



**Committee:** OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date:** WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2026

**Venue:** MORECAMBE TOWN HALL

**Time:** 6.00 P.M.

Councillors are reminded that as Members of Overview and Scrutiny they may not be subjected to the Party Whip, which is prohibited under the Lancaster City Council Constitution.

## A G E N D A

ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND EITHER IN PERSON OR VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS FOR THE ITEM REGARDING THE CARE QUALITY COMMISSION ASSESSMENT

**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Minutes**

To receive as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026.

**3. Items of Urgent Business authorised by the Chair**

**4. Declarations of Interest**

To receive declarations by Councillors of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Councillors are reminded that, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting).

Whilst not a legal requirement, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 and in the interests of clarity and transparency, Councillors should declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, at this point in the meeting.

In accordance with Part B Section 2 of the Code Of Conduct, Councillors are required to declare the existence and nature of any other interests as defined in paragraphs 8(1) or 9(2) of the Code of Conduct.

**5. Care Quality Commission (CQC) Assessment**

Helen Coombes, Executive Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing, has been invited to attend the meeting for this item.

**Note:** All Members of Council have been invited to attend for this item either in person or via Microsoft Teams.

**6. Flooding in Lancaster - Lancaster City Surface Water Management Plan**

Report of the Chief Officer Sustainable Growth.

**7. Fit for the Future**

Discussions regarding Fit for the Future following the recent Workshop.

**8. Forthcoming Key Decisions**

The List of Forthcoming Key Decisions can be viewed [here](#)

**9. City Council Commissioned Consultations**

City Council Commissioned Consultations can be viewed [here](#)

**10. Decisions the Chair has been consulted on**

The Chair to advise.

**11. Work Programme (Pages 3 - 5)**

The updated Work Programme is attached.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

**(i) Membership**

Councillors Martin Gawith (Chair), Chris Hanna (Vice-Chair), Suhir Abuhajar, Wilson Colley, Maria Deery, Gina Dowding, Sue Penney, Joyce Pritchard and John Wild

**(ii) Substitute Membership**

Councillors Ross Hunter, Isabella Metcalf-Riener, Catherine Potter, James Sommerville and Jackson Stubbs

**(iii) Queries regarding this Agenda**

Please contact Jenny Kay, Democratic Support - email [jkay@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:jkay@lancaster.gov.uk).

**(iv) Changes to Membership, substitutions or apologies**

Please contact Democratic Support email [democracy@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@lancaster.gov.uk).

MARK DAVIES,  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE,  
TOWN HALL,  
DALTON SQUARE,  
LANCASTER, LA1 1PJ

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<u>Matter for Consideration</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Expected Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>
Care Commission Assessment Quality (CQC)	<p>Agreed that this would be added to the Committee's Work Programme with representatives from Lancashire County Council invited to report to a future, or additional meeting of the Committee. This would be to inform of the findings of the CQC Assessment and the progress already being made, with all other members of Council invited to attend to allow them all to be briefed.</p> <p>Min 25, 10.09.25.</p>	4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026.	
* Derelict Properties in the West End of Morecambe.	<p>Focus on West End of Morecambe. Request Chief Officer – Sustainable Growth to report at a future meeting on his area of responsibility.</p> <p>Min 14, 02.07.25, resolution (5).</p>	4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026.	
*Arndale Centre in Morecambe.	<p>Concerns about the current state of the Arndale Centre in Morecambe and whether the Council is aware of any plans or discussions regarding its future.</p> <p>Update on Morecambe Master Plan from Chief Officer – Sustainable Growth – consider at the same meeting as West End Regeneration item.</p> <p>Min 14, 02.07.25, resolution (5).</p>	4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026.	
* A review of the role the City Council has in promoting and supporting economic development, both large and small businesses, within the district and its impact. Include Business Support.	<p>The Economic Development Strategy to be considered by the Committee when it was available before it is considered by Cabinet. February 2025.</p> <p>The Committee was advised that the Economic Development Strategy, which was included in the Committee's Work Programme, was currently being drafted. The draft Strategy would be considered by the Committee once it was complete. Min 51, 05.02.25.</p>	4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026.	
Flooding in Lancaster - Lancaster City Surface Water Management Plan.	<p>Request an update from County Council.</p> <p>An update from Lancashire County Council is awaited. Min 54, 07.02.24, Min 25, 10.09.25 and Min 34, 22.10.25.</p> <p>Letter received dated and email dated.</p> <p>City Council officers asked to report to the Committee. 21.01.26.</p>	4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026.	

Update on Fit for the Future.	<p>Update on Fit for Future – Report to a O&amp;SC meeting and invite B&amp;PP. On a 6 month or quarterly basis.</p> <p>Min 14, 02.07.25, resolution (5).</p> <p>Min 20, 10.09.25.</p> <p>Min 34, 22.10.25.</p> <p>Workshop held on 14.01.26</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Committee discussion on 21.01.26. A further discussion scheduled for 04.02.26.</p>	4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026.	
Housing Needs.	Is the City Council's Housing Strategy delivering the housing needs of the district? Min 12, 01.08.24.	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026.	
Tenants Satisfaction Measures (TSM).	That the action plan for addressing the improvements required and the Complaint Annual Report be considered by the Committee at a future meeting. Min 41, 08.01.25.	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026.	
Social Housing Policy and practice.	How sustainable is our current housing policy. Home strategy 2020-2025 – request an update.	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026.	
Council Commercial services.	<p>The cafes etc run in house or externally franchised. A comparison of income from similar projects.</p> <p>Understand scale of this and then look at outcomes. Invite Chief Officer – Environment and Place to discuss commercial activities and the policy approach, particularly cafes.</p>	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026.	
Remote monitoring of litter bins and route optimisation.	That the Litter Bin monitoring Dashboard be considered by the Committee at a future meeting. Min 44, 08.01.25.	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2026.	
Annual Health Care meeting.	That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee establish an annual meeting to discuss healthcare matters in the district and invite representatives of relevant NHS bodies, including the local Clinical Commissioning Group and local medical practices. This meeting to take place in the next Municipal Year.  Min. 20, 16.12.21.	3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026.	
Community Safety.	<p>Regular updates to be provided to the Committee prior to the meeting in November 2025. Min 35, 20.11.24.</p> <p>Annual meeting required – please see Constitution, O&amp;S Procedure Rules.</p>	November 2026.	

	<b>Note:</b> The Cabinet Member with the relevant Portfolio to be invited to attend.		
Pre-decision Scrutiny Protocol.	Report back from the Informal Working Group. Min 50, 21.01.26.	Tbc.	
Health and Safety – violence and aggressive behaviour against staff and Councillors.	Safety of staff and Cllrs.  Report on stats and how the Council supports people/information from the LGA. An overarching view and not operational. Report to be kept within the Council's Executive functions.	Tbc.	
Community Resilience and Emergency Planning.	Min 45 19.11.25. Discussed further at the Committee meeting on Min 56, 21.01.26.	Tbc.	.
Government Waste Strategy.	Update to be provided at appropriate time. Min 51, 21.01.26.	Tbc.	

### Task Groups/Working Groups

Task Group/Working Group	Detail	Meetings
Neighbourhood Management Informal Task Group.	Scoping agreed and Informal Task Group established. Min 46, 08.01.25.	Ongoing.
Pre-decision Scrutiny Protocol Informal Working Group.	Informal Working Group established Min 50, 21.01.26. Expectation to report back by March 2026.	At the time of agenda publication, the 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting is to be arranged.

\*Items deferred and to be considered at a future meeting of the Committee.