# **Public Document Pack**



# **Boston Borough Council**

Chief Executive Rob Barlow

Municipal Buildings Boston Lincolnshire PE21 8QR Tel: 01205 314200

Wednesday 29 October 2025

#### Notice of meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

**Dear Councillor** 

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on **Thursday 6th November 2025** at **6.30 pm** in the Committee Room - Municipal Buildings, West Street, Boston, PE21 8QR

Rob Barlow Chief Executive

Membership:

Chairman: Councillor Paul Gleeson Vice-Chairman: Councillor Neil Drayton

Councillors: Alison Austin, Richard Austin BEM, David Brown, Emma Cresswell,

Anne Dorrian, Stuart Evans, Andy Izard, Patricia Marson,

Barrie Pierpoint, Ralph Pryke, Lina Savickiene, David Scoot and

Suzanne Welberry

Quorum 5

Members of the public are welcome to attend the committee meeting as observers except during the consideration of exempt or confidential items.

This meeting may be subject to being recorded.

# **Agenda**

## Part I - Preliminaries

#### A Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitutes (if any).

#### **B** Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

C Minutes (Pages 1 - 16)

To sign and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting.

#### **D** Public Questions

To answer any written questions received from members of the public no later than 5 p.m. two clear working days prior to the meeting – for this meeting the deadline is 5 p.m. on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025.

#### Part II - Agenda Items

1 Annual Monitoring report - South and East Lincolnshire Council's Community Lottery Scheme (Pages 17 - 28)

(A report by Emily Spicer, Assistant Director – Housing and Communities)

#### 2 Quarter 1 25/26 Performance Report

(Pages 29 - 56)

(A report by James Gilbert, Assistant Director – Corporate)

## 3 Work Programme and Forward Plan

(Pages 57 - 70)

(For Members to note/discuss the Committee's current Work Programme and the Council's Forward Plan)

#### 4 Exclusion of Public and Press

To consider resolving - That under Section 100(A)(iv) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended).

## 5 SELCP Sub-regional Leisure Operating Agent Procurement

(Pages 71 - 80)

(A presentation by Mark Humphreys, Head of Special Projects)

#### Notes:

Please contact Democratic Services (<u>demservices@boston.gov.uk</u>) if you have any queries about the agenda and documents for this meeting.

Council Members who are not able to attend the meeting should notify Democratic Services as soon as possible.

#### **Alternative Versions**

Should you wish to have the agenda or report in an alternative format such as larger text, Braille or a specific language, please telephone 01205 314502.

# Agenda Item C

#### **Boston Borough Council**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Overview & Scrutiny Committee** held in the Committee Room - Municipal Buildings, West Street, Boston, PE21 8QR on Thursday 2nd October 2025 at 6.30 pm.

#### Present:

Councillor Paul Gleeson, in the Chair.

Councillors Neil Drayton (Vice-Chairman), Alison Austin, Richard Austin BEM, David Brown, Emma Cresswell, Anne Dorrian, Stuart Evans, Andy Izard, Patricia Marson, Barrie Pierpoint and Suzanne Welberry.

#### Officers:

Deputy Chief Executive (Programme Delivery) and Assistant Director - General Fund Assets and Democratic Services Officer.

## 31 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Ralph Pryke, David Scoot and Lina Savickiene.

#### 32 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made

#### 33 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

#### 34 Public Questions

No questions were received from the public.

#### 35 Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership

The Committee received a detailed presentation from the Senior Manager of the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership (LRSP), who provided an overview of the Partnership's activities, performance data, and strategic priorities. The Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership Annual Report 2025 had been circulated with the agenda.

The presentation began with an acknowledgement of the emotive nature of road safety, emphasising that behind every statistic was a personal tragedy affecting families and communities. The LRSP was established in 2000and had evolved into a multi-agency body comprising Lincolnshire Police, Lincolnshire County Council, National Highways, Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue, and East Midlands Ambulance Service.

Members were informed that in 2024, there were 52 fatalities and 379 serious injuries on Lincolnshire's roads. The majority of incidents occurred on rural roads, with male drivers disproportionately represented. High-risk groups included young drivers (aged 17–24), mature drivers (aged 60+) motorcyclists and pedal cyclists. A positive trend was reported

for 2025, with 22 fatalities recorded to date, compared to 38 at the same point in the previous year. Serious injuries had also declined by approximately 7% year-on-year.

The Committee was briefed on LRSP's operational activities, which included:

- Engineering interventions at high-risk junctions, with over 1,000 sites assessed annually and 78 road safety audits completed in 2024.
- Speed enforcement through 10 average speed camera systems, 37 static cameras and approximately 100 mobile enforcement sites.
- Operation Octane, targeting motorcycle safety through education and enforcement.
- Community Speed Watch, involving 298 participating parishes, 107 trained volunteer groups and over 45,000 warning letters issued since 2018.
- Operation Snap, enabling the submission of dashcam footage by the public, resulting in 995 processed offences in 2024.

Education and engagement activities included:

- Delivery of national driver offender retraining schemes, including speed awareness courses.
- School-based programmes reaching over 20,000 pupils in 2024, covering pedestrian safety, in-car behaviour, and young driver awareness.
- The 2Fast2Soon theatre production, aimed at sixth-form students, highlighting the consequences of risky driving behaviour.
- Campaigns such as "Receiving the Message" and "Ellen's Story", which used real-life experiences to promote road safety awareness.

During consideration of the report, Members raised a number of queries and observations relating to road safety enforcement, education, and strategic planning.

Concerns were expressed regarding the detection of uninsured and untaxed vehicles. It was confirmed that current speed camera van technology did not support this function; however, the Partnership had agreed to explore the integration of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) capabilities and report back to the Committee.

The scale and impact of Community Speed Watch participation was discussed. Officers confirmed the initiative's effectiveness in raising awareness and reducing repeat offences, noting that third warning letters were delivered in person by police officers.

A request was made for a breakdown of fatality data involving drink and drug driving. Officers agreed to provide this information in writing. Further queries were raised about the role of vehicle safety improvements in reducing casualty figures. The Partnership referenced the Safe System approach, which promoted shared responsibility across road users, vehicle design, infrastructure and enforcement.

The reduction in Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) figures was welcomed, and the importance of active travel was highlighted. Reference was made to European models where legal responsibility in collisions often favoured vulnerable road users. Officers acknowledged recent changes to the Highway Code and confirmed the Partnership's commitment to promoting cyclist and pedestrian safety through education and engagement.

Additional discussion included:

The estimated cost of a road fatality, reported at £2.4 million.

Ongoing concerns regarding junction safety at Hubbard's Bridge, with a review currently underway.

- The development of a new Road Safety Strategy for Lincolnshire, based on the Safe System model, covering:
  - Safer behaviours and people
  - Safer speeds
  - Safer roads
  - Safer Vehicles
  - Post-collision learning and care

The Committee welcomed the report and expressed appreciation for the work of the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership. Members requested that further data and updates on enforcement and education initiatives be brought to future meetings to support ongoing scrutiny and inform future recommendations.

#### Resolved:

That the report be noted.

#### 36 Anglian Water Public Affairs Team

The Committee received a detailed presentation from representatives of Anglian Water, including The Regional Engagement Advisor, the Regional Engagement Manager, and the Network Manager for the Grantham area. The briefing covered strategic priorities, infrastructure challenges, operational updates, and community engagement initiatives.

Members were informed that Anglian Water served the largest geographical area of any UK water company, covering regions from the Humber to Essex and Norfolk. The organisation currently employed 6,000 staff directly and a further 3,000 through its supply chain, with plans to recruit an additional 7,000 employees by 2030 to support its next business plan (AMP8: 2025–2030).

The Committee was advised of several key challenges facing the company:

**Climate Change:** The East of England was particularly vulnerable, with nearly one-third of the region below sea level. The year 2023 was recorded as the wettest on record, placing strain on infrastructure.

**Population Growth:** The region was home to four of the UK's fastest-growing cities (Milton Keynes, Cambridge, Peterborough and Northampton with an expected increase of 700,000 residents over the next 20 years.

**Planning Constraints:** Anglian Water was not a statutory consultee in planning applications, despite having to accommodate developments with automatic rights to connect to its network.

The Committee received an overview of the legacy sewer systems and the challenges posed by combined rainwater and wastewater networks. Members were informed that all storm overflows were permitted by the Environment Agency and fitted with event duration

monitors (EDMs). Data from 22,000 monitors was used to target investment and operational responses. In Boston Borough, 13 storm overflows were monitored, with lower discharge figures this year due to dry weather.

Anglian Water had committed to:

- Reducing storm overflow permits by 17% by 2030.
- Ensuring no overflow discharges more than 10 times per year by 2050.
- Investing £1 billion in monitoring and infrastructure improvements, including UV antibacterial treatment and nature-based solutions.

The Committee was informed that 80% of sewer blockages were caused by avoidable items such as wet wipes, sanitary products, and fats/oils. Anglian Water cleared approximately 35,000 blockages annually and had launched a public campaign promoting the "3Ps" (pee, poo, paper) to encourage responsible flushing.

Members were invited to support the campaign by sharing educational materials, and Anglian Water agreed to provide translated resources to reflect Boston's diverse population.

The Regional Engagement Manager reported that Summer 2025 was one of the hottest in decades, resulting in increased demand and reduced water pressure in Boston. The area's ageing infrastructure, including narrow mains and vulnerable pipework, had contributed to frequent burst mains and service disruptions.

Anglian Water was planning to:

- Replace 1,134km of mains over the next five years.
- Install a 4.5km reinforcement main to improve supply resilience.
- Prioritise replacement in areas identified through community feedback.

The Committee received an update on the proposed Lincolnshire Reservoir, located between Grantham and Boston. The reservoir was expected to serve 500,000 homes, reduce demand on sensitive water environments, and enter supply by 2039, subject to planning and consultation.

Anglian Water confirmed that further public consultation would take place in Spring 2026, with a statutory pre-application consultation scheduled for 2027. The Committee was briefed on Anglian Water's engagement with DEFRA and its efforts to promote watersmart communities, including non-potable toilet retrofits, developer incentive schemes, and integrated water management standards.

During the discussion, Members raised several queries and observations relating to Anglian Water's operations and plans for the future.

Clarification was sought on the financial implications of the proposed Lincolnshire Reservoir. It was confirmed that the estimated cost of the project was between £3–4 billion, to be funded through a combination of long-term customer billing and shareholder investment.

Concerns were expressed regarding the impact of water supply constraints on local economic growth and the absence of statutory consultee status for Anglian Water in the

planning process. The company acknowledged these concerns and confirmed ongoing lobbying efforts to secure formal recognition within planning frameworks. It was agreed that data would be provided on developments in Boston affected by supply limitations.

Further information was requested on coordination with National Grid and engagement with landowners in relation to infrastructure projects. Anglian Water confirmed that compensation processes were in place and that proactive communication was undertaken with affected parties.

Issues relating to sinkholes in the vicinity of Haven High School were raised, with a request for details on response times. It was confirmed that local technicians were deployed according to prioritisation protocols to ensure timely intervention.

Questions were also asked about water fluoridation and the company's financial stability. Anglian Water advised that fluoridation was a matter for local authorities (more information was available on the Anglian Water Website: <a href="https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/help-and-advice/drinking-water-advice/fluoride/">https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/help-and-advice/fluoride/</a>).

The Regional Engagement Manager reassured Members that Anglian Water had a stable financial position.

The company reiterated its commitment to providing follow-up data on developments impacted by water supply constraints and to continuing engagement with local authorities and stakeholders.

#### Resolved

- 1. That the update be noted;
- 2. That Anglian Water provide further data on water supply constraints affecting development in Boston;
- 3. That the Committee support the public education campaign and request translated materials; and
- 4. That future engagement with Anglian Water be considered to monitor progress on infrastructure and planning matters.

[The meeting was paused for a brief recess between 7.53pm and 7.56pm.]

[Councillors Emma Cresswell and Anne Dorian left the meeting at 7.54pm, following consideration of the above item.]

#### 37 Crime and Disorder Report

The Committee received the statutory annual Crime and Disorder report from the Safer Communities Manager, supported by Inspector Ian Cotton of Lincolnshire Police and other officers from the Safer Communities Team. The report provided a comprehensive overview of strategic developments, operational enforcement, partnership working, and future priorities across Boston Borough during the 2024/25 financial year.

Members were informed that Boston Borough Council operated under the South and East Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership (SELCSP) and the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership (SLP). The report outlined the statutory duties discharged through both partnerships, including strategic assessments, public engagement, and domestic homicide reviews, , as set out in Appendix 1 – South and East Lincolnshire Community Safety Strategy 2025–28 and Appendix 6 – Safer Lincolnshire Partnership Strategy 2025–28 within the report.

The Committee noted that Boston Borough Council continued to deliver key operational services, including CCTV monitoring, Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) enforcement, Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) enforcement, and the Noxious Odours Procedure. These activities were aligned with the priorities and actions set out in Appendix 2 – Community Safety Strategy Action Plan 2024–25 within the report.

Details of enforcement activity were provided in Appendix 3 – Enforcement Action Taken by Boston Borough Council to Address Anti-Social Behaviour within the report.

The Committee was briefed on several initiatives delivered under Operation Plotting, including:

- Deployment of Community Rangers, who undertook over 965 actions addressing ASB, supporting police operations, and engaging with the public.
- Outreach work by the Community Engagement Officer, including engagement with ESOL students and diverse communities.
- Environmental improvements such as planting schemes and hanging baskets, delivered in partnership with local groups and North Sea Camp.
- Installation of interactive digital screens in Central Park and Market Place to promote safety messages.
- Upgrades to CCTV infrastructure, with a further £150,000 investment committed for additional coverage.

The Committee also noted the impact of Hot Spot Policing, which resulted in:

- 6,000 additional patrol hours
- 169 stop and searches
- 72 uses of ASB powers
- 116 arreasts across Lincolnshire, with Boston Town Centre identified as a priority area

Annual campaigns supported by the partnership included:

- ASB Awareness Week
- Hate Crime Awareness Week
- Scam Awareness Week
- White Ribbon Day

The work of Domestic Abuse Officers was commended, with training delivered to staff and targeted awareness campaigns addressing coercive behaviour, male victims, and older victims.

The Committee reviewed enforcement data relating to the PSPO and Noxious Odours Procedure, noting a significant increase in PSPO enforcement attributed to the Community Rangers' presence.

The CCTV performance report was presented by the CCTV Manager, highlighting incident categories including violent and sexual offences, criminal damage, and traffic offences. Over 100 incidents were recorded under "violent and sexual" categories, and members requested further breakdowns in future reports. Reference was made to Appendix 4 – CCTV Service Annual Statistical Report 2024–25 and Appendix 5 – Boston Borough Council CCTV Policy within the report.

The Committee was advised of the SLP's revised strategic approach for 2025–2028, which now adopted a project-based model underpinned by regular data analysis. The SLP's Annual General Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025 was noted as a key engagement event.

Members raised several queries and observations relating to community safety and partnership working.

The formal adoption of the Noxious Odours Procedure was welcomed, and its effectiveness was queried. Officers advised that no cases had progressed to court, indicating that early intervention measures had been successful.

A request was made for a breakdown of CCTV incident categories and statistics relating to drink and drug driving. Officers confirmed that this data would be included in future reporting.

Clarification was sought on the division of responsibilities between the Council and Lincolnshire Police. Officers outlined the joint working arrangements in place and explained the incremental enforcement approach used to address issues.

The effectiveness of the Community Speed Watch initiative was queried. Officers confirmed its value and shared data on the number of warning letters issued and levels of volunteer engagement.

Positive feedback was given regarding increased police visibility and the reassurance this had provided to the local community.

Concerns were raised about the prevalence of uninsured vehicles and enforcement activity. Lincolnshire Police confirmed that proactive policing measures were in place and offered to provide relevant figures.

The Committee welcomed the report and acknowledged the breadth of work undertaken by the Safer Communities Team and Lincolnshire Police. Members expressed appreciation for the collaborative approach and requested further data to support future scrutiny.

#### Resolved:

- 1. That the report be noted; and
- 2. That the following areas of focus be included in future reporting:
  - A breakdown of CCTV incident categories and outcomes.
  - Data on drink and drug driving offences.
  - Updates on the effectiveness of the Noxious Odours Procedure.

- Community Speed Watch activity and volunteer engagement.
- Enforcement figures relating to uninsured vehicles.
- Progress against the SLP's strategic priorities and project-based delivery model.

## 38 South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership Safeguarding Policy

The Committee received a report and presentation from the Wellbeing Service Manager & Deputy Strategic Safeguarding Officer, on the proposed joint Safeguarding Policy for the South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership (SELCP). The policy had been developed to standardise safeguarding practices across the three councils following the formation of a single workforce, and was supported by the documentation circulated with the agenda, including the draft policy and associated guidance (Appendix A – SELCP Safeguarding Policy and Appendix B – Safeguarding Reporting Flowcharts)..

The Wellbeing Service Manager & Deputy Strategic Safeguarding Officer explained that the policy aligned with statutory duties under the Children Act 1989 and the Care Act 2014 and supported a consistent approach to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The policy introduced clearer guidance on:

- Professional curiosity
- Reporting pathways
- Officer responsibilities

Training would be delivered and monitored via the First4Learning system, with tailored modules assigned based on role and face-to-face sessions provided where appropriate. Regular supervision and team meetings would be used to support staff and share good practice.

A single referral process had been established, including:

- A dedicated email address
- An electronic referral form
- Updated reporting flowcharts

The Committee was advised that the policy would be subject to annual light-touch reviews and a full governance review every three years.

The Chairman thanked Wellbeing Service Manager & Deputy Strategic Safeguarding Officer for the presentation and confirmed that the Committee was satisfied with the policy's scope and structure.

During consideration of the report, Members raised several queries and observations regarding safeguarding practices and inter-agency coordination.

Clarification was sought on the effectiveness of current safeguarding procedures and the escalation process for high-risk cases. Officers confirmed that robust protocols were in place and that multi-agency panels met regularly to review complex cases.

Questions were asked about the volume and nature of referrals received. Officers advised that referral numbers had increased, particularly in relation to mental health and domestic abuse, and that resources were being monitored to ensure continued responsiveness.

Concerns were expressed regarding safeguarding training for frontline staff and volunteers. Officers confirmed that training was mandatory and regularly updated, with additional modules available for specific risk areas.

Further information was requested on safeguarding in schools and the role of designated safeguarding leads. Officers outlined the support provided to educational settings and confirmed ongoing liaison with children's services.

The importance of community awareness and early intervention was highlighted, and officers agreed to explore further outreach opportunities and report back on engagement outcomes.

The Committee welcomed the report and acknowledged the critical importance of safeguarding work across all sectors. Members expressed appreciation for the proactive approach taken by officers and the strength of partnership arrangements in place.

#### Resolved:

- 1. That the report be noted;
- 2. That further data on referral trends and training uptake be provided in future updates; and
- 3. That opportunities for enhanced community engagement on safeguarding matters be explored.

## 39 Budget Preparation 2026/27 - Approach & Process

The Committee received a presentation from the Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer), outlining a revised approach to preparing the Council's budget for the 2026/27 financial year, designed to address previous challenges and improve transparency, engagement, and scrutiny.

The Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer) explained that the new process had been developed in response to concerns raised by Cabinet Members, Scrutiny Members, and Senior Officers regarding the limited time available between the receipt of the Government's financial settlement in December and the statutory deadline for budget approval in February/March.

The revised approach aimed to:

- Enable earlier engagement with senior leadership and service teams.
- Provide a structured review of cost pressures and savings proposals.
- Improve consultation and stakeholder input.
- Clarify the respective roles of Audit & Governance (system assurance) and Scrutiny (review and challenge).

Key elements of the process included:

- Use of Star Chamber Panels to support and challenge budget assumptions.
- A detailed timetable covering assurance, consultation, Cabinet and Scrutiny engagement, and statutory deadlines.

 Identification of risks such as failure to deliver savings, unrealistic assumptions, and inability to set a lawful budget

The Committee was advised that the process had already commenced, with cost pressures reviewed in June, savings proposals developed in July, and Star Chamber sessions held in August. Work had continued through September to prepare options for Council consideration.

It was noted that the Government's Autumn Statement had been delayed to late November, with the financial settlement expected shortly before Christmas. This would leave limited time for final budget preparation, but the revised process was designed to mitigate this constraint.

A joint Budget Scrutiny session was proposed for January 2026, to allow Members to review the draft budget in detail. The Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer) recommended a five to six-hour session, potentially held in the evening, with all Scrutiny Members and Audit & Governance Members invited. Portfolio Holders would present their proposals, supported by relevant officers, and Members would have the opportunity to ask questions and make recommendations.

During consideration of the report, Members welcomed the structured approach to budget scrutiny and raised several queries and suggestions regarding the process and arrangements.

It was confirmed that informal briefings had taken place between Portfolio Holders and Assistant Directors, supported by Star Chamber sessions to review savings proposals.

A suggestion was made to split the joint scrutiny session over two days to allow for more focused discussion. Officers acknowledged the proposal but noted that previous experience had shown extended sessions to be exhausting and logistically challenging.

The Committee supported a proposal for collaboration between the Chairs of Overview & Scrutiny and Audit & Governance to coordinate the joint session.

Support was expressed for the open and transparent approach to budget scrutiny, and Members welcomed the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the process.

#### Resolved

- 1. That the report be noted;
- 2. That arrangements for a joint Budget Scrutiny session in January 2026 be progressed in collaboration with the Audit & Governance Committee; and
- 3. That Members be encouraged to prepare questions and feedback in advance of the session to support effective scrutiny.

### 40 Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2026/27 - Consultation

The Committee received a report from the Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer) outlining the proposed options for the 2026/27 Local Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme for working-age claimants, as part of the statutory consultation process. The report was accompanied by supporting documentation, including the consultation survey (Appendix 1).

Members were advised that pension-age claimants remained protected under national regulations and were unaffected by the proposed changes. The current scheme provided up to 100% support for households with children and 75% support for other households. The estimated total CTS expenditure for 2025/26 was £4.9 million, with Boston Borough Council contributing approximately 13% (£656,000).

In light of financial pressures, Cabinet had agreed to consult on three options:

- Option 1: Retain current support levels (100% for households with children, 85% for others);
- Option 2: Reduce support to 90% for lone parents, 80% for couples with children, and 75% for others — saving £45,000; and
- Option 3: Reduce support to 90% for lone parents, 80% for couples with children, and 70% for others saving £57,000.

The Committee noted that any reduction in support may increase non-payment and debt levels among low-income households, requiring additional bad debt provision.

The Chairman expressed surprise that the item had been brought to the Committee at this stage, noting that the consultation had already commenced and that the Committee's ability to influence the process was limited. He suggested that the item would be more appropriately considered once the consultation had concluded.

The Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer) explained the statutory timeline and confirmed that the consultation had been launched to meet legal requirements. He agreed that the Committee's input would be most valuable once the results were available and could inform the final scheme recommendation.

Members discussed the potential financial impact of the scheme on the Council's contribution and queried how much additional funding would be required under the worst-case scenario. The Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer) undertook to provide a written response on that point.

The Committee agreed that the item should return for further scrutiny once the consultation had closed and the results were available.

#### Resolved:

That the Committee receive a further report following the conclusion of the consultation to inform its recommendation to Cabinet.

## 41 Update on Plan for Neighbourhoods

The Committee received an update from the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Mike Gilbert, supported by the Director for Economic Development, on the development of the Plan for Neighbourhoods submission to Government.

Members were advised that the Plan formed part of the national programme previously known as the Long-Term Plan for Towns and sets out a long-term investment strategy for Boston. The town had received approximately £56 million in Government grants over the past six years, with the Plan for Neighbourhoods providing a further £20 million over 10 years, equating to £2 million per year. The funding was overseen by the Plan for Neighbourhoods Board, which included representatives from the community, business, and cultural sectors.

The Committee was informed that the Plan had to be submitted to Government by 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025, with Cabinet scheduled to consider the final draft prior to submission. The plan was being developed through a series of workshops and consultations, with the following themes emerging from both national guidance and local engagement:

#### Government Themes:

- Thriving Places
- Stronger Communities
- Taking Back Control

#### Locally Identified Themes:

- Safety
- Town Centre Improvements
- 2030 Celebrations
- Pride in Place
- Community Infrastructure
- Health and Wellbeing
- Employment, Skills and Learning

Officers confirmed that consultation had been extensive, with over 1,000 responses received from residents, businesses, and community groups. Further workshops were planned to refine priorities and ensure the plan reflected local aspirations.

During consideration of the update, Members raised several queries and observations regarding the coordination and development of the Plan for Neighborhoods. Concerns were expressed about potential duplication between the Plan for Neighborhoods Board and the Boston Business Forum. Officers confirmed that the Business Forum was supported by the Town Board and that both groups were aligned in their objectives. Clarification was sought on whether there remained an opportunity to influence the plan. Officers confirmed that further input could be submitted prior to the completion of the final draft.

The inclusion of the 2030 celebrations as a key theme was welcomed, with Members emphasising their importance to Boston's cultural and economic development. The consultation process was praised, and the strong level of public engagement was noted. A request was made for a future report outlining proposed changes to legislation

and any new powers associated with the Plan for Neighborhoods, particularly those aimed at enabling councils to address longstanding local challenges.

#### Resolved

- 1. That the update be noted;
- 2. That Members be encouraged to submit further feedback prior to the finalisation of the Plan; and
- 3. That a future report be brought to the Committee outlining any legislative changes or new powers associated with the Plan for Neighborhoods.

# 42 Review of HR Policies - Pension & Pension Discretions Policy

The Committee received a report from the Group Manager – Organisational Development, supported by the Head of HR & OD, on the Council's Pension and Pension Discretions Policy, including the application of flexible retirement provisions. The report was supported by the draft policy which had been circulated with the agenda (Appendix A – Pension Discretions Policy).

Members were informed that the policy had been reviewed to ensure:

- Legal compliance
- Alignment across the South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership
- Consistent workforce management

The policy set out how the Council applied employer discretions under the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), balancing flexibility for employees with financial prudence. It included provisions for:

- Flexible retirement
- Actuarial reductions
- Strain costs
- Case by case decision making

The Committee was advised that the policy had been reviewed and endorsed by the Readers Panel, comprising officers from across the partnership, Trade unions at both local and regional levels and the Senior Leadership Team.

It was confirmed that the policy applies to all employees, regardless of grade or role, and that decisions are made on a case-by-case basis, taking into account service needs and cost implications. The policy would be subject to ongoing review and updated as necessary to reflect changes in legislation, case law, and organisational structure.

During consideration of the report, Members raised several queries and observations relating to the application and governance of the Pensions Discretion Policy.

Clarification was sought on whether the policy applied equally to all staff. Officers confirmed that it did, and that the decision-making process ensured fairness and consistency.

Assurance was requested regarding the record keeping and monitoring of discretionary decisions. Officers confirmed that robust systems were in place and that decisions would be documented and reviewed in accordance with governance requirements.

Members discussed the potential implications of future local government reorganisation and whether the policy would remain applicable. Officers confirmed that the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) would continue to apply and that any changes would be reflected in future policy updates.

The Committee welcomed the clarity and consistency of the policy and acknowledged its importance in supporting workforce planning and retirement transitions.

#### Resolved:

That the Committee note the policy and recommend its submission to Council for approval.

## 43 Work Programme and Forward Plan

The Committee considered its current Work Programme and the Council's Forward Plan.

Members were invited to submit suggestions for future agenda items via email, particularly in light of the detailed discussions held earlier in the meeting. It was acknowledged that the Committee's programme was already substantial, with several key items scheduled for the coming months.

Members discussed potential additions to the work programme arising from earlier agenda items, including:

- Follow-up engagement with Anglian Water, particularly regarding infrastructure coordination, planning consultation, and water supply constraints affecting development.
- Review of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme following the conclusion of the statutory consultation.
- Monitoring of the Plan for Neighbourhoods submission and any associated legislative changes or new powers granted to local authorities.
- Scrutiny of the Budget Preparation process, including arrangements for a joint Budget Scrutiny session in January 2026.
- Further breakdowns and analysis of CCTV incident categories and enforcement data, as requested during the Crime and Disorder report.

The Committee agreed that these items should be considered for inclusion in the work programme, subject to capacity and scheduling.

The Chairman thanked Members and officers for their contributions and confirmed that the Committee would continue to shape its priorities in response to emerging issues and feedback from previous meetings.

# Resolved:

That the content of the current Work Programme and Council Forward Plan be noted.

The Meeting ended at 9.15 pm.



# Agenda Item 1



**Report To:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Subject:** Annual Monitoring report – South and East Lincolnshire

Council's Community Lottery Scheme

**Purpose:** To provide an overview of the South and East Lincolnshire

Council's Community Lottery Scheme

Key Decision: N/A

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Helen Staples, Portfolio Holder for Communities

**Report Of:** Emily Spicer, Assistant Director – Housing and Communities

**Report Author:** Nichola Holderness, Group Manager for Community Leadership

Ward(s) Affected: All

**Exempt Report:** No

#### Summary

The South and East Lincolnshire Community Lottery was launched in November 2022, with the first draw taking place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November. Since its launch, the scheme has raised £91,485 and is currently supporting 98 local community groups across the sub-region.

This report provides an overview of the scheme's activity to date and demonstrates how it is delivering financial support to community groups in line with the original objectives.

#### Recommendations

That the progress of the South and East Lincolnshire Councils Community Lottery scheme is noted.

#### **Reasons for Recommendations**

To continue to raise funds for local voluntary and community groups across South and East Lincolnshire via the South and East Lincolnshire Community Lottery Scheme.

To promote and encourage voluntary and community sector activity within the South and East Lincolnshire Partnership.

## **Other Options Considered**

Draw the current scheme to a close (not recommended) and seek alternative fundraising activities.

## 1. Background

- 1.1 The councils of South and East Lincolnshire have a long track record of supporting and working in partnership with the voluntary and community sector. In 2022, the three sovereign councils, Boston Borough Council, East Lindsey District Council and South Holland District Council took the decision to launch the South and East Lincolnshire Community Lottery in November 2022, with the first draw taking place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November.
- 1.2 The Community lottery supports local good causes and community groups to raise funds through the sale of lottery tickets. Of each £1 ticket purchased: -
  - 60% goes to local good causes.
  - 20% for the prize money and
  - 20% to the External Management Lottery (ELM) Company for running costs; including relevant insurance to cover the prize fund and VAT.

There are two different ways that the 60% per ticket for local good causes is distributed:

- i) Where the player nominates a local good cause on the website, 50% of the price of the ticket goes to this good cause and 10% to the central good causes fund.
- ii) Where the player does not nominate a good cause the whole 60% goes to the central fund to be allocated to local community groups, clubs or support community events.
- 1.3 The lottery is run in conjunction with Gatherwell Ltd, an External Lottery Management company (ELM) who provide expertise in operating the lottery and oversees the day to day running of the scheme.

#### 2. Report

- 2.1 Weekly lottery draws take place each Saturday, ticket holders are in with a chance of winning: -
  - £25,000
  - £2,000
  - £250
  - £25
  - 3 extra tickets
- 2.2 Since the inception of the scheme there have been 3272 winners. Of those 309 (9%) received a monetary amount of between £25 and £250.
- 2.3 For every £1 community lottery ticket sold, 60p goes to local good causes. Lottery players can choose which good cause they wish to support, when they buy a ticket and 50p from every ticket bought goes directly to their chosen cause.
- 2.4 The total amount of funding for good causes currently stands at £91,485 across the Partnership.
- 2.5 10% of the sale of each ticket goes to the Central fund pot, the funding in Boston in 2023 and 2024 has supported the delivery of the Boston Heroes recognition campaign.
- 2.6 There are currently 98 good causes registered with the South and East Lincolnshire Community Lottery Scheme.

A breakdown of good causes by district is below:

Area	Total
All areas or national	15
Boston	22
East Lindsey	24
South Holland	36
Central Fund	1
Total	98

A more detailed breakdown by area can be found at appendix 1.

- 2.7 It should be noted that all proceeds generated through the lottery are able to cover the operational expenses associated with running the scheme. These expenses include, but are not limited to, marketing, promotional activities, and administrative costs. This approach ensures that the scheme remains financially self-sustaining and does not rely on external funding. At present, the current annual cost of operating the scheme stands at £295 for Boston Borough Council.
- 2.8 The Community Leadership Team continues to promote the Community Lottery in a number of formats, whilst also supporting good causes to promote and sell tickets to their supporters. This Is both for causes that are already registered to the scheme but also new causes that may be interested in joining.

#### 3. Conclusion

3.1 The South and East Lincolnshire Community Lottery is positive for community groups in the area. Whist the amount raised through the Community Lottery for community groups cannot be guaranteed, providing this platform allows good causes to benefit from this funding stream. It also enables residents to choose the cause they want to support within their communities and provides a funding source for those organisations.

## **Implications**

## South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

Managing the Community Lottery Scheme as a Partnership ensures resources are aligned for efficiencies, that local knowledge identifies local beneficiaries within the Voluntary and Community Sector and promotion of the scheme is maximised.

## **Corporate Priorities**

The following Sub-Regional Priorities are supported through the operation of the Community Lottery Scheme:

- 1) Growth and Prosperity
- 2) Healthy Lives
- 3) Safe and Resilient Communities
- 4) Environment.

## **Staffing**

There are no additional staffing requirements, all monitoring and promotion of the scheme is undertaken by the Community Leadership Team.

# **Workforce Capacity Implications**

There are no additional workforce capacity implications, all work is undertaken by the Community Leadership Team.

## **Constitutional and Legal Implications**

The Council is required to be registered with the Gambling Commission and run under an operating licence in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005.

#### **Data Protection**

All data is managed by the ELM in line with their Privacy Policy, this is reviewed annually by the Procurement team, Data Protection Manager and Group Manager for Community Leadership.

#### **Financial**

Annual costs of the scheme are £885. These costs consist of £400 for the Gambling Commission License and £385 for membership to the Lotteries Council. The cost is split

equally between each authority and is paid for out of the income from the central good cause's pot.

## **Risk Management**

Gather well Ltd have ethical lottery management model measures in place to mitigate the risk of problem gambling. These measures include:

- A maximum 20 tickets can be purchased in any one transaction per supporter.
- There is no instant reward or gratification because:
  - o Tickets cannot be purchased for the day of the draw.
  - o Payment must be cleared before entry.
  - A one-off single ticket cannot be purchased.
  - Play can only be through Direct Debit or card payment online (1/3/6/12 months upfront payment).
- Players can set up a self-exclusion agreement and reasonable steps will be taken to prevent further participation, including removing name and details from marketing databases.
- Gatherwell have internal processes to identify anyone at risk and their team are trained to help identify signs of vulnerable players. This includes contacting any supporter with a high-ticket yield to ensure they are fully aware of their purchase and lottery entries.
- Links to the Gamble Aware organisation for help and support are available on community lottery websites

#### Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales

The South and East Lincolnshire Council Partnership (SELCP) determine the eligibility criteria of applications from the Voluntary and Community Sector and each application is singed off by the relevant delegated officer.

#### Reputation

The Community Lottery Scheme has positive impact on the reputation of the S&ELCP as it has offer financial support option to valuable organisations to continue their services.

#### Contracts

Contract monitoring takes place once every six months with relevant delegated staff.

The contract with Gatherwell Limited is an annual rolling contract with the Council able to give three months' notice to end the agreement at any time.

#### Crime and Disorder

N/A

## Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding

The Community Lottery does not have any identified disproportionate impacts on groups with protected characteristics. The following has been considered:

## i) Age of players:

Taking in to account the White Paper recommendations from 2023 all lotteries managed by our ELM - Gatherwell Ltd, have transition to a minimum legal age of 18 ahead of any legislative changes.

#### ii) Good causes and groups:

The community lottery provides a platform for local groups, charities, and good causes to raise funds, many of which will support residents across several protected characteristics.

#### iii) Religious Beliefs:

Some groups within this protected characteristic do not support gambling. Further opportunities such as the South and East Lincolnshire Crowd are promoted to these groups.

### **Health and Wellbeing**

The additional funding for the Voluntary and Community sector via the Community Lottery scheme allows the groups to continue to benefit our local communities.

## **Climate Change and Environment Impact Assessment**

None

#### Acronyms

SELCP – South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership ELM – External Lottery Manager

#### **Appendices**

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report:

Appendix 1 Community Lottery winner breakdown

#### **Background Papers**

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

# **Chronological History of this Report**

Name of Body Date

Decision Notice – to set up a south and

East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

Community Lottery Scheme

22nd February 2022

Cabinet – 1 year progress report 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Report Approval** 

Report author: Nichola Holderness, Group Manager – Community

Leadership.

Nichola.holderness@boston.gov.uk

Signed off by: Emily Spicer, Assistant Director – Housing and Communities.

Emily.spicer@sholland.gov.uk

Approved for publication: Councillor Helen Staples, Portfolio Holder for Communities

Helen.Staples@boston.gov.uk



# **Breakdown of Good Causes by Area – Appendix 1**

Name of Good Cause	District
The Beonna at All Saints (Benington Community Heritage	Boston
Trust)	
The Boston Woods Trust	
Boston Book Festival	
The Local Community Centre	
Boston Samaritans	
Butterwick Baby & Toddler Group	
Haven Domestic Abuse Service	
5th Boston Scout Group	
Boston Lithuanian Community	
The Knights of Skirbeck	
3rd Boston (Fishtoft) Scout Group	
Boston Community Tennis Partnership	
Blackfriars Theatre and Arts Centre	
107 Endeavour FM	
Fosdyke Playing Field Social Club	
Boston Community Transport	
Swineshead Enhancement Society	
Frieston, Leake & Leverton Cricket Club	
Shining Stars	
Fydell House	
Boston Men's Shed	
We'll Meet Again Museum	
TOTAL	22

Name of Good Cause	District
Curo Social Enterprise CIC	East
The Askefield Project Ltd	Lindsey
Alford Hub	
West Torrington Community & Heritage Action	
Stickford Community Centre	
Woodhall Spa Cricket Club	
Tetney Playing Field & Village Hall Association	
Tetford & Salmonby Recreation Ground	
Sutton on sea community food larder	
Sibsey Lancaster Memorial Trust	
Spilsby Town Junior Football Club	
Trusthorpe Village Hall	
Embrace Breast Cancer Support	
Horncastle Town Football Club	
The Parrot Zoo Trust - Lincolnshire Wildlife Park	
Horncastle Cricket Club	
Soloby Old School Hub	
Louth Playgoers Society Ltd - Support your venue!	
Wragby Youth Centre Trust / Lincolnshire Boys & Girls Clubs	
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust - Spilsby Area Group	
Spilsby Sessions House	
East Lindsey LGBT Social & Support Group	
Playing Field Association (Sutton on Sea)	
Sutton on Sea Bowls Club	
TOTAL	24

Name of Good Cause	District
BOXES OF HOPE CIC	South
The Meadows Day Centre	Holland
Spalding Indoor Bowls Club	
Holbeach Moving Forwards	
Empire Elite Allstars	
Holbeach & district community association	
Spalding Arts & Crafts Society	
Diamondz School of Dance	
Holbeach & Fenland Gymnastics Club	
Scarlet Community Music Club	
Project Dignity C.I.C.	
Holbeach St Marks Village Hall	
The Friends of Chain Bridge Forge	
South Holland Life	
Spalding & District Roundtable	
Tonic Health	
Sutton Bridge United Football Club	
Holbeach United Community Sports Academy	
Welland Seniors Forum	
Crowland Cares	
Long Sutton & District Civic Society	
Sutton St James Preschool Playgroup	
Veterans Support Service CIC	
South Lincs Competitive Swimming Club	
Moulton Windmill	
Tydd St Mary Playing Field Committee	
Long Sutton Men's Shed	
Friends of St John Baptist CE Primary School	
Tribe Together CIC	
Gosberton Youth Centre	
South Holland Area Group South and East Lincolnshire	
Wildlife Trust	
Spalding and District Gymnastics Club	
Search and Rescue Lincolnshire	
Project St Thomas	
Spalding & District Civic Society	
Crowland Town Bowling Club	
TOTAL	36

Name of Good Cause	District
Childrens Links	All
Lincoln & Lindsey Blind Society	
Carers First	
EDAN Lincs	
YMCA Lincolnshire	
Citizens Advice South Lincolnshire	
HWLincs	
Building Resilience in Communities (BRIC)	
Lincs Digital	
Age UK Lindsey	
Framework Housing Association	
Citizens Advice Mid Lincolnshire	
Adults Move Lincolnshire CIC	
Lincolnshire NHS Charity	
Heritage Lincolnshire	
TOTAL	15

# Agenda Item 2



**Report To:** Overview & Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Subject:** Quarter 1 25/26 Performance Report

**Purpose:** To provide an update on performance as at the end of June

2025 to feed into the Committee's work programme

**Key Decision**: No

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Dale Broughton, Leader of the Council

**Report Of:** James Gilbert, Assistant Director – Corporate

**Report Author:** Suzanne Rolfe, Group Manager – Insights & Transformation

Ward(s) Affected: All

Exempt Report: No

#### Summary

This performance report covers Q1 of 2025/26, up to the end of March 2025. This may assist Committee members to identify areas of particular interest to add to their work programme

#### Recommendations

To note the performance information and consider if there are any items that Committee members would like to add to the Committee's future work programme.

#### **Reasons for Recommendations**

This is a regular quarterly performance report to potentially feed in to plans for the Committee's future work programme.

## **Other Options Considered**

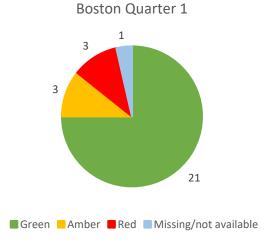
Alternative reporting arrangements.

## 1. Background

- 1.1 A joint performance management framework was agreed across the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership for 2025/26 to support the delivery of services. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been agreed to capture performance against the strategic priorities of the Partnership and the individual Councils.
- 1.2 This report presents the information for Boston Borough Council for Quarter 1 of 2025/26 (as at the end of June 2025).
- 1.3 This information is presented to Overview & Scrutiny Committee to assist in the identification of areas of particular interest for the future work programme.

## 2. Performance (Appendix 1)

- 2.1 In total there are 98 KPIs for Boston Borough Council in 2025/26. These are set out by priority in Appendix 1 following the adoption of the Sub-regional Strategy.
- 2.2 There are 28 targeted indicators where performance is within the direct control of the Council, with past data or comparisons available on which to base those targets. Indicators were developed to stretch performance in teams. Green indicators are on target, amber indicators are within tolerance and red indicators are off target. One of the waste measures is reported as a target measure in Q1 but will revert to a trend only until Q1 26/27. Commentary is provided in Appendix 1 for the red indicator.



- 2.3 Shading has been added to the past quarters' data where possible, to show whether it was on target previously, to help provide more visual context for direction of travel. The shading is deliberately more muted for past data to keep the focus on the current performance. Where targets have changed since the previous year, this has been noted in the commentary, otherwise targets are the same.
- 2.4 There are also 72 trend indicators, which show context for policy decisions and resource allocation. The trend indicators have been reviewed to consider if any can

become targeted measures if past data is now available. No changes are proposed at this time.

2.5 Performance indicators relating to PSPS Revenue and Benefits call volumes, answer rate and call time have been removed from the SLA for 2025/26. Customer contact related calls and answer rate PIs remain.

#### 3. Conclusion

3.1 Overall, performance in Q1 of 2025/26 is in line with targets and remedial action is in place where required.

## **Implications**

## **South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership**

A Partnership approach has been agreed for 2025/26.

### **Corporate Priorities**

Whole report. Performance information is set out by priority.

### **Staffing**

No implications specific to this report. KPIs relating to staffing are included in the report.

## **Workforce Capacity Implications**

No implications specific to this report. KPIs relating to workforce capacity are included in the report.

## **Constitutional and Legal Implications**

No implications specific to this report

#### **Data Protection**

No implications specific to this report

#### **Financial**

No implications specific to this report

#### Risk Management

No implications specific to this report

#### Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales

Consultation with SLT

#### Reputation

No implications specific to this report.

#### **Contracts**

No implications specific to this report. KPIs relating to contracts and procurement are included in the report.

#### Crime and Disorder

No implications specific to this report.

## Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding

No implications specific to this report.

## **Health and Wellbeing**

No implications specific to this report.

#### **Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

No implications specific to this report.

## **Acronyms**

2Y: 2 year rolling period

B&B: Bed & Breakfast accommodation

BAU: Business As Usual CC: Customer Contact

DD: Direct Debit

DWP: Department for Work and Pensions EAP: Employee Assistance Programme KPIs: Key Performance Indicators

LGR: Local Government Reorganisation OFLOG: Office for Local Government

Q: Quarterly (Q1: April to June; Q2: July to September; Q3: October to December; Q4:

January to March)

NDR: Non-domestic rates (business rates)

R&B: Revenues & Benefits SLA: Service Level Agreement SLT: Senior Leadership Team YE: Year End (April to March)

#### **Appendices**

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report:

Appendix 1 Q1 Performance

## **Background Papers**

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

# **Chronological History of this Report**

Name of Body Date

Cabinet 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**Report Approval** 

Report author: Suzanne Rolfe, Group Manager – Insights & Transformation

suzanne.rolfe@boston.gov.uk

Signed off by: James Gilbert, Assistant Director – Corporate

james.gilbert@e-lindsey.gov.uk

Approved for publication: Councillor Dale Broughton, Leader of the Council

dale.broughton@boston.gov.uk



## Performance Indicators with Targeted Performance Levels Growth and Prosperity

PI Name	AD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Target	RAG	
Occupancy Rate at end of Quarter: Industrial Units	Andy Fisher	85.71%	92.86%	92.86%	96.43%	96.43%	97.00%		100.00% 90.00% 80.00% 70.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary	1 unit was	empty at th	e end of qu	uarter 1 of t	he Council	s 28. A nev	tenant is s	cheduled to	o sign a new lease in July.
Percentage of major planning applications determined within 13/16 weeks (or agreed gatended period)	Phil Norman	92.86%	90.77%	78.57%	76.00%	78.79%	65.00%		100.00% 50.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary	•						•	•	only 1 app out of time - above Government ecision making.
Percentage of non-major planning applications determined within 8 weeks (or agreed extended period)	Phil Norman	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	93.65%	87.93%	86.81%	75%		100.00% 50.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary	Good perfo				ns - well ab	ove Goverr	nment and I	(PI target fia	gure. Team continuing to monitor live tables
Percentage of major planning appeals allowed within the last 2 years (rolling period) against number of applications determined	Phil Norman	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10%		100.00%
Commentary	Appeals pe	rformance	is very good	d. No majoi	appeals. G	ives the se	rvice confid	ence in sou	ınd decision making.

Percentage of minor & other planning appeals allowed within the last 2 years (rolling period) against number of	Phil Norman	0.00%	0.18%	0.00%	0.22%	0.22%	10%		0.30% 0.20% 0.10% 0.00%					
applications determined (OFLOG)										Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	Appeals pe	eals performance is very good - gives the service confidence in sound decision making.												

## **Safe and Resilient Communities**

PI Name	AD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Target	RAG	
Percentage of cases opened at homelessness prevention stage (i.e. before they have become homeless)	Emily Spicer	61.29%	53.09%	50.59%	59.76%	59.34%	50.00%		100.00%
<b>S</b> ommentary	Performand average do		target. 4 ap	plicants wi	thdrew the	ir application	on before a	ny assessme	ents could take place which does bring the
Percentage of homelessness cases that were opened at homelessness prevention stage that resulted in the customer not becoming homeless	Emily Spicer	73.33%	58.00%	77.97%	75.61%	76.36%	50.00%		100.00% 50.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary	The total n	umber of h	ouseholds p	revented f	rom becom	ing homele	ess is above	the target.	
Number of families with children placed into Bed & Breakfast (B&B) for more than 6 weeks	Emily Spicer	0	0	0	0	0	0		1
Commentary	No househo	olds with ch	nildren wer	e in B&B fo	r more thai	n 6 weeks.			

Percentage of decisions issued on an									100.00%					
applicant's initial homelessness application	Emily Spicer	Not Previously	Not Previously	Not Previously	Not Previously	65.06%	75.00%		50.00%					
within target timescale of 33 working days	Spicei	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported				0.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	This is a ne target.	w performa	ance indica	tor which w	vill be closel	y monitore	d to ensure	performan	ce impro	oves wit	h the a	im of be	eing ab	ove

### **Environment**

PI Name	AD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Target	RAG						
Number of homes improved through green home/warm home grants	Christian Allen	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	No Data Provided	0.00%		50.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Percentage of household waste collected for recycling and composting	Victoria Burgess	35.14%	39.68%	27.26%	23.36%		45.00%		60.00% — 40.00% — 20.00% — 0.00% —	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	Quarter 1 v Recycling/0	•	•		~	•	s the end of	year 2024/	<sup>25</sup> perfo	rmanc	e at 23.	36%.		
Percentage of recycling collected that is unable to be recycled (contamination)	Victoria Burgess	17.36%	13.54%	11.62%	9.56%	8.00%	14.00%		20.00% — 10.00% — 0.00% —	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Percentage of waste collections that were successful first time	Victoria Burgess	99.21%	98.75%	96.57%	97.00%	99.94%	99.80%		98.00% 96.00% 94.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1

Percentage of fly-tips collected within 3 working days of being reported	Victoria Burgess	99.21%	98.75%	96.57%	97.00%	98.49%	95.00%	100.00% 98.00% 96.00% 94.00%					
								1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1

### **Efficiencies and Efficacies**

PI Name	AD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Target	RAG						
Occupancy Rate at end of Quarter: Other investment property	Andy Fisher	100.00%	96.55%	96.55%	96.55%	96.43%	97.00%		100.00% 98.00% 96.00% 94.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
្ត្រ Dommentary D	1 property Housing tea												in hou	se by the
Percentage of car parking income received against agreed annual budget – cumulative figure to end of successive quarters.	Andy Fisher	104.53%	107.14%	111.53%	104.52%	111.48%	100.00%		115.00% 110.00% 105.00% 100.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	In Q1 budg	et exceede	d forecast b	y £55,513.	92.									
LA Error rate (measured against estimated annual expenditure) (PSPS)	Brendan Arnold	0.04%	0.18%	0.25%	0.27%	0.08%	0.42%		0.30% 0.20% 0.10% 0.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	It is pleasin	g to report	performan	ce within to	arget.									

Business Rates in-year collection rate	Brendan Arnold	30.86%	55.33%	79.79%	98.83%	28.32%	28.00%	100.00% 50.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary	the level of	Retail, Hos sinesses ad	pitality and	l Leisure re	lief from 75	5% to 40%.	The Q1 targ	or. The majority of this increase is due to the reduction in arget reflects a new uncertainty in the collection of business with the first court hearing for the current year scheduled
Council Tax in-year collection rate	Brendan Arnold	26.93%	52.91%	79.12%	93.75%	27.55%	26.00%	100.00% 50.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary	It is pleasin	g to report	Q1 perforn	nance abov	e target.			
ປັງ Bousing Benefit New Claims speed of Processing (Year to Date) (PSPS) ວັ	Brendan Arnold	30.00	25.00	24.67	25.75	18.00	25	40.00 20.00 0.00 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Housing Benefit Changes speed of processing (Year to Date) (PSPS)	Brendan Arnold	9.00	11.00	13.33	10.75	15.00	12	20.00 10.00 0.00 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary	Whilst perf target expe						_	o report that actual performance was in line with DWP h the year.
Housing Benefit Overpayment Recovery rate (PSPS)	Brendan Arnold	152.97%	138.45%	132.21%	137.87%	219.28%	85.00%	300.00% 200.00% 100.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1

Land Charges - Average number of days taken to process Local Authority searches (working days)	Christian Allen	5.20	7.45	6.94	6.93	4.16	8		10.00 — 5.00 — 0.00 —	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Percentage of corporate complaints responded to within corporately set timescales	John Medler	100.00%	100.00%	88.24%	93.33%	87.50%	95.00%		100.00% 90.00% 80.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	There has be continued to number are complaints	to create pi e outstandi	ressure on t ng. Departr	the services nent with t	to meet the he biggest i	e 5 and 10	day deadlin	ne. 28 were	receive	d, some	e were v	vithdra	wn and	
Bercentage of subject requests responded to within statutory timescales	John Medler	60.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	95.00%		100.00% 50.00% 0.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Percentage of information requests responded to within statutory timescales	John Medler	98.48%	98.52%	100.00%	97.94%	97.84%	95.00%		100.00% 98.00% 96.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	1 on hold (i to the infor													ad access

Percentage of contacts resolved at first contact – targeted. (PSPS)	Phil Perry	83.43%	83.88%	82.77%	85.57%	87.58%	80.00%		90.00% 85.00% 80.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	performand £336.60 pe machines a £309k. In 2	ce which id r annum - ( it a reduced 025/26, spo cost saving irvey requir	entified tha Cost savings d overall cose end to date gs. Asbestos	at the incun s were achi st. Fuel Car is £63k, in s Surveys -	nbent supp eved throu ds - c£30,00 dicating a p £3333.33 -	lier was uno gh switchin 00 – Projec projected ye The council	ng supplier, ted based o ear-end tota I will now co	ing and cha resulting in n 2023/24 Il significant ontract dire	rging ur improve figures, tly lowe ctly with	ed servi annual r than p	titive ra ce level fuel car previous local su	tes. Was and in dexpersions years, upplier f	nproved nditure the reflection	olers - d totalled ng FG
Average answer rate – Customer Contact  SPS)	Phil Perry	82.01%	82.77%	90.34%	81.00%	85.94%	80.00%		95.00% 90.00% 85.00% 80.00% 75.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	In Quarter has seen 4,	_			vement of	3.93% vs Q	1 24/25 Ca	ls Received	(11,985	5), 1.949	% increa	ase, Call	Backs (	563). Q1

## Performance Indicators with Trend Only Performance Levels Growth and Prosperity

PI Name	AD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	
Building Control market share	Christian Allen	77.00%	84.00%	93.00%	77.00%	84%%	100.00% 50.00% 0.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary	Positive in	crease in m	arket share	e from Q4.			
<b>V</b> alue of Grants awarded via Grants4growth ບໍ່ ເວ ັກ	Growth	£62,502	£63,168	£39,856	No Data Provided	No Data Provided	
Number of Grants awarded via Grants4growth	Growth	5	8	8	No Data Provided	No Data Provided	
Number of Businesses assisted via Grants4growth	Growth	17	8	12	No Data Provided	No Data Provided	
Number of Business registered via Grants4growth	Growth	No Data Provided	18	7	No Data Provided	No Data Provided	

External funding bids submitted by the growth directorate	Growth	0	0	0	0	No Data Provided	1 ————————————————————————————————————	Q2	?	Q3	Q4	Q1
External Funding bids secured by the growth directorate	Growth	0	0	0	0	No Data Provided	1 ————————————————————————————————————	Q2	2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Matched funding achieved through local growth programmes (towns deal, LUF, UKSPF)	Growth	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	No Data Provided	100.00% - 50.00% - 0.00% -	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
U ည Matched funding through Grants4Growth နေ့heme သ	Growth	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	No Data Provided	100.00% - 50.00% - 0.00% -	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Economic value of the visitor and tourism economy	Growth	No Data Provided	No Data Provided	No Data Provided	No Data Provided	No Data Provided	£1 ————————————————————————————————————	Q	2	Q3	Q4	Q1

Number of successful compete grants awarded	Growth	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	No Data Provided	1 ————————————————————————————————————
Number of successful non-compete grants awarded	Growth	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	No Data Provided	100.00% — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
Percentage of decisions (major / minor / others) taken under delegation within period	Phil Norman	100.00%	97.22%	94.62%	93.59%	96.43%	95.00% — Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
© Commentary D	_	• •	_		rough deleg recommend	•	ers - showing an effective scheme of
Council run stall occupancy level (Markets)	Phil Perry	68.50%	59.00%	52.10%	54.00%	71.00%	100.00% 50.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1

## **Healthy Lives**

PI Name	AD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1					
Number of days to complete a stage 2 DFG	Emily Spicer	298	264	262	288	303	350 300 250 200 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1				
Commentary	Stage 2 is from receipt of referral to the grant being ready to approve and involves design, costing of works and the necessary agreements from various parties. It also includes obtaining all the required information from the client. The figures are produced from the cases completed in the quarter and is subject to variation depending on the type of cases completed, as extensions can take considerably longer than other works.										
ປ ປົ Dumber of days to complete a stage 3 DFG ຊຸ	Emily Spicer	24	13	17	28	18	30 20 10 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1				
Commentary	Stage 3 is rapproval le		days to app	rove a grar	nt and inclu	des checkir	ng the application is correct and issue of				
Number of days to complete a stage 4 DFG	Emily Spicer	56	76	70	52	80	100 50 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1				
Commentary	Stage 4 is from approval of the grant to completion of works and payment being made. This can depend on contractors workload and clients availability.										

Number of DFG referrals received	Emily Spicer	48	51	41	49	33	60 40 20 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1		
Commentary	The reduct	ion in refe	rrals may b	e due to LC	C O/T avail	ability. Furt	rther investigation needed if continues.		
Number of DFG grants approved	Emily Spicer	21	23	20	16	20	30		
Commentary	Cases cont	inuing to p	rogress thr	ough proce	ss until eve	erything in I	place for approval.		
U ⊯umber of DFG grants completed D ►	Emily Spicer	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	14	15 ————————————————————————————————————		
Commentary	A reduction Will need t				to contrac	tor availab	bility or waiting for completion paperwork.		
For a successful prevention outcome at least 32% should be achieved through keeping the household in the home presented from	Emily Spicer	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	12.00%	15.00% — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —		
Commentary	Performance in this area has been historically low at BBC but more emphasis is now being placed on keeping homeless households in their current property. This helps reduce the use of expensive temporary accommodation and does not take up much needed private rented and social homes.								

Percentage of not in priority need decisions should reflect at least the regional average for the East Midlands (32%)	Emily Spicer	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	50.00%	60.00% 40.00% 20.00% 0.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary		Main duty	•		nade and of de if the Co							/
Percentage of intentional homelessness (IH) decisions should reflect at least the regional average for the East Midlands (5%)	Emily Spicer	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	0.00%	100.00% 50.00% 0.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	There were only two main duty decisions made and of these none were issued with an intentionally homeless decision. These can only be issued if the household has become homeless as a result of them doing something that resulted in them intentionally becoming homeless.											
Nisitor numbers / number of tickets sold, for leisure venues	Phil Perry	82,074	65,934	58,964	74,358	66,421	100,000 50,000 0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	operationa	al, limiting p	oublic swim	s. There ha	pacted usa is also beer e in numbe	a noticeab	le drop	in usag	ge seen	due to	the cea	sed
Number of gym members	Phil Perry	1,768	1,903	1,860	1,963	1,802	2,000 — 1,800 — 1,600 —	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1

Number of swims	Phil Perry	38,684	28,123	18,103	19,878	18,722	60,000 40,000 20,000 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Number of swimming lessons	Phil Perry	13,767	12,321	13,538	16,810	12,690	20,000 10,000 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1

## **Safe and Resilient Communities**

PI Name	AD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1			
Bood Safety – percentage of rateable food businesses with a rating of 3 (generally stisfactory) or above as a Percentage of the total number of rateable food businesses.	Christian Allen	97.85%	98.00%	96.90%	97.70%	97.15%	98.00% 96.00% 94.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1		
Number of organisations supported with accessing funding	Emily Spicer	0	2	0	0	0	3		
Commentary	Latest Cro	wdfunding	window op	ened.					
Number of verified rough sleepers during the month	Emily Spicer	28	31	20	27	35	40 20 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1		
Commentary	The number of people sleeping rough over the course of the month is higher than a year ago, however the number of people sleeping rough on a single night has decreased from 19 to 12. This could indicate that rough sleeping is increasing but for shorter periods.								

Number of properties improved through Council intervention	Emily Spicer	6	3	3	13	15	20 —	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary					nformally, t ment of a r	_						the need
The percentage of main duty decisions made within 5 working days of the end of the relief duty	Fmily	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	50.00%	60.00% 40.00% 20.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary ນີ້	relation to decisions,	household	s who are i of time in t	n tempora	nonitored w ry accommoda accommoda	odation. Th	nis is be	cause	if offic	ers are	not mal	king quick
D D Number of lets into the private rented sector	Emily Spicer	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	Not Previously Reported	6	1000.00% 500.00% 0.00%	Q1	Q2	. Q3	Q4	Q1
Commentary	Performance should improve following the restructure because there will be additional posts targeted at getting more homeless households rehoused into the private rented sector. This then frees up more social homes for non-homeless applicants.											

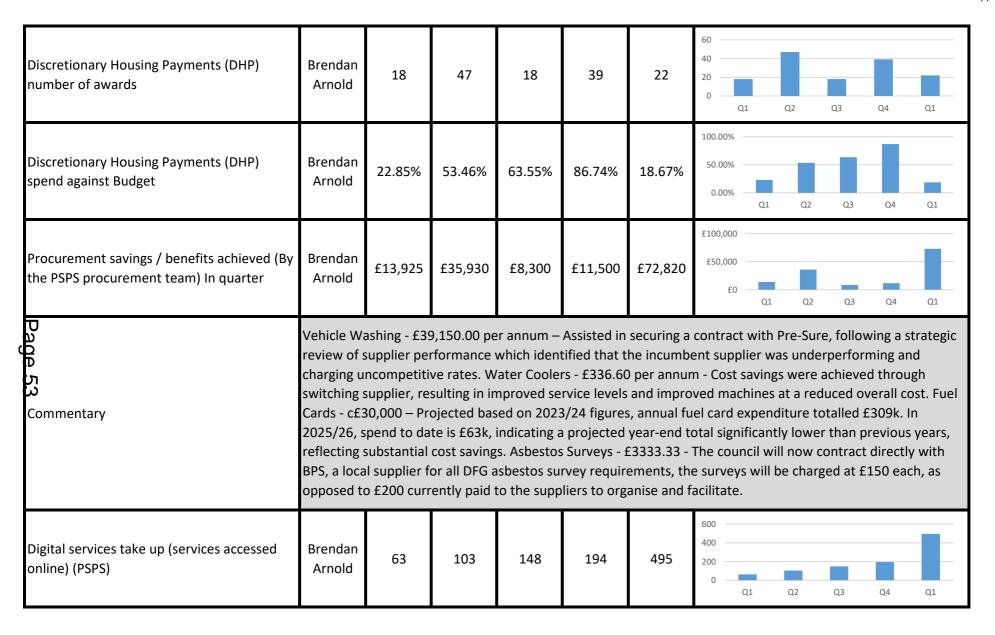
### **Environment**

PI Name	AD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1					
Kingdom Contract: Number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) Issued - Litter (In quarter)	Christian Allen	284	183	291	250	231	200 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1				
Kingdom Contract: Number of FPNs Issued - Fly Tipping (In quarter)	Christian Allen	10	16	24	32	16	40 20 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1				
ស្វ Singdom Contract: Number of FPNs Issued - gether (e.g. PSPO etc.) (In quarter)	Christian Allen	11	4	10	18	33	40 20 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1				
Kingdom Contract: Number of prosecutions completed to sentencing. (In quarter)	Christian Allen	29	30	12	15	15	40 20 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1				
KG of total waste collected per household	Victoria Burgess	110.10	101.80	91.80	85.50	0.00	150.00 100.00 50.00 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1				
Commentary	Quarter 1 will be reported in quarter 2 I now added all of the last years quarters in so I can report ont his now but same percentage of waste we are a quarter behind.										

## **Efficiencies and Efficacies**

PI Name	AD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	
Repairs & Maintenance: Percentage committed spend against budget – cumulative	Andy Fisher	20.13%	61.16%	95.82%	164.33%	31.69%	200.00% 100.00% 0.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary		~			•		en recovered from third parties , e.g. Parish netted in the calculation of this PI.
Housing Benefit Caseload ပို	Brendan Arnold	2150	2019	1909	1812	1681	3000 2000 1000 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
בי Council Tax Support Caseload	Brendan Arnold	2777	2838	2907	2951	3009	3200 3000 2800 2600 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Business Rates RV	Brendan Arnold	£55,684,937	£55,782,060	£55,858,896	£55,714,554	£55,783,595	£55,900,000 £55,800,000 £55,700,000 £55,600,000 £55,500,000 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Business Rates Hereditaments	Brendan Arnold	2,484	2,485	2,488	2,481	2,496	2,490 2,480 2,470 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1

Council Tax Banded Dwellings	Brendan Arnold	31,775	31,858	31,930	31,989	32,032	32,200 32,000 31,800 31,600 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Digital Services Take-Up	Brendan Arnold	0	0	0	0	0	1 ————————————————————————————————————
Commentary	Boston do	es not curre	ently offer	digital servi	ces for reve	enue and b	enefits.
Direct Debit Payments ປັ	Brendan Arnold	58,658	59,207	59,404	38,928	58,663	100,000 50,000 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
ת סר OTS New Claims – Number of Decisions Made	Brendan Arnold	568	357	574	535	474	1,000 500 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
CTS Changes – Number of Decisions Made	Brendan Arnold	2,517	1,894	1,821	6,299	2,686	10,000
Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) number of applications	Brendan Arnold	51	73	84	83	53	100



Website visitors (accessing website information) (PSPS)	Brendan Arnold	133,265	45,494	41,478	72,493	66,518	150,000 100,000 50,000 0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Percentage of Partnership workforce (surveyed collectively) who said 'Yes' when asked if they felt valued at work	James Gilbert	Half Yearly	79.00%	Half Yearly	84.80%	Half Yearly	100.00% 50.00% 0.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Percentage of the Partnership workforce (surveyed collectively) who said 'yes' they feel there are opportunities in the Partnership to learn and develop their skills and expertise	James Gilbert	Half Yearly	86.00%	Half Yearly	85.50%	Half Yearly	100.00% 50.00% 0.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Percentage of the Partnership workforce (Surveyed collectively) who feel informed bout the Partnership and what decisions it is making	James Gilbert	Half Yearly	60.00%	Half Yearly	64.70%	Half Yearly	100.00% 50.00% 0.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Percentage of the Partnership workforce (surveyed collectively) who said 'yes' they feel the Partnership recognises and supports positive mental health in the workplace	James Gilbert	Half Yearly	87.00%	Half Yearly	86.30%	Half Yearly	100.00% 50.00% 0.00%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Staff Turnover Cumulative	James Gilbert	5.13%	10.22%	13.41%	18.03%	2.34%	20.00% - 10.00% - 0.00% -	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1

Voluntary Staff Turnover	James Gilbert	4.20%	5.70%	3.70%	3.20%	1.85%	6.00% 4.00% 2.00% 0.00% Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Number of working days lost to sickness per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) (Cumulative)	James Gilbert	2.73	5.31	2.43	3.15	2.40	6.00 4.00 2.00 0.00 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Commentary	A reduction quarter.	n of 0.75 da	ays lost per	FTE and a	significant ı	eduction ir	n short term absence since the previous
External funding – a calculation of external Partnership funding received as a trend – showing quarter by quarter and including a breakdown by Council	James Gilbert	£7,960,404	£17,636,760	£752,541	£39,848	£38,000	£20,000,000 £10,000,000 £0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
D Sumber of late reports not made available to the Democratic Services teams at agenda publication	John Medler	3	3	3	5	4	6 4 2 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1
Call volumes (PSPS)	Phil Perry	18,461	22,705	14,418	22,381	11,985	30,000
Average Call Duration - Customer Contact (Seconds) (PSPS)	Phil Perry	314	341	251	243	322	200 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1

Average Speed of Answer - Customer Contact (Seconds) (PSPS)	Phil Perry	191	164	86	121	172	300 200 100 0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Number of Callbacks (PSPS)	Phil Perry	1,435	1,525	1,266	2,023	563	3,000 2,000 1,000 0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Number of customers using webchat (PSPS)	Phil Perry	144	1,403	1,019	1,544	991	2,000 1,000 0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
(C) (D) (C) (C) (Ustomer Contact Centre visits (PSPS)	Phil Perry	4,421	4,185	4,038	5,072	4,916	6,000 4,000 2,000 0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Enquiries via email and social media (PSPS)	Phil Perry	1,442	1,331	1,289	1,166	1,199	2,000 1,000 0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025–26

Meeting Date	Agenda Items	Report Author  A.D = Assistant Director  D.C.X = Deputy Chief Executive	Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Meeting					
29 May 25	<ul> <li>Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan</li> <li>Joint Scrutiny of the Partnership Enviro Crime Enforcement Contract</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Group Manager – Organisational</li> <li>Development</li> <li>Partnership Scrutiny Task Group</li> </ul>	Cllr A Dorrian Cllr C Butler	17 Sep 25					
17 June 25	<ul><li>HMO Update</li><li>Plan for Neighbourhoods</li></ul>	<ul><li>Safer Communities Services</li><li>Manager</li><li>Director of Economic Development</li></ul>	Cllr J Baxter Cllr A Dorrian	17 Sep 25					
17 July 25	<ul> <li>Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan</li> <li>Review of Crowdfunding Scheme</li> <li>South &amp; East Lincolnshire Council's Partnership Body Worn Video Cameras (BWVC) Policy</li> <li>Quarter 4 24/25 Performance and Risk Report</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Group Manager – Organisational Development</li> <li>Community Leadership Manager</li> <li>Community Safety Manager</li> <li>Group Manager Insights and Transformation</li> </ul>	Cllr A Dorrian  Cllr E Cresswell Cllr A Dorrian  Cllr A Dorrian	17 Sep 25 17 Sep 25 17 Sep 25 9 Jul 25					
4 Sept 25	<ul> <li>Highways LCC Portfolio Holder</li> <li>Flood Report</li> </ul>	<ul><li>LCC Portfolio Holder</li><li>AD Regulatory</li></ul>	Cllr D Broughton	17 Sep 25					

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025–26

Meeting Date	Agenda Items	Report Author  A.D = Assistant Director  D.C.X = Deputy Chief Executive	Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Meeting
2 Oct 25	<ul> <li>Road Safety Briefing</li> <li>Anglian Water</li> <li>Plan for Neighbourhoods</li> <li>SELCP Safeguarding Policy</li> <li>Crime and Disorder</li> <li>Budget Preparation 2026/27 - Approach &amp; Process</li> <li>Local Council Tax Support</li> <li>Pension and Pensions Discretions Policy</li> <li>SELCP Safeguarding Policy</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Senior Manager LRSP</li> <li>Public Affairs Team</li> <li>Director of Economic Development</li> <li>Safer Communities Manager (Operations)</li> <li>Interim Director of Finance Section 151 Officer</li> <li>Interim Director of Finance Section 151 Officer</li> <li>Group Manager Organisational Development</li> <li>AD Communities and Housing Services</li> </ul>	Cllr S Sharpe Cllr H Staples Cllr S Ghosh Cllr S Ghosh Cllr Broughton Cllr H Staples	22 Oct 25 22 Oct 25 17 Sep 25 10 Nov 25 10 Dec 25
6 Nov 25	<ul> <li>Update on Community Lottery</li> <li>Q1 24/25 Performance Report</li> <li>Contracting of Leisure Facilities with an External Agent for Service Delivery</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Community Leadership Manager</li> <li>Group Manager Insights and Transformation</li> <li>Head of Special Projects</li> </ul>	Cllr H Staples Cllr D Broughton Cllr S Sharpe	10 Dec 25 10 Dec 25 10 Dec 25
9 Dec 25	<ul> <li>Highways Portfolio Holder</li> <li>Policing</li> <li>Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO) Policy</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>LCC Portfolio Holder (Pending)</li> <li>Lincolnshire Chief Constable (Pending)</li> <li>Safer Communities Service Manager</li> </ul>	Cllr J Baxter	27 Jan 26

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025–26

Meeting Date	Agenda Items	Report Author A.D = Assistant Director D.C.X = Deputy Chief Executive	Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Meeting
	<ul> <li>Housing Standards Policies</li> <li>Q2 25/26 Performance and Risk Report</li> <li>Trees and Hedgerows Strategy Action Plan</li> <li>Social Media Policy</li> <li>Counter Fraud Bribery &amp; Anti-Corruption Policy</li> <li>Whistleblowing Policy &amp; Procedure</li> <li>Scrutiny Annual Reports 2023/24 2024/25</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Safer Communities Service Manager</li> <li>Group Manager Insights and Transformation</li> <li>AD Regulatory</li> <li>AD Corporate</li> <li>Monitoring Officer</li> <li>Monitoring Officer</li> <li>Monitoring Officer</li> </ul>	Cllr J Baxter  Cllr D Broughton  Cllr C Rylott  Cllr Broughton  Cllr S Ghosh  Cllr S Ghosh	27 Jan 26 10 Dec 25 27 Jan 26 27 Jan 26 10 Dec 25 10 Dec 25
15 Jan 26	<ul> <li>Budget Draft 2026/2027</li> <li>Section 19 Agency Floods Post Report Environment Agency Black Sluice and LLFA/LCC</li> <li>Destination Management Plan for SELCP and</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Head of Finance Delivery PSPSL</li> <li>AD Regulatory</li> <li>Director for Economic Development</li> </ul>	Cllr S Ghosh Cllr Broughton Cllr S Sharpe	10 Dec 25 27 Jan 25
10 Feb 26	<ul> <li>Associated Action Plan for Boston.</li> <li>NHS Care After Discharge (Pending)</li> <li>NEPTS Patient Transport (Pending)</li> </ul>	<ul><li>AD Regulatory</li><li>AD Regulatory</li></ul>		
17 Mar 26	Quarter 3 25/26 Performance and Risk Report	Group Manager Insights and     Transformation	Cllr D Broughton	25 Mar 26
30 Apr 26				

	Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025–26								
Meeting Date	Agenda Items	Report Author A.D = Assistant Director D.C.X = Deputy Chief Executive	Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Meeting					

	Alternative options for Scrutiny working.							
	Task and Finish Group	Review of the Town Centre Task and Finish Group (Cllr Pryke, Chairman)						
	Member Working Group							
,	Inquiry Session							
)	All Member Briefings pending at issue of agenda	Child Poverty – requested from November 2024 meeting. Update on PE21 – requested from Environment and Performance December 2024 meeting. Port of Boston Lock Gate Project <b>Update</b> : <i>Briefing Confirmed for February 2026 Date TBC</i>						

### **Pending Confirmation:**

- Bus Services. Possible work streams from the SICP report on Social Impact Population Change. (Checking)
- Visitor Economy (Tourism). (Pending)
- Local Plan (Pending Review/Updates)

Chairman: Councillor Paul Gleeson Vice Chairman: Councillor Neil Drayton

Lead Officer(s): Deputy Chief Executive (Programme Delivery) and Assistant Director - General Fund Assets / Assistant Director - Regulatory

Clerk: Democratic Services Officer



# BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

### 1 NOVEMBER TO 31 OCTOBER 2026

The Forward Plan is a forecast of decisions which are expected to be taken by the Cabinet in the next twelve months.

This Plan constitutes 28 day notice as required by virtue of Regulations 5(2) and 9(2) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information (England) Regulations 2012.

The Boston Borough Council definition of a key decision is:

- A decision which results in the authority incurring expenditure which is, or involves the making of savings which are significant having regard to the authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- Be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards of the Borough.

Decisions set out in this Plan will be taken by the Cabinet unless otherwise specified. All decisions included in this Plan will be taken on the basis of a written report and will be published on the Council's website before the meeting.

Please note that the decision dates are indicative and occasionally subject to change.

The Council invites members of the public to attend any of the meetings at which decisions will be discussed and the papers listed on the Plan can be viewed free of charge at the Customer Services Desk, Municipal Building, West Street, Boston, or on the Council's website, <a href="https://www.boston.gov.uk">www.boston.gov.uk</a>

If you wish to make comments or representations regarding the decisions outlined in the Plan, please submit them in writing to the contact officer identified against each decision in the Plan, at least 2 working days before the date of the meeting at which the decision is to be taken.

Agendas, decisions and minutes are published on the Council's website www.boston.gov.uk

### **Cabinet Members:**

Cllr Dale Broughton (Leader)
Cllr Mike Gilbert (Deputy Leader)

Cllr John Baxter Cllr Chris Mountain Cllr Callum Butler Cllr Claire Rylott

Cllr Sandeep Ghosh Cllr Sarah Sharpe

Cllr Helen Staples

	Report Title and Summary of Content	Key / Non-Key	Date Decision to be taken	Rec to Council?	Open or Exempt	Lead Officer	Portfolio Holder
	Pension & Pension Discretions Policy To ensure compliance with Regulation 60 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013. This regulation requires employers to prepare, publish and keep under review a written statement of policy on how they will exercise discretions under the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).	Non Key	Full Council 10 Nov 2025	Council:	Open	Rachel Robinson, Group Manager - Organisational Development Tel: 07717 099955 rachel.robinson@e- lindsey.gov.uk	Leader (Councillor Dale Broughton)
ige (	Licensing Policy Review Statutory 5 year review of the council policy in relation to the Licensing Act 2003	Non Key	Full Council 10 Nov 2025		Open	Anna McDowell, Senior Licensing Officer anna.mcdowell@bost on.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Infrastructure (Councillor Chris Mountain)
	Plan for Neighbourhoods To seek approval for submission of the Plan for Neighbourhoods for Skegness, Spalding & Boston.	Key	Cabinet 13 Nov 2025		Open	Michael Dow, Plan for Neighbourhoods Programme Manager Michael.Dow@e- lindsey.gov.uk	Deputy Leader (Councillor Mike Gilbert)
	2024/25 Audited Financial Statement To seek approval of the Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 and approval of the Audited Financial Statements 2024/25 for publication.	Non Key	Audit & Governance Committee 17 Nov 2025		Open	Ellie Stacey, Head of Finance Delivery - Technical and Corporate, PSPSL Ellie.Stacey@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)

	Report Title	Key / Non-Key	Date Decision to be taken	Rec to Council?	Open or Exempt	Lead Officer	Portfolio Holder
	2025/26 Mid Term Treasury Report To provide Members with an update on Treasury Management performance and activity to ensure best practice is maintained.	Non Key	Audit & Governance Committee 17 Nov 2025	Full Council 15 Jan 2026	Open	Sean Howsam, Treasury and Investment Manager (PSPSL) Sean.Howsam@psps I.co.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
	Local Government Re-organisation - Business Case to Government To approve the Business Case to Government for Local Government Reorganisation in Greater Lincolnshire.	Key	Cabinet 26 Nov 2025		Open	James Gilbert, Assistant Director – Corporate james.gilbert@e- lindsey.gov.uk	Leader (Councillor Dale Broughton)
age	Q2 2025/26 Forecast Outturn (SEA) To set out the current financial position for BTAC at the end of the 2nd quarter of 2025/26.	Non Key	Boston Town Area Committee (BTAC) 27 Nov 2025		Open	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) nicole.hayes@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
	Counter Fraud, Bribery & Anti- Corruption Policy To review and update the Policy across each of the Councils and have a single aligned Policy across the Partnership.	Non Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025		Open	Rebecca James, Scrutiny & Policy Officer rebecca.james@e- lindsey.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
	Whistleblowing Policy & Procedure To review and update the Policy across each of the Councils and have a single aligned Policy across the Partnership.	Non Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025		Open	Rebecca James, Scrutiny & Policy Officer rebecca.james@e- lindsey.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)

	Report Title	Key / Non-Key	Date Decision to be taken	Rec to Council?	Open or Exempt	Lead Officer	Portfolio Holder
	Destination Management Plan for SELCP and the associated action plan for Boston Destination Lincolnshire are the defined Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) for the Lincolnshire and Rutland areas. As part of this they have created a Plan to 2033 to promote and coordinate the Visitor Economy.	Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025		Open	Pranali Parikh, Director of Economic Development pranali.parikh@bosto n.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Heritage, Culture and Tourism (Councillor Sarah Sharpe)
r age of	Quarter 2 25/26 Performance and Risk Report To provide an update on performance and risk as at the end of each quarter.	Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025		Open	Suzanne Rolfe, Group Manager – Insights & Transformation suzanne.rolfe@bosto n.gov.uk	Leader (Councillor Dale Broughton)
•	SELCP Safeguarding Policy Following the creation of the SELCP a review of the Safeguarding Policies has been undertaken. To standardise our approach to Safeguarding children and adults in the work we do, a single policy covering all three councils has been developed.	Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025		Open	Iris Furst, Safeguarding Officer iris.furst@e- lindsey.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Communities (Councillor Helen Staples)
	Q2 2025/26 Forecast Outturn To set out the current financial position for the Council at the end of the 2nd quarter of 2025/26.	Non Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025		Open	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) nicole.hayes@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)

	Report Title	Key / Non-Key	Date Decision to be taken	Rec to Council?	Open or Exempt	Lead Officer	Portfolio Holder
	Update on Community Lottery To update Members on the progress of the Community Lottery	Non Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025	Council:	Open	Nichola Holderness, Community Leadership Manager Nichola.Holderness@ boston.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Communities (Councillor Helen Staples)
_	2026/27 Draft Budget - Principles	Non Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025		Open	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) nicole.hayes@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
age	Contracting of Leisure Facilities with an external operator as agent for Service delivery  To consider the award of contract under an agency agreement for the operation and lifecycle maintenance of the Council's leisure facilities.	Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025		Fully exempt	Mark Humphreys, Head of Special Projects (Leisure) mark.humphreys@e- lindsey.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Heritage, Culture and Tourism (Councillor Sarah Sharpe)
	Amendments/Updates to the Contract Procedure Rules To seek approval to make the proposed amendments to the Contract Procedure Rules.	Non Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025	Full Council 12 Jan 2026	Open	Martin Gibbs, Head of Procurement & Contracts, PSPSL martin.gibbs@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
	Community Governance Review for Boston To update the Council on the outcome of the Phase 1 consultation undertaken and consider the recommendations from the Community Governance Review Working Group to agree the next steps of the review.	Non Key	Full Council 12 Jan 2026		Open	Amanda Dickinson, Democratic Services Team Leader Tel: 01205 314591 amanda.dickinson@b oston.gov.uk	Leader (Councillor Dale Broughton)

Report Title	Key / Non-Key	Date Decision to be taken	Rec to Council?	Open or Exempt	Lead Officer	Portfolio Holder
Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2026/27 For Cabinet to agree its recommendation to Full Council for the 2026/27 Council Tax Support Scheme.	Non Key	Cabinet 10 Dec 2025	Full Council 12 Jan 2026	Open	Sharon Hammond, Head of Revenues and Benefits Sharon.hammond@p spsl.co.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
2026/27 Draft Budget - SCRUTINY	Non Key	Overview & Scrutiny Committee 15 Jan 2026		Open	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) nicole.hayes@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
2026/27 TPS, TMSS & MRP +AIS To provide pre-decision scrutiny to the strategy being proposed.	Non Key	Audit & Governance Committee 19 Jan 2026		Open	Sean Howsam, Treasury and Investment Manager (PSPSL) Sean.Howsam@psps I.co.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
2026/27 Budget Proposal To consider the draft BTAC budget for 2026/27.	Non Key	Boston Town Area Committee (BTAC) 22 Jan 2026		Open	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) nicole.hayes@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
Trees & Hedgerows Strategy Action Plan To gain member input into the draft action plan to underpin delivery of the Trees & Hedgerows Strategy.	Key	Cabinet 27 Jan 2026		Open	Heather Prescott, Climate Change and Environment Officer heather.prescott@bo ston.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Green Spaces and Travel (Councillor Claire Rylott)

	Report Title	Key / Non-Key	Date Decision to be taken	Rec to Council?	Open or Exempt	Lead Officer	Portfolio Holder
	Housing Standards Policies To consider the review and update of Housing Standards Policies prior to alignment of respective Polices across the Partnership.	Non Key	Cabinet 27 Jan 2026		Open	Jonathan Challen, Safer Communities Service Manager jonathan.challen@e- lindsey.gov.uk, Luke Settle, Housing Standards Team Leader luke.settle@boston.g ov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Housing (Councillor John Baxter)
aye c	Social Media Policy To consider and approve the adoption of a consistent approach to the Partnership's social media channels and tactics when using social media to communicate to residents across the sub-region.	Non Key	Cabinet 27 Jan 2026		Open	Shaun Gibbons, Communications Manager shaungibbons@sholl and.gov.uk	Leader (Councillor Dale Broughton)
	Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO) Policy To review and update the Policy across each of the Councils and have a single aligned Policy across the Partnership.	Non Key	Cabinet 27 Jan 2026		Open	Jonathan Challen, Safer Communities Service Manager jonathan.challen@e- lindsey.gov.uk, Luke Settle, Housing Standards Team Leader luke.settle@boston.g ov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Housing (Councillor John Baxter)

	Report Title	Key / Non-Key	Date Decision to be taken	Rec to Council?	Open or Exempt	Lead Officer	Portfolio Holder
	2026/27 Budget Report To approve: The General Fund Budget for 2026/27, including the use of reserves, Medium Term Financial Strategy, Capital Programmes and Strategy, Treasury Management Policy/Strategy and the Annual Delivery Plan including the approval of Council Tax levels.	Non Key	Cabinet 18 Feb 2026	Full Council 2 Mar 2026	Open	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) nicole.hayes@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
Page (	2026/27 CTAX Setting Report To set the amounts of Council Tax applicable for 2026/27 for each valuation band and in each part of the Borough.	Non Key	Full Council 2 Mar 2026		Open	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) nicole.hayes@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
	Quarter 3 25/26 Performance and Risk Report To provide an update on performance and risk as at the end of each quarter.	Key	Cabinet 25 Mar 2026		Open	Suzanne Rolfe, Group Manager – Insights & Transformation suzanne.rolfe@bosto n.gov.uk	Leader (Councillor Dale Broughton)
	Q3 2025/26 Forecast Outturn To set out the current financial position for the Council at the end of the 2nd quarter of 2025/26.	Non Key	Cabinet 25 Mar 2026		Open	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) nicole.hayes@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)

Report Title	Key / Non-Key	Date Decision to be taken	Rec to Council?	Open or Exempt	Lead Officer	Portfolio Holder
Q3 2025/26 Forecast Outturn (SEA) To set out the current financial position for BTAC at the end of the 3rd quarter of 2025/26.	Non Key	Boston Town Area Committee (BTAC) 26 Mar 2026		Open	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) nicole.hayes@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
2025/26 Accounting Polices To review and agree the Accounting Policies for inclusion in the Financial Statements 2025/26.	Non Key	Audit & Governance Committee 21 Apr 2026		Open	Ellie Stacey, Head of Finance Delivery - Technical and Corporate, PSPSL Ellie.Stacey@pspsl.c o.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
2025/26 Q3 Treasury Update To provide Members with an update on Treasury Management performance and activity to ensure best practice is Comaintained.	Non Key	Audit & Governance Committee 21 Apr 2026		Open	Sean Howsam, Treasury and Investment Manager (PSPSL) Sean.Howsam@psps I.co.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)

This page is intentionally left blank

## Agenda Item 5

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

