinter, Cllr. Richard Holdridge and Cllr. Dillan Shikotra

1. **DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS**

No disclosures were received.

2. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2026, as circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

3. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

- Attended a meal with the Chairman of Oadby & Wigston Borough Council in February 2026.
- Attended a meal with the Chairman of Harborough District Council on 3 March 2026.
- Attended a Civic Church Service at Saint John's Church in Hinckley on 4 March 2026.
- Attended the Leicestershire Tourism Forum held at Twycross Zoo on 17 March 2026.
- Attended the Mayor of Charnwood's Charity Dinner Night on 20 March 2026
- Attended a Gurdwara Shri Guru Harkrishan Sahib Ji service on 22 March 2026 in Oadby with Cllr. Oliver Hall.
- Attended a Charity Fundraiser & Tour at Everards Brewery on 23 March 2026 with the Leicestershire High Sherriff and Blaby District Councillors, Janet Forey, Ben Taylor and Mike Shirley.
- Attended a Civic Event in Braunstone Town on 29 March 2026.
- Attended the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's Chairman's Charity dinner on 10 April 2026.
- Attended a Charity event held in the Elizabethan Buffet car on the Great Central Railway on 12 April 2026.

#### 4. **LEADER'S STATEMENT**

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

- Progress on the purchase of Additional Temporary Accommodation
- Glen Parva Community Fridge handover
- Enhanced Biodiversity Duty
- Blaby Business Grant Scheme
- Tourism cycle routes
- Spring Job and Skills Fair
- Health and Wellbeing Festival
- Youth Conference
- Food Waste collections launch
- Local Government Reorganisation

#### 5. **PUBLIC SPEAKING PROTOCOL**

No requests were received.

#### 6. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

No questions were received.

#### 7. **CORPORATE ACTION PLAN 2026-27**

Considered – Report of the Performance & Information Service Manager, presented by Cllr. Ben Taylor – Leader of the Council.

#### **DECISION**

That the Corporate Action Plan 2026-27 be noted.

Reason:

It is important that Elected Members support the priorities for the next year which contribute to the delivery of the Corporate Plan.

**8. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME**

Considered – Report of the Development Strategy Manager, presented by Cllr. Mike Shirley – Planning and Strategic Growth Portfolio Holder.

**DECISION**

That the revised Blaby District Local Development Scheme be approved with immediate effect.

Reasons:

1. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended, requires a Local Planning Authority to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme.
2. As the Council prepares for its Regulation 19 Publication and subsequent submission to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) all local planning authorities are required to produce an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) to ensure that the timetable for local plan preparation remains up to date.

**9. LEICESTER & LEICESTERSHIRE AUTHORITIES - STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND RELATING TO STRATEGIC DISTRIBUTION FLOORSPEACE NEEDS UPDATE AND APPORTIONMENT**

Members were advised that this item had been withdrawn.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.13 P.M.**

## Blaby District Council

### Annual Council

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	12 May 2026
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Delegation Scheme of the Cabinet Executive and Cabinet Executive Appointments</b> This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan
<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Cllr. Ben Taylor - Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Report Author</b>	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
<b>Strategic Themes</b>	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 about the Delegation Scheme of the Cabinet Executive and appointments to the Cabinet Executive.

#### 2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That the report of the Leader of the Council be accepted.
- 2.2 That the Constitution be amended accordingly with the updated roles and responsibilities of Cabinet Executive Members and Senior Leadership Team.

#### 3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 It is appropriate to receive the report of the Leader of the Council and the appointment of Members to the Cabinet Executive.

#### 4. Matters to consider

- 4.1 Background

This report is prepared in accordance with Part 4 Section 4 Paragraph 1.2 of the Constitution of the Council where I am required to:

- a) List the names, addresses and wards of the people appointed to the Cabinet Executive by me (including the person appointed to the position

of Deputy Leader of the Cabinet/Council) as attached at Appendix 1. (To follow).

The Leader, Cllr. Ben Taylor revised the portfolios in March 2026 by reallocating the functions of the Housing, Community Safety and Environmental Services Portfolio from Cllr. Les Phillimore to Cllr. Susan Findlay.

Members appointed to the Cabinet Executive by the Leader for 2026/27 including the revised Scheme of Delegation has been attached at Appendices 1 and 2 (to follow).

- b) Detail the extent of any authority delegated to executive members individually, including details of the limitation on their authority;
- **No individual delegation is authorised under the current Constitution and therefore none has been granted.**
- c) Detail the nature and extent of any delegation of executive functions, with any other authority or any joint arrangements and the names of those executive members appointed to any joint committee for the forthcoming year;
- **None. There are no such formal joint arrangements or joint committees.**
- d) Detail the nature and extent of any delegation to officers, with details of any limitation on that delegation, and the title of the officer whom the delegation is made.
- **Delegation to Officers from Cabinet Executive is contained within the Constitution. Any changes to delegation have been made through the Cabinet Executive for which a Schedule of Executive Decisions is published after each meeting and for which minutes are produced.**

#### 4.2 Proposal(s)

That the delegation scheme attached at Appendix A be approved.

#### 4.3 Relevant Consultations

Members of Conservative Group have been consulted.

#### 4.4 Significant Issues

##### Legal Implications

The Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) determined that it is for the Leader of each Local Authority to:

- appoint the Members of the Cabinet Executive;
- set the size of the Cabinet (a minimum of 2 up to a maximum of 9 Members (including the Leader));
- allocate portfolio responsibilities.
- remove Members from the Cabinet; and
- determine the scheme of delegation.

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**

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 In accordance with the Members Allowance Scheme, each Member of the Cabinet Executive will be paid a Special Responsibility Allowance.

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

7.1 No risks have been identified.

## **8. Other options considered**

8.1 No other options have been considered.

## **9. Appendix**

9.1 Appendix A – Cabinet Executive Appointments 2026/27. **(To Follow)**

9.2 Appendix B – Scheme of Delegation 2026/27 **(To Follow)**

## **10. Background paper(s)**

10.1 None.

## **11. Report author's contact details**

Sandeep Tiensa	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
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## Blaby District Council

### Annual Council

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	12 May 2026
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Appointments of Chair and Vice-Chair to Committees 2026-27</b>
	<b>This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan</b>
<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Cllr. Ben Taylor - Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Report Author</b>	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
<b>Strategic Themes</b>	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 appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair to Committees.

#### 2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That Council appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair of Committees for the municipal year 2026/2027 as detailed at Appendix A (to follow).

#### 3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 It is appropriate to give effect to the wishes of the political groups.

#### 4. Matters to consider

##### 4.1 Background

Council is asked to appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair of Committees for the municipal year 2026-27.

If there is more than one nomination for any of the Chair/Vice-Chair positions, then the nominations will be put to the vote at the meeting.

##### 4.2 Proposal(s)

That Council appoint the 2026/27 Chair and Vice-Chair of Committees.

4.3 Relevant Consultations

All Political Groups

4.4 Significant Issues

None.

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 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 The Members Allowance Scheme in the Constitution sets out the Chairman and Vice-Chairman roles that receive a Special Responsibility Allowance.

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

7.1 No risks have been identified.

**8. Other options considered**

8.1 No other options have been considered.

**9. Appendix**

9.1 Appendix A – Proposed Committees Chair/Vice-Chair 2026-27  
**(To follow)**

**10. Background paper(s)**

10.1 None.

**11. Report author's contact details**

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## Blaby District Council Annual Council

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	12 May 2026
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Appointment of Members to Serve on Outside Bodies – 2026/2027</b>  This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan
<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Cllr. Ben Taylor - Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Report Author</b>	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
<b>Strategic Themes</b>	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 by Council for appointments to be made to Outside Bodies for 2026/2027.

### 2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That the preferences and changes to appointments to Outside Bodies as proposed in Appendix A (to follow) be approved.
- 2.2 That unless otherwise stated all appointments continue until the Annual Council Meeting in 2027.
- 2.3 That all appointments be endorsed as approved duties for the payment of expenses.
- 2.4 That the Constitution be updated accordingly.

### 3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 It is appropriate to give effect to the wishes of the political groups.

#### **4. Matters to consider**

##### 4.1 Background

The Council makes appointments and nominations to a number of Outside Bodies each year. This report sets out the details of the appointments which are made by the Council.

##### 4.2 Proposal(s)

It is recommended that Council considers nominating to the bodies listed at Appendix A as appropriate (to follow).

##### 4.3 Relevant Consultations

The Conservative Group.

##### 4.4 Significant Issues

None.

##### 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 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 relevant to this report.

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

##### 7.1 None.

#### **8. Other options considered**

##### 8.1 No other options were considered.

#### **9. Appendix**

##### 9.1 Appendix A – Appointments to Outside Bodies 2026/27 (to follow).

**10. Background paper(s)**

10.1 None.

**11. Report author's contact details**

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## Blaby District Council

### Annual Council

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	12 May 2026
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Appointments to Committees 2026/27</b> This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan
<b>Report Author</b>	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
<b>Strategic Themes</b>	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 determine the distribution of seats for Council.
- 1.2 To seek appointments to Committees and Sub-Committees.

#### 2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That effect be given to the wishes of the political groups as to the allocation of seats as detailed at Appendix 1. (To follow)
- 2.2 That the distribution of seats as set out at Appendix 2 (to follow) be endorsed with immediate effect for all Committees.

#### 3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 It is appropriate to give effect to the wishes of the political groups and ensure compliance with the Local Government & Housing Act 1989, Section 15 – 17 inclusive.

#### 4. Matters to consider

- 4.1 Background

The rules governing political balance on Committees/Sub-Committees are set out under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (duty to allocate seats to political groups) and Section 16 (duty to give effect to allocations). Section 17 of the above Act states that section 15 and 16 shall not apply where no member votes against a seat distribution not following the requirements of Sections 15 and 16 of the above Act.

In simple terms this removes the political balance requirement, the effect of which has enabled seat allocation on an agreed rather than imposed basis.

This arrangement is of particular benefit in relation to membership of scrutiny working groups. Members are reminded that appointments to Cabinet Executive are exempted from the provisions of the above Act by virtue of the Local Government Act 2000. Quasi-Judicial and similar committees should be regarded in similar light.

The Council must, when making appointments to Committees/Sub-Committees, give effect to the wishes of the political groups to whom seats are allocated. The Council is asked to endorse, unanimously, the distribution of seats as set out in Appendix 1 (to follow).

**Seat Allocation** – Based on current membership arrangements, the representation by Committee for this Council are set out at Appendix 2.

#### Amendments to Committee Appointments

Amendments to Committee appointments were made in March 2026 when Cllr. Susan Findlay was appointed to the Cabinet Executive by the Leader of the Council. Consequently, Cllr Susan Findlay was removed from the following Committees, with appropriate substitute Members to take her place:

- Planning Committee -Vice-Chairman
- Scrutiny Commission

The Council is invited to approve the appointment of Members to serve on Committees for those positions as shown in Appendix 1 (to follow) subject to the seat distribution being agreed without any member voting against.

#### 4.2 Proposal(s)

That the appointments to Committees at Appendix 1 (to follow) be approved.

That the distribution of seats at Appendix 2 (to follow) be endorsed.

#### 4.3 Relevant Consultations

All Political Groups.

#### 4.4 Significant Issues

None.

#### 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 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 There are no cost implications as a result of this report.

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

7.1 No risks have been identified.

**8. Other options considered**

8.1 No other options have been considered.

**9. Appendix**

9.1 Appendix 1 – Proposed Committee Membership 2026-27 (To Follow)

9.2 Appendix 2 – Proposed Seat Allocation Table 2026-27 (To Follow)

**10. Background paper(s)**

10.1 Each Political Groups' Preference Forms.

**11. Report author's contact details**

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## Blaby District Council

### Annual Council

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	12 May 2026
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Schedule of Meetings 2026-27</b> This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan
<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Cllr. Ben Taylor - Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Report Author</b>	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
<b>Strategic Themes</b>	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 proposed Schedule of Meetings for the period 12 May 2026 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2027.

#### 2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That the Schedule of Meetings for 2026-2027 attached at Appendix A be approved.

#### 3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 It is a Constitutional requirement for Council to approve the Schedule of Meetings.

#### 4. Matters to consider

##### 4.1 Background

The Council is responsible for fixing the times for its meetings in accordance with Part 3 Section 6 of the Constitution.

In consultation with the Leader, the following amendments to committee dates in 2026 have been agreed:

- That all Audit and Corporate Governance Committees meetings to start at 6:00pm. This is to allow Committee Members to meet with the Internal Audit Manager independently to Council management being

present. All Committee Members will be required to attend from 5.30pm for a pre-meeting.

Meeting:	Previous date:	New Date:
<b>May 2026:</b>		
Planning Committee	14 May 2026 – cancelled	N/A
<b>July 2026</b>		
Licensing and Regulatory Committee	1 July 2026	7 July 2026
<b>October 2026</b>		
Audit and Corporate Governance Committee	5 October 2026	30 November 2026
<b>2027</b>		
Audit and Corporate Governance Committee	-	25 January 2027

#### 4.2 Proposal(s)

That the Schedule of Meetings and the amendments noted above be approved.

#### 4.3 Relevant Consultations

- Leader of the Council
- Senior Leadership Team

#### 4.4 Significant Issues

None.

#### 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 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 There are no cost implications in relation to this report.

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

7.1 No risks have been identified.

**8. Other options considered**

8.1 None relevant to this report.

**9. Appendix**

9.1 Appendix A – Schedule of Meetings – May 2026 to December 2027. (To follow)

**10. Background paper(s)**

10.1 None.

**11. Report author's contact details**

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## Blaby District Council Council

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	12 May 2026
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Annual Corporate Action Plan 2025-26 (Closure Report)</b> This is not a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan
<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Cllr. Ben Taylor - Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Report Author</b>	Business Systems & Information Manager
<b>Strategic Themes</b>	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 progress of actions outlined in the Annual Corporate Action Plan for 2025-26 period. This action plan was approved by Council on 8 April 2025.

### 2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That Council notes the progress made against the Corporate Action Plan 2025-26.

### 3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 It is important that Elected Members, and staff are familiar with how the Council is delivering against its agreed actions and priorities.

### 4. Matters to consider

- 4.1 Background

The Council's vision for the district and its key strategic themes are set out in the **Blaby District Plan 2024 - 2028**.

The vision is “**to ensure that Blaby District is a great place to live, work and visit.**”. The strategic themes provide the areas of focus for the Council to achieve its vision.

The role of the '**Annual Corporate Action Plan**' is to outline specific objectives planned for the forthcoming year that will contribute towards the delivery of the Blaby District Plan. Each of the objectives set out in the Action Plan are aligned to one of the strategic themes and will also have projects & actions that come together to deliver those objectives. The most significant of these are also itemised in the Action Plan as 'priority' projects.

This report provides a closing update for those objectives and priority projects outlined in the Corporate Action Plan for 2025-26, which was approved by Council on 8 April 2025.

In total, there were **15 objectives and 20 Priority Projects** contained within the Action Plan for 25-26.

These objectives and their underlying projects helped to address significant areas such as **Homelessness Prevention**, where further progress has been made to increase the availability of Council managed properties to support families in need of temporary accommodation.

Huge progress has been made to prepare for, and launch, the government mandated weekly **food waste collections**, which has involved input and collaboration from across multiple service areas in the Council and been a testament to our teams combined ability to plan and deliver change together.

Work also continued throughout the year to develop the **emerging local plan**, this was against the backdrop and challenge of changing guidance and legislation. The plan will be presented at Council in the summer of 2026 with permission being sought to publish at Regulation 19 and move forward to public engagement.

The Council's preparations for **Local Government Re-organisation** also took significant steps forward during this period, primarily with the formation and submission of our combined proposal for the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland area. This was produced in collaboration with all the District Councils in Leicestershire and with Rutland County Council and was submitted in November 2025. Public engagement was also successful in attracting a high level of response, together with support for our 'North, City, South' proposal.

Internally, the Council completed a very successful **migration of its ICT provision** to an entirely 'in-house' service. The new service is robust and dependable, whilst beginning to develop and enable our future digital ambitions.

These are just a small snapshot of the progress made across the 2025-26 period. The full details can be seen in the 'Closure Report' appended to this document.

Several of the objectives and related priority projects are long-term endeavours, realistically taking longer than a year to complete, therefore Councillors will notice that some actions were carried forward from previous actions plans, and some may continue onto the plan for 2026-27.

#### 4.2 Proposal(s)

Progress of the actions outlined in the Corporate Action Plan 2025-26 are detailed in the report at Appendix A. Members are invited to review the progress 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 25-26 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 there opportunities for savings?**

#### 6.1 The annual budget, approved by Council in February each year, supports the delivery of the actions contained within the Corporate Action Plan.

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

### 7.1

Current Risk	Actions to reduce the risks
That the actions within the Corporate Action Plan 2025-26 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 actions within the Corporate Action Plan 2025-26 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 actions 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 actions 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

8.1 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 2024-25 – Closure Report

9.2 Appendix B – [Blaby District Plan 2024-2028](#)

**10. Background paper(s)**

10.1 None

**11. Report author's contact details**

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# Annual Corporate Action Plan 2025/26 Closure Report

Key actions belonging to each strategic theme of the  
Blaby District Plan 2024-28.

## Enabling Our Communities & Supporting Our Vulnerable Residents

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Homelessness Prevention</b>	We are committed to maintaining a zero rough sleeping rate. We recognise the need for specialised housing to meet the needs of the most vulnerable members of our community, and pledge to work closely with partners to make this a reality.	Executive Director (Communities)	Preventing homelessness before it occurs has remained a priority. This reduces costly and unsuitable placements in temporary accommodation and supports the Councils emerging long term housing strategy. At the beginning of the year there were 213 individuals in temporary accommodation, this has risen sharply during the year to 277. We have not seen any seasonal variation in terms of the numbers and the increase has been exacerbated as we have not seen much movement in the provision of affordable housing becoming available. Two new prevention posts have been agreed in order to further support this priority for the coming year and we continue to focus on delivering homelessness reduction initiatives as well as identifying opportunities to provide our own affordable accommodation.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Temporary Accommodation	Continue to develop our offer of Temporary Accommodation to support the Homelessness Strategy in terms of the Operating Model and identifying additional opportunities to expand the offer.	Group Manager - Environmental Health, Housing & Community Service 31-Mar-26	Progress has been made and the Council secured the lease of a 13 unit property to support single homeless households. Agreement has also been reached to purchase a further 41 homes for use as temporary accommodation, providing a more suitable and cost effective solution for both single and family households.

## Enhancing & Maintaining our Natural & Built Environments

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Council Net Zero 2030</b>	In an effort to be a responsible and exemplary organisation, and in response to the global climate change crisis, Blaby District Council aims to reduce its carbon emissions to 'Net Zero' by 31 March 2030. The collection of projects and initiatives within this work programme are contributing to that aim.	Executive Director (Communities)	We continue to monitor our Carbon Emissions and explore all opportunities to achieve this ambitious target. A cross party working group has been set up to progress and prioritise initiatives.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Go Net Zero at the Depot (EV Charging)	Adaptations to the council depot to contribute towards our ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030. This will include installation of phase 1 electric vehicle charging infrastructure to facilitate the gradual evolution towards an electric fleet.	Group Manager - Neighbourhood Services  31-Dec-26	This project supports the council's longer term fleet electrification plans. Good progress has been made in delivering Phase 1 adaptations at Whetstone Depot to support the council's net zero ambitions. Following completion of feasibility work and detailed design, enabling works have commenced on site, with groundworks undertaken and key equipment procured to future proof the depot for the phased transition to an electric fleet.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>National Waste Collection Reform</b>	To ensure we can deliver the new Government requirements with respect to food waste and have adequate funding in place to ensure effective and efficient provision of service.	Executive Director (S151)	The project to introduce the new food waste service was delivered on time and within budget. Government funding supported the implementation phase through grants covering vehicles, receptacles and resident communications. The Council also contributed to vehicle costs to incorporate additional safety features. Ongoing costs are funded through government grant within the Local Government Settlement; however, it is not currently clear how much funding has been provided to fully compensate the Council. Costs will continue to be monitored now that the service has been rolled out.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Food Waste Collections	New national government policy on waste collections has mandated the introduction of separate weekly food waste collections by 1 April 2026.	Group Manager - Neighbourhood Services  Completed	The government mandated introduction of separate weekly food waste collections was successfully implemented on 30 March 2026, delivered on schedule and within budget. A council wide project team ensured that all key workstreams were completed to programme. This included recruitment and training of staff, procurement of vehicles and caddies, district wide caddy distribution, policy development, comprehensive communications activity, and the optimisation of collection routes. Dedicated capital and transitional funding was provided by central government to support the introduction of the service. While the long term revenue allocation was not specified separately, the ongoing costs of the service have been incorporated within the final local government funding settlement, ensuring the service is financially sustainable.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Emerging Local Plan</b>	To continue development of the emerging local plan towards adoption of an up to date and robust plan that sets the spatial vision for the district and re-establishes a five year housing land supply.	Executive Director (Place)	Collation of the evidence required for the Local Plans submission to Regulation 19 continues. Progress has been made throughout the year, with the Local Plan now entering the final stages of preparation ahead of seeking the permission of Council to publish under Regulation 19 in the summer. The Local Plan will then be submitted for examination to the Planning Inspectorate by December 2026.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Progress the Local Plan	The production of the Local Plan will continue throughout the year, with milestones to include publication of the Regulation 19 phase, which will include engagement with the public.	Group Manager - Planning & Strategic Growth  31-Mar-26	The ongoing progression of the Local Plan is critical to the Councils Place based approach to development and continues to progress against the backdrop of changing guidance and legislation. As per the revisions to the NPPF in 2024 transport is a critical piece of evidence with specific reference to the new "vision led approach". This work is being undertaken in partnership with the County Highways team to ensure the Local Plan compliments a strategic vision for growth. The Local Plan will be presented to Council in the summer seeking permission to publish at Regulation 19. Public engagement will then commence.

## Growing & Supporting our Economy

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Economic Development Framework</b>	The Economic Development Framework brings together all economic development activities that are occurring within the district and considers how they complement each other to maximise the benefits for our residents, businesses and visitors.	Executive Director (Place)	The Economic Development Framework continues to provide the strategic direction for supporting businesses to succeed in Blaby District. This year has seen the establishment of the Blaby Business Board. The Board is made up of Blaby District businesses who work with the Council to inform how we support local enterprises. This is one of several examples of how we are working with, and listening to, businesses to enable delivery of the EDF objectives.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Delivery of the Economic Development Framework action plan	Working with partners and across BDC teams, the newly created EDF action plan will be delivered. The plan enables delivery across the five thematic areas of the EDF, drawing upon the expertise and skills of both private and public sector bodies to ensure objectives are achieved.	Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects  31-Mar-26	The Economic Development Framework has demonstrated strong overall delivery in 2025–26. Delivery has included providing support to help small and medium sized businesses enabling them to secure more than £365,000 in grants and business loans. Through the EDF Blaby District Council have supported the creation of 70 new local jobs, with a further 60 in the pipeline. A total of 59 tailored business action plans were produced through direct one to one support. Delivery of the EDF has helped 15 new businesses start up, enabled over £200,000 of apprenticeship levy transfers to deliver 14 new Police apprenticeships, and supported young people through skills and employment programmes. We have also brought businesses and residents together through a range of events, including the business breakfasts, with more than 500 people attending over the course of the year. This continued focus on supporting businesses and institutions in Blaby to grow will continue in 2026/27.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Tourism Growth Plan</b>	The Tourism Growth Plan for Blaby District outlines the ambition, objectives and priorities for managing, developing and promoting tourism in the District. The plan has been developed by the Blaby District Tourism Partnership. The plan's purpose is to focus efforts by the Council, its partners and tourism businesses on the actions which are likely to have the most benefit for the visitor economy of Blaby District.	Executive Director (Place)	Enabled by the Blaby Tourism Partnership, the Tourism Growth Plan continues to positively impact the District. Year on year growth in visitor numbers to the district and increasing financial value for destinations in the district, have been driven by the Partnership approach to tourism. This year the plan helped deliver new initiatives such as the districts participation in the Leicester Comedy Festival. The Tourism Growth Plan will continue to shape the partnership led approach to tourism growth over the coming years.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Delivery of the Tourism Growth Plan action plan, in conjunction with the Tourism Partnership.	The newly created Blaby Tourism Growth Plan will be delivered throughout the year. The plan will bring together partners from across the district to maximise the opportunities for growth in visitor numbers and increase the overall economic impact of tourism.	Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects  31-Mar-26	The Tourism service has delivered strong outcomes focused on economic growth, partnership working and increased visitor engagement. The Tourism Growth Plan was successfully launched in March 2025, supported by an active Tourism Partnership now comprising 72 local partners and aligned with the wider Economic Development Framework. The district has seen measurable growth over recent years, with the latest data showing visitor spend rising to over £231 million and more than 3.1 million visits recorded in the district.  Marketing and promotion activity has performed strongly, with Visit Blaby achieving a 50% increase in website traffic over the summer period and high levels of engagement with events content. Key campaigns delivered in partnership with Visit Leicester, including promotion of the Victory Show, generated significant footfall and online reach.

## Keeping You Safe & Healthy

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Active Travel Strategy</b>	This Strategy will set out plans for enabling further active travel in the district.	Executive Director (Place)	Active Travel remains a key priority for the district. The recent launch of new cycle routes, to encourage residents and visitors to get active using safe routes, is a great example of this. Work will continue into next year to shape the design of active travel infrastructure and to create more opportunities for people to be active by cycling or walking across the district

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Improvement of Infrastructure	The key focus for this year is working with partners to identify and apply for funding opportunities to improve active travel infrastructure across the district.	Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects  31-Mar-26	We have continued to play a key and valued role as a partner in the Lubbethorpe to City Walk and Ride project, supporting the delivery of improved, safe and accessible active travel routes that align with wider health, sustainability and connectivity objectives for both residents and visitors. This partnership approach will continue in 2026/27, enabling remaining sections of the scheme to be delivered.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Community Safety Strategy</b>	The strategy sets out the work that will be undertaken to meet our statutory duties under the Community Safety requirements	Executive Director (Communities)	The objectives laid out in the work plans of the Community Safety Partnership have been delivered

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Delivery of the Community Safety Partnership Action Plan	The key focus for this year is improving the survivors of domestic abuse, tackling serious violence and reducing the intentional self-harm rates.	Group Manager - Environmental Health, Housing & Community Service 31-Mar-26	The objectives laid out in the work plans of the Community Safety Partnership have been delivered and the 2026/27 Strategy Planning event has taken place, identifying the key actions for addressing the key focus and statutory duties. All male members of SLT became ambassadors for the White Ribbon Campaign and delivered a comprehensive and proactive campaign and awareness programme, across local schools and the Council.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Contaminated Land Strategy</b>	The Contaminated Land Strategy sets out how the authority approaches the management, mitigation and monitoring of contaminated land within the district.	Executive Director (Communities)	Progress has been made against the Contaminated Land Strategy with ongoing monitoring and management as required.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Delivery of Contaminated land initiatives	We will continue to deliver management operations on identified contaminated land sites.	Group Manager - Environmental Health, Housing & Community Service 31-Mar-26	The work undertaken to monitor and manage the sites, has resulted in the risk levels and levels of intervention needed being reduced and has become business as usual. The team have proactively engaged with all new development sites at an early stage ensuring that safe management and consideration of risk has been proactively considered.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Leisure Provision</b>	Identification of Leisure provision in the district to promote access to sports and fitness opportunities	Executive Director (Place)	<p>The Leisure offer across the district continues to attract people from Blaby District and beyond. As the number of users of Enderby Leisure Centre continues to grow, the recent opening of the centres extension has been met with enthusiasm from members. The new facilities offer a wide range of weight and fitness equipment, catering for the changing demands of users. This has led to over 4000 additional gym visits between January and March 2026 compared to the same time last year.</p> <p>Options for improving the facilities and usage of the Huncote Leisure Centre continue to be explored with wider community and sport participation being considered. The majority of the fields at the rear of the centre have now been opened up for the public to access following the closure and safe removal of the BMX track.</p>

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Progress the scoping of the Lubbethorpe leisure offer	Work with the Developer, Sport England, Football Foundation, Lubbethorpe Parish Council and any other relevant stakeholders to scope the design for a leisure offer at Lubbethorpe and to commence the planning arrangements.	Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects  31-Mar-26	An appraisal was undertaken with specialist consultants to assess and identify viable options for leisure provision, providing a robust foundation for detailed future design. The outcomes of this work have been shared with the developer and partners, with further progress anticipated during 2026/27 as proposals continue to be developed.

## Ambitious & Well-Managed Council, Valuing our People

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Local Government Re-organisation and Devolution</b>	This work programme contains the actions required to enable Blaby District Council to be at the heart of the LGR and Devolution Agenda for Leicester and Leicestershire and ensure that our residents and staff are supported, empowered and represented.	Chief Executive	LGR has been a dominant workstream this year, involving the establishment of different workstreams and leads with our culminating in our final proposal being submitted in November 2025. Work continued from this point with LLR workstreams being established and a collaborative focus on 'no regrets' to prepare for the decision in July 26. We are pleased that we submitted a great proposal, engaged with partners based on a preventative approach recognising the importance of localised provision.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
LGR - Submission of LGR Proposal	Develop with Partners the Proposal for Local Government Re-organisation in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.	Chief Executive 31-Mar-26	Our LGR proposal was submitted in November 2025, it was produced in collaboration with all of the District Councils in Leicestershire and with Rutland County Council. The engagement with the public was a huge success and shaped the content of the proposal, and there was a high level of engagement and support for the North City South proposal. There is significant strength in the partnership approach and the whole geography begin covered with our submission. We hosted MHCLG representatives earlier in the year talked through our proposal and toured Leicestershire to show them the rural and urban elements as well as our strong economic development offer.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
External and Internal Communication Strategies	Delivery of External and Internal communication plans to ensure that messages are disseminated in an accurate and timely manner to minimise anxiety and maximise engagement in the LGR and Devolution agenda.	Group Manager - Corporate Services & Monitoring Officer 31-Mar-26	The established LGR Communications workstream continues to meet weekly to support the delivery of coordinated internal and external communications and reports to the Chief Executive's Group. At Blaby District Council, this has included the development and delivery of clear, timely messaging to staff, members and residents at key milestones to raise awareness, minimise uncertainty and support engagement. Blaby District Council has led on the public engagement activity, supported the development of the NCS proposal, and cascaded agreed communications through corporate channels. This has included promoting and amplifying the government's consultation on the three proposals for the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland area.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Human Resource Capacity	Providing staff with support, skills and tools to adapt to change and prosper in a new organisation, as well as sustainable recruitment and retention	Group Manager - ICT & Transformation	Through constructive early engagement with neighbouring authorities, we are laying the foundations for collaboration that will strengthen workforce resilience, capability and value for money in the context of Local Government Reform and Devolution. Our continued focus on recruitment and retention, combined with ongoing review of systems, processes and wider workforce engagement offers, reinforces our commitment to sustaining a diverse, skilled and future-proofed workforce. The decision to invest in additional in-house capacity and specialist expertise across recruitment, retention, learning and organisational development is a clear signal of our ambition and readiness for the journey ahead. Collectively, these actions position the Council well to support our people, respond confidently to change and continue to be one of many great places to work in Blaby District.
		31-Mar-26	

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Councillor Capacity	Engagement with external partners such as the Planning Advisory Service to equip our Councillors with the knowledge and skills	Group Manager - Corporate Services & Monitoring Officer	Over the past year the Council has continued to work closely with key sector partners and agencies to support and deliver the training programme approved by the Member Development Steering Group. During this period, a wide range of development opportunities for Members have been delivered, including leadership and finance programmes, chairing skills, wellbeing and mental health training, data and performance management sessions, and residential leadership development, as well as support to help Members prepare for the implications of Local Government Reorganisation.
		31-Mar-26	

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Financial Sustainability for Blaby District Council</b>	This work programme contains the actions required to demonstrate the Council's ability to fund its current and future services, including the adequacy of reserves, and the approach to identifying savings to close the forecast budget gap.	Executive Director (S151)	The Final Local Government Settlement announced in February 26 introduced the long awaited Fair Funding and Business Rate Reset changes. The revision of the Medium Term Financial Strategy alongside the annual review of the adequacy of reserves, reported to Council in February, ensured that Members were kept apprised of the financial position of the Council.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Medium Term Financial Strategy	Revising the MTFS to reflect the Local Government Funding Reform and Business Rate Reset expected. Linking to our key strategies such as transformation and commercialisation, the plan will clearly articulate how to address the budget gap within our budgets and the expected growing demands for our services.	Group Manager - Resources  31-May-26	The final version of the MTFS was produced following the financial settlement announcing on 9th February and approved at Council on 24th February 2026. The settlement had changed significantly from the initial draft settlement announced on the 18th December 2025 due to MHCLGs change to the approach of treatment relating to Business Rates and Income from the Business Rates Pool. The MTFS covers a 5 year period. Due to increasing demand on Homelessness services and uncertainty around Government funding, the MTFS will be revised during 2026/27 to ensure the MTFS remains accurate and as up to date as possible.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Transforming Blaby Together</b>	Transforming Blaby Together is our over-arching response to the challenges that we face as a council. This Strategy and it's associated work programme is to enable the authority to adopt a culture of continuous improvement to facilitate opportunities and different ways of working to drive operational effectiveness and build in cost effective efficiencies. This is particularly important as we move into Local Government Reorganisation.	Executive Director (S151)	Transforming Blaby Together continues to be an effective and coherent response to the strategic challenges facing the Council. The initiative is steadily embedding a culture of transformation and continuous improvement, supported by a committed Transformation and Projects Team. Through collaborative working, digital innovation and an explicit focus on more efficient and effective ways of working, the strategy is enabling tangible operational improvements while empowering staff to take ownership of change. As the Council looks ahead to Local Government Reform and Devolution, Transforming Blaby Together provides a strong, adaptable framework through which we can respond proactively, deliver cost-effective efficiencies and ensure the organisation is well positioned to operate successfully in a reconfigured local government landscape.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Enhance Data Intelligence	Embracement of emerging technologies such as MS Power BI and AI to identify improvements and drive effectiveness.	Group Manager - Corporate Services & Monitoring Officer  31-Mar-26	The implementation of Microsoft Power BI within many of our key service areas has significantly improved insight and awareness of our data, allowing us to maintain its quality and improve service delivery. It has also driven efficiency by speeding up data reporting and performance analysis.  Additionally, our adoption of Artificial Intelligence has also been progressed, with colleagues now having clear guidance and process to follow to ensure the safe and compliant use of AI. This has allowed us to gain from its huge potential to drive further efficiency by speeding up the completion of manual and laborious tasks and processes, allowing officers to focus on service delivery and enhancement. Because of these accomplishments, this project is now complete.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>Commercial Strategy</b>	Planned activities that sit within the priority action plan contained within our Commercial Strategy.	Executive Director (Place) Executive Director (S151)	Delivery of the Council's Commercial Strategy remains a priority. Maximising the resources and assets of the Council to ensure we are able to allocate funds to support our residents is important. This is demonstrated by the progression of the sale of land at South Drive and the Council's continued promotion of the Hayes Gardens site, in partnership with Santander.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	Deliver projects funded from year 4 UKSPF allocation.	Executive Director (S151) 31-Mar-26	Approval was given by Full Council for the UKSPF to be used towards the Purchase of Temporary Accommodation. 35 properties are currently in the process of being purchased, utilising UKSPF funds as a contribution towards the purchase. Heads of Terms have been agreed and contracts are currently being drafted.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Progress Strategic Asset management approach	Continue to develop the Hayes Gardens site proposal, in partnership with Santander, seeking its inclusion in the Local Plan. Progress the sale of South Drive in line with Council's decision.	Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects 31-Mar-26	During 2025/26, the Council continued to progress its strategic asset management priorities, working closely in partnership with Santander and specialist consultants to further develop the Hayes Gardens site proposal. Evidence has been prepared and submitted to support the site's inclusion as part of the Regulation 19 Local Plan site allocation process, representing a key milestone in promoting the site for future development. Confirmation on whether Hayes Gardens has been allocated within the Local Plan is expected in summer 2026.  Progress has also continued to advance the sale of South Drive in line with the Council's approved decision.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Disposal of Assets	Continue with programme to sell or transfer land in line with the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.	Group Manager - Neighbourhood Services 31-Mar-26	Progress has continued with the programme of land disposals supporting the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy and the objectives of long term sustainability and local stewardship. Following Council approval, land at Glen Hills Nature Area, Jubilee Park, Southey Close Recreation Ground, High Street Whetstone, and Narborough Park has progressed through the statutory disposal process, with no objections or adverse representations received. During the year, alternative legal representation was appointed to ensure effective progression of the transactions. All heads of terms and pre transfer requirements have been agreed with the respective Parish Councils, and the disposals are now at the final conveyancing stage, with solicitors on both sides progressing completion. Subject to standard legal formalities, the transfers are expected to conclude shortly, supporting local ownership, community stewardship, and delivery of the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<b>ICT Service Provision Improvement</b>	To ensure that ICT provision for Blaby District Council is robust, reliable and the infrastructure is fit for purpose. In addition, the Blaby ICT provision should support Blaby to realise future digital ambitions.	Executive Director (S151)	BDC has made significant successful progress against our corporate objective to ensure the ICT provision at Blaby District Council is robust, reliable and fit for purpose, while also enabling our future digital ambitions. The successful transition to an in-house ICT service marks a critical milestone, providing the Council with the assurance, influence and strategic control required to underpin transformation and service modernisation. Despite the challenges inherent in establishing a new service, the dedication and professionalism of the in-house team have been instrumental in moving the organisation from initial stabilisation toward a sustainable steady state. This progress gives confidence that ICT will continue to evolve as a resilient, secure and enabling function—supporting the delivery of the Blaby District Plan, accelerating digital transformation, and positioning the Council strongly for the opportunities and demands of future change, including Local Government Reform and Devolution.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Ensure Our ICT Provision Meets the Needs of the Business	Continue the transition to an in-house service and identify and implement service improvements	Group Manager - ICT & Transformation  31-Mar-26	Following the successful transition to an in-house ICT service on 1st July 2025 the Council entered a critical period of stabilisation and continuous improvement. A clear steady-state action plan is in place, with progress to date against that providing confidence that the foundations have been firmly established to move BDC from transition to a mature, resilient service. As delivery continues, the focus on embedding robust operating practices and implementing targeted service improvements will ensure the in-house ICT function continues to strengthen, supporting organisational performance, digital ambition and the Council's wider Transforming Blaby Together initiative.

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