

Key Decisions Annual Forward Plan

Monthly Update

31 August 2009 31 December 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.

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

FORWARD PLAN – SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS

Cabinet Member(s) with Special Responsibility	Decision	Date Decision Due
Councillor Evelyn Archer, Councillor David Kerr	Chatsworth Gardens, Morecambe - Funding Agreement	1 September 2009
Councillor Roger Mace, Councillor Malcolm Thomas	Approval of Pay and Grading Structure	1 September 2009
Councillor David Kerr	Procurement of a Partner for the delivery of the Council Housing Capital Programme	1 September 2009
Councillor David Kerr	Introduction of Choice Based Lettings	1 September 2009
Councillor Abbott Bryning	Future Jobs Fund	1 September 2009
Councillor Malcolm Thomas	Land at Mossgate / Douglas Park, Heysham	1 September 2009
Councillor Evelyn Archer, Councillor Stuart Langhorn, Councillor Malcolm Thomas	External Funding & Programme Management	1 September 2009
Councillor Malcolm Thomas	Land at Scotforth Road, Lancaster	1 September 2009
	Kitchen/Bathroom Refurbishments - Ridge Estate	15 September 2009
Councillor Evelyn Archer, Councillor David Kerr	Chatsworth Gardens, Morecambe - Site Assembly	6 October 2009
Councillor Malcolm Thomas	Capital Investment Strategy	6 October 2009
Councillor Malcolm Thomas	Medium Term Financial Strategy Update	6 October 2009
Councillor June Ashworth	Lancaster District Arts Strategy	6 October 2009
Councillor June Ashworth	Pilot - Alternative Parks Management Model (Update)	6 October 2009
	Gas Servicing Partnership	Before 23 October 2009
	Tender Acceptance - Emergency Call Centre Procurement (Council Housing Services)	Before 30 October 2009

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Chatsw	Chatsworth Gardens, Morecambe - Funding Agreement		
WARD:	Harbou	ur Ward;	Heysham North Ward;	
SERVICE:	Econor	mic Dev	elopment and Tourism	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAB	INET ME	MBER:	Councillor Evelyn Archer, Councillor David Kerr	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRII OF RELEVANT ISSU			est that Cabinet consider whether or not to enter into a funding agreement to he Exemplar Scheme.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION	R	1 September 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUP PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		Winning Back Morecambe's West End Masterplan 2005 Morecambe Resort Action Plan 2002 Lancaster District Housing Strategy 2004/2008 Deed of Variation to Funding Agreement July 2008		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO	N:	Elected Members Voluntary and Community Organisations Local Residents Other relevant public bodies English Partnerships		
PROCESS FOR MAR REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	от о			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		Events have now taken place.		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:		Decision has been delayed from 21st April 2009 - awaiting decision from Homes and Communities Association regarding funding.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Approv	Approval of Pay and Grading Structure			
WARD:	All War	All Wards;			
SERVICE:	Legal a	and Hum	nan Resources		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet		
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET MEI	MBER:	Councillor Roger Mace, Councillor Malcolm Thomas		
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	I	Financia	al Threshold		
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU	JES:		will be asked to consider the financial aspects of the new Pay and Grading e which is currently the subject of discussion and negotiation with the trade		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	R		mber 2009		
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND No bac		ground papers at this stage		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Trade unions through Single Status and JCC.			
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	з то	Consultation and negotiation ongoing with trade unions through Single Status and JCC.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		Not applicable			
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:		Delayed from 2nd June 2009 because the appeals process is taking longer as a result of extension of the time for appealing and the number of appeals received.			

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Procui	Procurement of a Partner for the delivery of the Council Housing Capital Programme		
WARD:	All Wa	All Wards;		
SERVICE:	Counc	il Housir	ng Services	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	EMBER:	Councillor David Kerr	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al Threshold	
SUMMARY DESCRI			curement to identify a preferred partner to deliver the 5 year Council Housing Programme in partnership with the in-house provider.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION		1 September 2009		
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND	None		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Leaseho	olders, tenant representatives and Members.	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		There is a statutory requirement to consult with leaseholders over the proposal. This is a two stage process. The first is pre-tender stage to notify leaseholders that the Council intends to enter into an agreement and for leaseholders to make observations. The second is following the receipt of the proposal and the selection of the proposed partner and again to invite observations. However this consultation does not take place until after the submission of the proposal and the selection of the contractor/partner. There will be an interview as part of the process which tenant representatives and members will be invited to but no other consultation will be undertaken.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S ТО	Not Applicable.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Introdu	Introduction of Choice Based Lettings		
WARD:	All Wa	ards;		
SERVICE:	Counc	cil Housir	ng Services	
DECISION MAKER:	_		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	EMBER:	Councillor David Kerr	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU	_	Govern	uncil needs to decide whether to bid for resources in order to meet a ment Target that all authorities should have a Choice Based Lettings System in by 2010.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	FOR		mber 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	or Region		nities and Local Government Publication - Fund for the Development of all and Sub-regional Choice Based Lettings Schemes.	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Existing Council Tenants Applicants currently on the Housing Register YMCA All Registered Social Landlords with stock in the district Private Sector Landlords.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s то	Consultation with District Wide Tenants Forum. Questionnaire to existing Housing Applicants. Consultation with Registered Social Landlords and other providers.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	24 August 2009		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Future	Future Jobs Fund		
WARD:	All Wa	ards;		
SERVICE:	Econo	omic Dev	elopment and Tourism	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET MI	EMBER:	Councillor Abbott Bryning	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI	jobs for backgroauthori		ure Jobs Fund is a government initiative which aims to create new, short term people approaching 12 months unemployment. The report will outline the bund to the submission of a joint bid into the Fund by Mid-Lancashire local ies, seek Cabinet endorsement of the bid and seek approval for the Council to the scheme by identifying suitable placements.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	DATE FOR		mber 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND	Guide to the Future Jobs Fund, DWP (www.dwp.gov.uk/futurejobsfund)		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO	_	No specific consultees. The proposed bid was discussed at the Employment & Skills Work Group, a sub-group of the LDLSP Education, Skills and Opportunities Thematic Group.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Comments in writing to the Head of Economic Development		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	31st July 2009		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Land	Land at Mossgate / Douglas Park, Heysham			
WARD:	Heysh	nam Sout	th Ward;		
SERVICE:	Prope	rty Servi	ces		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet		
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	Councillor Malcolm Thomas		
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact		
SUMMARY DESCRI	_	To requ Heysha	est approval for the sale / transfer of land at Mossgate / Douglas Park, m		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	PR .		mber 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUP PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	·		- contains financially sensitive information		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Cabinet	y specific consultation will take place with officers identified in the standard report format i.e. Financial Services, Legal Services, S151 Officer and ing Officer.		
PROCESS FOR MAR REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		There is no external consultation process as the item is exempt.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S ТО	Date not applicable			
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:	HAS	Delayed from 23 June 2009 due to changes in scheme design which has affected the land transaction proposals and further delayed from July 2009 due to the need to have scheme finalised before the report can be written.			

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Exter	External Funding & Programme Management		
WARD:	All W	Wards;		
SERVICE:	Econ	omic Dev	elopment and Tourism	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	Councillor Evelyn Archer, Councillor Stuart Langhorn, Councillor Malcolm Thomas	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI	-		se members on current requirements for the Council's external funding and nme management and to recommend future working arrangements.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	G/DATE FOR		mber 2009	
LIST OF BACKGROUND Extern PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		Externa	I funding budget information.	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION	_	Internal	consultees.	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	S TO	Report concerns internal management arrangements. No external consultation required.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	Report concerns internal management arrangements. No external consultation required.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Land	Land at Scotforth Road, Lancaster		
WARD:	Scotfo	Scotforth West Ward;		
SERVICE:	Prope	rty Servi	ces	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	EMBER:	Councillor Malcolm Thomas	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU			ate members on progress with the disposal and seek approval to the terms d in the report.	
	DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION 1 Sept		mber 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:			s cabinet papers and minutes	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Not applicable		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s то	As this relates to the technical terms of a contract for the disposal of land, there is no consultation.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	s то	Not applicable		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Kitche	Kitchen/Bathroom Refurbishments - Ridge Estate		
WARD:	Bulk V	Vard;		
SERVICE:	Counc	il Housir	ng Services	
DECISION MAKER:			Officer Delegated Decision	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al Threshold	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU		Refurbis	shment of kitchens and bathrooms on the ridge Estate, Lancaster.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION		Before '	15 September 2009	
LIST OF BACKGROUND None PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION			licable	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Consultation is not appropriate as this is a private contract.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	s то	Not applicable		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:	HAS	Delayed	from August 2009 as the tenders are not due back until the 14th August.	

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Chatsworth Gardens, Morecambe - Site Assembly		
WARD:	Harbour War	d; Heysham North Ward;	
SERVICE:	Economic De	velopment and Tourism	
DECISION MAKER:		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	SINET MEMBER:	Councillor Evelyn Archer, Councillor David Kerr	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	Financ	ial and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI		abinet to consider proceeding with compulsory purchase order.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	R	ber 2009	
LIST OF BACKGROUP PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	Morec Lanca	ng Back Morecambe's West End Masterplan 2005 ambe Resort Action Plan 2002 ster District Housing Strategy 2004/2008 of Variation to Funding Agreement July 2008	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO	N: Volunt Local I Other	d Members ary and Community Organisations Residents relevant public bodies n Partnerships	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	Public Public		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	Events have now taken place		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:		on has been delayed from March 2009 as notification of funding has not yet eceived from Homes and Communities Agency.	

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Capita	apital Investment Strategy		
WARD:	All Wa	ards;		
SERVICE:	Financ	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	EMBER:	Councillor Malcolm Thomas	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU			of the half yearly monitoring and update arrangements for the Capital ent Strategy, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	MEETING/DATE FOR		er 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:			licable at present	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Not applicable at present		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s то	None directly - though individual issues may relate to items that have been the subject of consultation previously.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	s to	Not applicable at present		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Medium Term Financial Strategy Update			
WARD:	All Wa	ll Wards;		
SERVICE:	Finan	ancial Services		
DECISION MAKER:	DECISION MAKER:		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:	Councillor Malcolm Thomas	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:			al Threshold	
			t of half yearly monitoring and update arrangements of the approved MTFS, that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		6 October 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUND Not PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		Not app	Not applicable at present	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Not app	licable at present	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s то	None directly - though individual issues may relate to items that have been the su of consultation previously.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	Not applicable at present		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Lanca	Lancaster District Arts Strategy		
WARD:	All Wa	Wards;		
SERVICE:	Cultur	ural Services		
DECISION MAKER:	ECISION MAKER:		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:	Councillor June Ashworth	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	Financia		al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION To reco		To rece	eive and consider for approval the Lancaster District Arts Strategy	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		6 October 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Not applicable.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	_	Extensive consultation has been going on via the production of the draft arts strategy, and is reflected in the draft being presented to Cabinet for comment and approval.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	s то	Not applicable		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Pilot - Alternative Parks Management Model			
WARD:	All Wa	All Wards;		
SERVICE:	Cultur	ultural Services		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:	Councillor June Ashworth	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	Commu		nity Impact	
		Report on the Pilot Alternative Parks Management Models, arising from the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		6 October 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED Not a FOR CONSULTATION:		Not app	applicable.	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:				
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S ТО	Not applicable		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:	HAS	Decision has been delayed from July 2009 as more work is required to review the financial implications especially on the maintenance responsibilities for the pavilion.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Gas S	as Servicing Partnership		
WARD:	All Wa	ards;		
SERVICE:	Counc	cil Housing Services		
DECISION MAKER:	DECISION MAKER:		Officer Delegated Decision	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:		
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:			al Threshold	
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION Prof OF RELEVANT ISSUES:		Procure	curement of a partner for the Council Housing 5 year Gas Servicing Partnership	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		Before 23 October 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION	1 1		licable	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Consultation is not appropriate as this is a private contract.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	s то	Not applicable		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Tender Acceptance - Emergency Call Centre Procurement (Council Housing Services)			
WARD:	All Wa	All Wards;		
SERVICE:	Cound	Council Housing Services		
DECISION MAKER:			Officer Delegated Decision	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:		
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	Financia		al Threshold	
of Relevant Issues: applica implem monitor hours e		applicat implement monitori hours e	ter City Council is seeking to purchase a system comprising of cion/operation software, hardware, and associated project management, entation and training services, for an Emergency Call Centre providing ing and response for community alarm/telecare services and other out of office mergency calls via a mini competition using the NHS PASA Telecare national ork agreement.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION Before		Before 3	30 October 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	Cabinet February		Meeting 20 January 2009 Minute No 122 refers and AMWG meeting dated 18 y 2009	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Not applicable		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	S TO	Consultation is not appropriate as this is a private contract.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	Not applicable		