

Promoting City, Coast & Countryside

# Key Decisions Annual Forward Plan

# **Monthly Update**

# 1 December 2008 30 April 2009



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#### INTRODUCTION

In order to ensure openness and accountability, this Forward Plan of key decisions has been prepared to set out clearly the **key decisions** that the Cabinet and Council Officers will be taking over the next twelve months.

The Plan is updated on a monthly basis and seeks to include all issues that are defined as "key decisions" in accordance with the Council's Constitution and identifies which body will make the decision.

This document is one of the regular monthly updates to the Forward Plan published annually.

The Plan tries to anticipate the issues that will be the subject of a key decision within a given timescale. For each item, this Plan includes:

- a description of the item for decision
- who will take the decision
- the date or period within which it will be taken
- groups identified for consultation and how this will be undertaken
- the process and timescale for persons wishing to make representations
- a list of documents that will be used in consideration of the matter

#### Key Decision - Definition

The definition of a key decision is set out in Part 2, Article 13 "Decision Making" of the Council's Constitution which states:

A decision should be a Key Decision on financial grounds if it relates to any of the following:

expenditure or savings proposal not included within approved capital or revenue budgets (including new schemes, external funding bids, increased spending on or transfers/virements between budgeted schemes):

- estimated at over £50,000 in total (gross), or
- where there are unbudgeted net revenue costs or other potential liabilities arising in current or future years.
- i. Any other initiative that relates to or would result in potential savings of over £50,000 in any year, which are not provided for in the approved budget.
- ii. The allocation of revenue or capital grants (receivable or payable) or any general budget allocations where their specific use or method of allocation has not previously been approved by Cabinet. This also covers any proposals to delegate such arrangements.
- iv. The award of contracts over £50,000.
- v. Proposals that involve taking on the role of Accountable Body for a particular initiative.
- vi. The carry forward of under- or overspends, irrespective of amount.
- vii. Increasing future years' spending forecasts in line with any flexibility authorised by Council, irrespective of amount.

With the exception of the following which shall not be a Key Decision:

- Transactions carried out as part of the efficient administration of the Council's finances in line with council policy and the s151 Officer's functions, e.g. treasury management.
- Subsequent allocation of grants (receivable or payable) within a framework and criteria previously agreed by Cabinet.
- Setting of fees and charges levels, including concessions, within the approved Budget and Policy Framework.
- Incurring expenditure essential to meet any immediate needs created by an emergency threatening life and limb or related to major structural damage threatening the fabric of a building [see Financial Procedures section A 1.11 (f)].
- A decision should be a Key Decision on community impact grounds if it would have a significant and lasting impact on one or more of the following:
  - (a) reputation of the Council
  - (b) the environment
  - (c) the local economy
  - (d) community safety
  - (e) human rights, equal opportunities or racial equality
- The Monitoring Officer would be responsible for the interpretation of the words **significant and lasting** in the community impact test.

The Plan does not, therefore, include:

- exempt or confidential information as defined in the Council's Constitution Part 4 Section 2, 10.03 and 10.04;
- any reference to decisions made by the Council's regulatory and other committees, i.e.
- Licensing
- Planning and Highways
- Appeals
- Standards
- Audit
- Personnel
- Appraisal
- any decisions made by Cabinet or delegated to Officers which are not defined as **key decisions**.

#### Contacts

If you have any queries relating to the publication of this plan please contact Gill Noall, Head of Democratic Services, on 01524 582060.

### FORWARD PLAN – SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS

Cabinet Member(s) with Special Responsibility	Decision	Date Decision Due
	Tender Acceptance - Energy Performance Certificates	13 November 2008
	Lancaster Science Park	Before 30 November 2008
Councillor David Kerr	Memorial Safety Programme	9 December 2008
Councillor Abbott Bryning	Luneside East Regeneration Project	9 December 2008
Councillor David Kerr	DELETED	9 December 2008
Councillor Evelyn Archer	Lancaster and Morecambe Worklessness Project	9 December 2008
Councillor Roger Mace	Budget & Policy Framework Process 2009/10	Various
Councillor David Kerr, Councillor Evelyn Archer	Chatsworth Gardens, Morecambe - Site Assembly	20 January 2009
Councillor Roger Mace	Review of Parking Fees and Charges 2009/10	20 January 2009
Councillor David Kerr	Fees and Charges 2009/10 - Health & Strategic Housing	20 January 2009
Councillor Roger Mace	Treasury Management Strategy 2009/10	17 February 2009
Councillor Evelyn Archer	Lancaster Market	17 February 2009
Councillor Roger Mace	Participatory Budgeting	17 March 2009
Councillor Evelyn Archer	Disposal of Land off Quernmore Road, Lancaster	17 March 2009
Councillor David Kerr	Approval of Pay and Grading Structure	17 March 2009
Councillor Susie Charles	Arnside/Silverdale AONB Management Plan Review	17 March 2009

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Tender A	Fender Acceptance - Energy Performance Certificates			
WARD:	All Wards	Vards			
SERVICE:	Council H	using Services			
DECISION MAKER:		Officer Delegated Decision			
RESPONSIBLE CAE	вілет Мемв				
Key Decision Criteria:	Fin	ncial Threshold			
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU		er acceptance for the Survey of Council Housing dwellings to produce energy rmance certificates	'		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	R	re 13 November 2008			
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	und No				
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		)			
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Consultation is not appropriate as this is a private contract.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		applicable			
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:		HAS Decision has been delayed from 31st August 2008 - tender documents are awaiting decision, the next publication is on 13th November 2008.			

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Lancaster	Lancaster Science Park		
WARD:	All Wards			
SERVICE:	Economic	Development and Tourism		
DECISION MAKER:		Officer Delegated Decision		
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET MEMBE	R:		
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	Fina	ancial Threshold		
SUMMARY DESCRI	IES: Prov	caster Science Park – progression of tender for Council consultancy support for vision of Planning and Highway Design/Testing Services to deliver planning lication and support submission processes.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	R	ore 30 November 2008		
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND Cab	inet Report and decision dated 8th July 2008		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Internal Council procurement procedure used.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Consultation is not appropriate as this is a private contract.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		Not applicable.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Memo	Memorial Safety Programme			
WARD:	All Wa	All Wards			
SERVICE:	Healt	h and Str	ategic Housing		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet		
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	Councillor David Kerr		
Key Decision Criteria:		Financia	al and Community Impact		
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU		Progres	s of the Memorial Safety Programme and the need for its continuation		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION		9 Decer	nber 2008		
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	PERS FOR N NSIDERATION: Ir		to Cabinet of 17 January 2006. Ibinet Report refers to possible changes in staffing level al Cabinet Member Decision 22 February 2007 Ibudsman Special Report on Memorial Safety in Local Authority Cemeteries.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Friends	of Cemeteries Groups.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		In writing to Stephen Mann, Public Health & Safety Manager.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	Deadline has now passed.			
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:	HAS		n has been delayed from 11th November 2008 so that the item can be red as part of the budget process for 2009/10.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Lunesid	Luneside East Regeneration Project			
WARD:	Castle \	Castle Ward			
SERVICE:	Plannin	ig Servi	ces		
DECISION MAKER:	•		Cabinet		
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET MEN	MBER:	Councillor Abbott Bryning		
Key Decision Criteria:	F	Financia	al and Community Impact		
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU			se that the project is now ready for delivery by the private sector and to request binet determine how to best to proceed		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	R	9 Decen	nber 2008		
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	und F	Planning	g Services Files - Luneside East Regeneration Project		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		None			
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		To make representations to the Head of Planning Services, Palatine Hall, Dalton Square, Lancaster, LA1 1PB			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		Prior to 12th September 2008			
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:		Decision has been delayed from 31st July 2008 - All parties are continuing to work to progress this issue, no conclusions have yet been reached.			

#### Key Decision Taken by Cabinet or delegated Officer

## PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS ITEM WAS FLAGGED UP AS A POTENTIAL KEY DECISION. THE DETAIL OF THE REPORT HAS NOW BEEN WRITTEN AND IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THIS IS NOT A KEY DECISION AS IT DOES NOT FALL WITHIN THE FINANCIAL THRESHOLD OF £50,000.

ITEM FOR DECISION:	OPUS	OPUS Housing Development Queen St Morecambe			
WARD:	Poulto	Poulton Ward			
SERVICE:	Neigh	bourhood	d Task Force		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet		
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	EMBER:	Councillor David Kerr		
Key Decision Criteria:		Commu	nity Impact		
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU			m Members of the issues surrounding this private development and to seek rs views on supporting bids for Housing Corporation finance.		
	DATE OF CABINET 9 De MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		nber 2008		
LIST OF BACKGROUND O PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		Opus Q	ueen St File		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO			Neighbourhood Management Board		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s то	Members of the public are invited to write to the Neighbourhood Task Force in advance of the meeting			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S ТО	8th November 2008			

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Lanca	Lancaster and Morecambe Worklessness Project			
WARD:	Harbo	Harbour Ward; Heysham North Ward; Poulton Ward; Skerton East Ward; Westgate Ward;			
SERVICE:	Neigh	bourhoo	d Task Force		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet		
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	Councillor Evelyn Archer, Cabinet Member: Regen in Morecambe; Joint Economic Environment; Employment Opportunity		
Key Decision Criteria:		Commu	inity Impact		
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU		to enha issues v	tional £160,000 has been secured from the Worklessness Programme Board nce the work with famiies and individuals through housing and resettlement whilst breaking down barriers to training and employment. The work to be d to those Super Output Areas showing the most deprivation and need.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	OR		nber 2008		
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND	None			
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Consultation with Social Input Group partners (partners engaged with the resettlement and support programme)			
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		West End Partnership, Project Liaison Group and sharing information and feed back from members of the Social Input Group			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	1st December 2008			

Various 9 December 2008 20 January 2009 17 February 2009

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Budge	Budget & Policy Framework Process 2009/10		
WARD:	All Wa	All Wards		
SERVICE:	Finan	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION MAKER:	-		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	Councillor Roger Mace	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU	_		of the forthcoming budget and planning process, issues that require key ns to be taken may well arise.	
	MEETING/DATE FOR 9 De OFFICER DECISION 20 Ja		mber 2008 Jary 2009 Juary 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	PAPERS FOR		licable at present	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		5		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	-	Not applicable at present.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	TO Not applicable		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Chatswo	hatsworth Gardens, Morecambe - Site Assembly			
WARD:	Harbour	Harbour Ward; Heysham North Ward;			
SERVICE:	Neighbou	urhood	Task Force		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet		
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET MEME	BER:	Councillor David Kerr, Councillor Evelyn Archer		
Key Decision Criteria:	Fi	inancia	al and Community Impact		
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU	JES: Mo	lorecar ompuls	te Cabinet on progress with land assembly for the Chatsworth Gardens, nbe project and seek Cabinet approval to use the Council's statutory powers of ory purchase to assist with completion of the land assembly needed to the re-development of the site.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	FOR		ary 2009		
PAPERS FOR		lorecar ancast	Back Morecambe's West End Masterplan 2005 nbe Resort Action Plan 2002 er District Housing Strategy 2004/2008 Variation to Funding Agreement Jul 2008		
	OR CONSULTATION: Volu Loca Othe		Members y and Community organisations esidents levant public bodies Partnerships		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	<b>s то</b> Ри Ри	Planning process for Chatsworth Gardens Public Consultation Event 2007 Public Consultation via the 'West End Bulletin' West End Partnership Board (various meetings)			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	REPRESENTATIONS TO		e has now passed.		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:			has been delayed from 31st July 2008 - Insufficient information is available to a meaningful report.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Review of	Review of Parking Fees and Charges 2009/10		
WARD:	All Wards	All Wards		
SERVICE:	Property S	ervi	ces	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	вілет Мемве	R:	Councillor Roger Mace	
Key Decision Criteria:	Fina	incia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI		ons	ider the level of parking fees and charges for 2009/10.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	ING/DATE FOR		ary 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	t i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i		present	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Local Chambers of Commerce and of Trade		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Letters or emails to Head of Property Services or Parking and Administration Manager Lancaster City Council, Town Hall, Dalton Square, Lancaster, LA1 1PJ		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		9th January 2009		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Fees and C	Fees and Charges 2009/10 - Health & Strategic Housing		
WARD:	All Wards			
SERVICE:	Health and	Strategic Housing		
DECISION MAKER:		Cabinet		
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET MEMBER	Councillor David Kerr		
Key Decision Criteria:	Finar	cial Threshold		
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU		eport sets out options for increasing fees and charges for a range of services in h & Strategic Housing as part of the budget process.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	R	e 20 January 2009		
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	und Fees	and Charges Cabinet Report 2007/08		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		on Neighbourhood Management Environment Sub Group and Funeral Directors		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Verbally or in writing to Head of Health & Strategic Housing, Town Hall, Morecambe, LA4 5AF. Telephone 01524 582701		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	12 December 2008			

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Treas	Treasury Management Strategy 2009/10		
WARD:	All Wa	ards		
SERVICE:	Financ	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	EMBER:	Councillor Roger Mace	
Key Decision Criteria:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU	SUES: April, th		approval of Treasury Management Strategy by Cabinet is required before 01 ough some aspects also require full Council and will be referred on ngly. The Strategy sets out overall borrowing and related budget assumptions 9/10.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	OR		uary 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND Not app		licable	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO	-	No groups identified, although the Council's professional advisors will be consulted.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	_	There will be no consultation as the Strategy reflects in Treasury terms what is coming out of the budget process.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	Not applicable		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Lanca	Lancaster Market		
WARD:	Duke'	ke's Ward		
SERVICE:	Prope	Property Services		
DECISION MAKER:	•		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:	Councillor Evelyn Archer	
Key Decision Criteria:	Financia		al and Community Impact	
			To update Cabinet on the information requested in line with the resolutuions made at the January 2008 Cabinet meeting.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		17 February 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		The item will contain exempt information relating to property transactions.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO			one identified as this is a land transaction between two parties	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	ATIONS TO parties.		al consultation will be undertaken as it relates to the sale of land between two	
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	Not applicable.		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:	HAS	Decision delayed from 22nd April 2008 - Information from third parties has not been forthcoming to allow negotiations to be completed.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Participatory Budgeting			
WARD:	All Wa	All Wards		
SERVICE:	Neighb	Neighbourhood Task Force		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	MBER:	Councillor Roger Mace	
KEY DECISION Commu CRITERIA:		Commu	nity Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT ISSUES:		This is to be a follow up report to the report already considered by Cabinet in June 2008 giving further details on implementation options.		
		It was re	esolved at the previous Cabinet meeting:	
		That a further report identifying specific opportunities to proceed with the development of Participatory Budgeting be brought back to a later Cabinet meeting.		
DATE OF CABINET 17 M MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		17 Marc	March 2009	
LIST OF BACKGROUND None PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Local Residents of Poulton.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		5		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		Deadline has now passed.		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:		Reason decision has been delayed from 2nd September 2008 - This report has been delayed so that it can be considered at the conclusion of the budgeting process.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Disposal of Land off Quernmore Road, Lancaster			
WARD:	Bulk \	Bulk Ward		
SERVICE:	Prope	Property Services		
DECISION MAKER:	:		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:	Councillor Evelyn Archer	
Key Decision Criteria:	Financia		al and Community Impact	
			To consider the disposal of land off Quernmore Road, Lancaster, adjacent to Nightingale Hall Farm	
	DATE OF CABINET 17 M MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		17 March 2009	
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		Officers will be consulted.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	IS TO		s no external consultation process as the item is exempt.	
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S ТО	Date not applicable.		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:	HAS	AS Decision has been delayed from 22nd January 2008 - This report has been delayed to allow further negotiations to take place.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Approval of Pay and Grading Structure			
WARD:	All Wa	Wards		
SERVICE:	Legal a	al and Human Resources		
DECISION MAKER:	MAKER:		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:	Councillor David Kerr	
Key Decision Fin Criteria:		Financia	cial Threshold	
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT ISSUES:		Cabinet will be asked to approve the financial aspects of the new Pay and Grading Structure which is currently the subject of discussion and negotiation with the trade unions.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		17 March 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		No background papers at this stage		
		Consultation and negotiation ongoing with trade unions through Single Status and JCC.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Not Applicable		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		N/A consultation and negotiation is ongoing with the trade unions through Single Status and JCC		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Arnsic	Arnside/Silverdale AONB Management Plan Review		
WARD:	All Wa	/ards		
SERVICE:	Plann	ning Services		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:	Councillor Susie Charles	
Key Decision Criteria:	Commu		inity Impact	
			ouncil is required to update the management plan for the AONB and submit it to cretary of State by 1st April 2009	
DATE OF CABINET 17 MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		17 Marc	17 March 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	PAPERS FOR Assess		e/Silverdale AONB Management Plan Review and Strategic Environmental sment	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Natural	England, Statutory Conservation Bodies, General Public	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Via AONB Management Plan Review consultation process.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	29 January 2009		