



# **BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **FORWARD PLAN**

### **1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 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, [www.boston.gov.uk](http://www.boston.gov.uk)

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](http://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
<b>SELCP Safeguarding Policy</b> 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. The Key aim of the policy is to ensure our residents, officers and councillors will have a clear understanding of our responsibilities under the Children Act 1989 and the Care Act 2014.	Key	Cabinet 27 Jan 2026		Open	Iris Furst, Safeguarding Officer iris.furst@e-lindsey.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Communities (Councillor Helen Staples)
<b>BBC/ELDC Housing Allocations Policy 2025</b> An update to the 2021 Allocation Policy jointly adopted by Boston Borough Council and East Lindsey District Council outlines a comprehensive framework for managing access to social housing across both districts.	Key	Cabinet 27 Jan 2026		Open	Kerry James, Senior Housing Officer Kerry.James@e-lindsey.gov.uk, Tom Marsters, Housing and Homelessness Manager tmarsters@sholland.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Housing (Councillor John Baxter)
<b>Trees &amp; Hedgerows Strategy Action Plan</b> 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@boston.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
<b>Housing Standards Policies</b> To consider the review and update of Housing Standards Policies prior to alignment of respective Policies 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.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Housing (Councillor John Baxter)
<b>Social Media Policy</b> 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@sholland.gov.uk	Leader (Councillor Dale Broughton)
<b>Data Protection Policy and Records Management Policy</b> The Council's Data Protection Policy and Records Management Policy have been reviewed to ensure the Council's compliance with the latest statutory requirements, including the UK GDPR, Data Protection Act 2018, and the new Data Use and Access Act 2025 (DUAA). The intention is to align these policies across the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership (SELCP).	Non Key	Cabinet 25 Mar 2026		Open	Richard Steele, Information Manager and Data Protection Officer richard.steele@boston.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
<b>South &amp; East Lincolnshire Community Safety Strategy</b> To recommend adoption of the 2025-2028 Community Safety Strategy and associated action plan.	Non Key	Cabinet 18 Feb 2026		Open	Sarah Cocker, Safer Communities Officer sarah.cocker@e-lindsey.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Communities (Councillor Helen Staples)
<b>2026/27 Budget Report</b> 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.co.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
<b>Pay Policy Statement for 2026/27</b> Under section 38 of the Localism Act 2011, a pay Policy Statement is required to be produced annually and must be approved by Council, the report presents the pay policy statement for 2026/27.	Non Key	Full Council 2 Mar 2026		Open	Anna Waddell, HR Manager - Operations Anna.Waddell@pspsl.co.uk, Aileen Whatmore, Head of HR & OD aileen.whatmore@pspsl.co.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
<b>Terms and Conditions alignment - next phase</b> To consider the next phase of terms and conditions alignment across the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership.	Non Key	Full Council 2 Mar 2026		Open	James Gilbert, Assistant Director – Corporate james.gilbert@e-lindsey.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
<b>2026/27 CTAX Setting Report</b> 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.co.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
<b>Quarter 3 25/26 Performance and Risk Report</b> 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@boston.gov.uk	Leader (Councillor Dale Broughton)
<b>Q3 2025/26 Forecast Outturn</b> 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.co.uk	Portfolio Holder - Finance and Economic Growth (Councillor Sandeep Ghosh)
<b>Destination Management Plan for SELCP and the associated action plan for Boston</b> 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 co-ordinate the Visitor Economy.	Key	Cabinet 5 May 2026		Open	Pranali Parikh, Director of Economic Development pranali.parikh@boston.gov.uk	Portfolio Holder - Heritage, Culture and Tourism (Councillor Sarah Sharpe)