

Blaby District Council

Cabinet Executive

Date of Meeting	11 May 2026
Title of Report	Councillor Ward Improvement Scheme This is a Key Decision and is on the Forward Plan.
Lead Member	Cllr. Ben Taylor - Leader of the Council
Report Author	Executive Director - Communities
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 introduce a pilot scheme to enable Ward Members to provide monetary support to contribute to improvements within their ward areas.

2. Recommendation(s) to Cabinet Executive

- 2.1 That approval is given to commence a pilot Councillor Ward Improvement Scheme as detailed in Appendix A.
- 2.2 That the pilot is reviewed and the outcomes presented to Council in February 2027 to determine whether the Scheme progresses.

3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 To enhance the capacity of Councillors to undertake their community leadership role.
- 3.2 An assessment of the pilot is prudent in order to test the process, amount allocated and the impact on each ward area.

4. Matters to consider

4.1 Background

The purpose of the Councillor Ward Improvement Scheme is to enhance the capacity of Councillors to undertake their community leadership role through the granting of funds within their ward to support community projects.

It is proposed that a grant of £3,000 per Councillor is made available which a Councillor can utilise to have a positive impact on residents of the ward the Councillor represents and enhance the lives of the ward residents. This could be by providing monetary support to an event, enhancement of visual amenity or a physical asset.

There will be strict criteria for applications and sign off will be required by an Officer in consultation with the relevant Ward Member.

The Pilot will be reviewed at the end of the Financial Year to assess the spend, process, officer capacity and outcomes, to determine whether it should continue.

4.2 Proposal(s)

That a Pilot for the Councillor Ward Improvement Scheme is approved and is reviewed toward the end of the Financial Year.

4.3 Relevant Consultations

Cabinet Members, Democratic Services, other Council Ward Improvement schemes.

4.4 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 There are no negative impacts as a result of this report, depending upon the type of application or support provided there are opportunities for environmental or biodiversity improvements within the area.

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

6.1 There is a direct cost for this scheme of up to £3,000 per Councillor. The Council has 36 Councillors. In addition, there are indirect costs associated with administration which it is believed will be met from existing resources.

	Current year	2027/28
Revenue	£108,000	To be determined by Council in February 2027

