

CABINET EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Narborough

THURSDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2025

Present:

Councillor Ben Taylor (Leader)
Councillor Cheryl Cashmore (Deputy Leader) (Finance, People and Transformation
Portfolio Holder)

Cllr. Nick Chapman	- Health, Community and Economic Development Portfolio Holder
Cllr. Nigel Grundy	- Neighbourhood Services and Assets Portfolio Holder
Cllr. Les Phillimore	- Housing, Community Safety and Environmental Services Portfolio Holder
Cllr. Mike Shirley	- Planning and Strategic Growth Portfolio Holder

Also in attendance as Observers:

Cllr. Nick Brown – Chairman of Scrutiny Commission
Cllr. Neil Wright – Vice-Chairman of Scrutiny Commission

Officers present:-

Julia Smith	- Chief Executive
Marc Greenwood	- Executive Director - Place
Louisa Horton	- Executive Director - Communities
Sarah Pennelli	- Executive Director - S.151 Officer
Katie Hollis	- Finance Group Manager
Joanne Davis	- Accountancy Services Manager
Ian Jones	- Housing Services Manager
John Crane	- Housing Strategy Team Leader
Catherine Redshaw	- Environmental Services Team Leader
Sandeep Tiensa	- Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
Avisa Birchenough	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer

156. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS

No disclosures were received.

157. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2025, as circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

158. PUBLIC SPEAKING PROTOCOL

No requests were received.

159. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION AND DEVOLUTION

Considered – Report of the Corporate Services Group Manager & Monitoring Officer, presented by the Leader, Cllr Ben Taylor..

Other Options Considered:

The options appraisal set out in Section 2 of the proposal considers 5 different options and explains the analysis and judgements made for each.

The Council could do nothing and not provide a submission to government, as it is not a statutory requirement, however it is important that the Council expresses a view, otherwise the Government has indicated it will impose (through legislation) a solution that it thinks will work for an area. The Council will also be a statutory consultee on all proposals that are taken forward by government for LLR, thus giving the Council the opportunity to comment on alternative proposals at that stage.

DECISIONS

1. That the final Local Government Reorganisation Proposal for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland be endorsed for submission to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government by 28 November 2025.
2. That delegated authority be given to the Leader and Chief Executive to make any minor changes required to the final Proposal prior to submission.

Reasons:

1. To ensure the Local Government Reorganisation Proposal prepared by the boroughs/districts and Rutland can be submitted in accordance with the required timescales for consideration by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
2. To ensure amendments can be made to reflect the feedback from the governance processes and updated information.

160. QUARTER 2 BUDGET REVIEW 2025-26

Considered – Report of the Accountancy Services Manager.

Other Options Considered:

None.

DECISIONS

1. That the financial performance against the budget for the quarter ending 30th September 2025 be accepted.
2. That the irrecoverable debts set out in paragraph 4.5 of the report be authorised to be written off.
3. That delegated authority is given to the Executive Director (S151 Officer) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, People and Transformation to make the decision whether Blaby District Council continues to be a member of the Leicestershire Business Rates pool, as detailed in paragraph 4.6 of the report.

Reasons:

1. It is good practice that Members have oversight of the Council's financial performance at regular points during the financial year.
2. To recognise movements in the call on reserves and balances to date, along with potential variances in establishment costs and key income streams that may arise between now and the end of the financial year.
3. To enable an assessment to be carried out following the Settlement announcement as to whether it continues to be advantageous for Blaby District Council to remain within the Leicestershire Business Rate Pool.

161. SCHEDULE OF CHARGES 2026-27

Considered – Report of the Accountancy Services Manager.

Other Options Considered:

Not to review the fees and charges. However, it is considered appropriate that, where possible, charges should be set at a level necessary to achieve full cost recovery.

DECISION

That the Schedule of Charges for 2026/27, appearing at Appendix A of the report, be approved.

Reason:

To ensure that the fees and charges for 2026/27 are formally set and approved.

162. CORPORATE ACTION PLAN 25-26 MID-YEAR REPORT

Considered – Report of the Performance & Information Service Manager, presented by the Executive Director - Communities.

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.

DECISION

That the progress made against the Corporate Action Plan 2025-26 be noted.

Reason:

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

163. BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL TENANCY STRATEGY

Considered – Report of the Housing Strategy Team Leader

Other Options Considered:

To retain the previous Tenancy Strategy.

DECISION

That the Tenancy Strategy 2025 be adopted.

Reason:

To ensure that our current Tenancy Strategy reflects the needs of our residents and supports the aims of the Housing Services Team to ensure the provision of the most suitable tenures, tenancy agreements and rent levels in our affordable housing stock.

164. AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN 2025 - 2029

Considered – Report of the Environmental Services Team Leader

Other Options Considered:

The Council is legally required to produce an Air Quality Action Plan following the declaration of a new Air Quality Management Area and therefore no other options have been considered.

DECISIONS

1. That the Air Quality Action Plan 2025 – 2029 be approved for publication.
2. That delegated authority be given to the Environmental Health, Housing & Community Services Group Manager, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to make minor amendments to Air Quality Action Plan 2025 - 2029 prior to publication.

Reasons:

3. The Council is required to produce an Air Quality Action Plan following the declaration of an Air Quality Management Area
4. To allow for small changes to be made to the Air Quality Action Plan prior to submission to Defra and publication.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.05 P.M.