

Key Decisions Forward Plan

30 September 2009 31 January 2010



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 four months.

The Plan will be 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.

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 Roger Mace, Councillor Malcolm Thomas	Approval of Pay and Grading Structure	6 October 2009
Councillor Malcolm Thomas	Land at Mossgate / Douglas Park, Heysham	6 October 2009
Councillor Evelyn Archer, Councillor David Kerr	Chatsworth Gardens, Morecambe - Funding Agreement	6 October 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	6 October 2009
Councillor David Kerr	To Seek Approval of a Draft Carnforth Air Quality Action Plan	6 October 2009
Councillor Stuart Langhorn	Appraisal of the Winter Gardens Business Plan	6 October 2009
Councillor Roger Mace	Benefits - Additional Administration Subsidy	6 October 2009
Councillor Stuart Langhorn	Marketing and Communications Review	6 October 2009
Councillor Malcolm Thomas	Land at Aalborg Square, Lancaster	6 October 2009
	Gas Servicing Partnership	Before 23 October 2009
	Tender Acceptance - Emergency Call Centre Procurement (Council Housing Services)	Before 30 October 2009
Councillor Malcolm Thomas	Corporate and Municipal Repairs	10 November 2009

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Appro	Approval of Pay and Grading Structure		
WARD:	All Wa	All Wards;		
SERVICE:	Legal	and Hun	nan Resources	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	Councillor Roger Mace, Councillor Malcolm Thomas	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al Threshold	
SUMMARY DESCRI			will be asked to consider the financial aspects of the new Pay and Grading re which is currently the subject of discussion and negotiation with the trade	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION		6 Octob	er 2009	
LIST OF BACKGROUND No be PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		No back	ground papers at this stage	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO	_	Trade u	nions through Single Status and JCC.	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Consultation and negotiation ongoing with trade unions through Single Status and JCC.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	з то	Not applicable		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:	Has	Reason decision has 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:	Land	Land at Mossgate / Douglas Park, Heysham		
WARD:	Heysh	Heysham South 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		6 Octob	er 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	RS FOR		- 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 MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		There is no external consultation process as the item is exempt.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	з 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:	Chatsworth	Chatsworth Gardens, Morecambe – Funding Agreement		
WARD:	Harbour Wa	ard; Heysham North Ward;		
SERVICE:	Economic [Development and Tourism		
DECISION MAKER:		Cabinet		
RESPONSIBLE CAB	BINET MEMBE	Councillor Evelyn Archer, Councillor David Kerr		
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	Fina	ncial and Community Impact		
SUMMARY DESCRII OF RELEVANT ISSU		equest that Cabinet consider whether or not to enter into a funding agreement to er the Exemplar Scheme.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION	R	6 October 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUP PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	More Land	ning Back Morecambe's West End Masterplan 2005 ecambe Resort Action Plan 2002 easter District Housing Strategy 2004/2008 d of Variation to Funding Agreement July 2008		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO	N: Volu Loca Othe	Elected Members Voluntary and Community Organisations Local Residents Other relevant public bodies English Partnerships		
PROCESS FOR MAR REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	Publ	Planning Process for Chatsworth Gardens Public Consultation Event 2007 Public Consultation via the 'West End Bulletin' West End Partnership Board (various evenings)		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		Events have now taken place.		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:	Has Deci Com	sion has been delayed from 21 st April 2009 – awaiting decision from Homes and munities Association regarding funding.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Chats	Chatsworth Gardens, Morecambe – Site Assembly		
WARD:	Harbo	ur Ward;	Heysham North Ward;	
SERVICE:	Econo	mic Dev	elopment and Tourism	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	EMBER:	Councillor Evelyn Archer, Councillor David Kerr	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI		For Cab	inet to consider proceeding with compulsory purchase order.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION		6 October 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUP PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND	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	_	Elected Members Voluntary and Community Organisations Local Residents Other relevant public bodies English Partnerships		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Planning Process for Chatsworth Gardens Public Consultation Event 2007 Public Consultation via the 'West End Bulletin' West End Partnership Board (various evenings)		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	5 то	Events have now taken place		
REASON DECISION BEEN DELAYED:	Has		n has been delayed from March 2009 as notification of funding has not yet ceived from Homes and Communities Agency.	

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Capital	apital Investment Strategy		
WARD:	All War	rds;		
SERVICE:	Financi	ial Servi	ices	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	MBER:	Councillor Malcolm Thomas	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	1	Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI			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 6 Octol MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		er 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND	Not app	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:		Not applicable at present		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Medium	ledium Term Financial Strategy Update		
WARD:	All War	rds;		
SERVICE:	Financi	ial Servi	ices	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET M EI	MBER:	Councillor Malcolm Thomas	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	F	Financia	al Threshold	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU			of half yearly monitoring and update arrangements of the approved MTFS, hat require key decisions to be taken may well arise.	
	DATE OF CABINET 6 Octo MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		er 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND 1	Not app	licable at present	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Not applicable at present		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s to	None directly – though individual issues may relate to items that have been the subject of consultation previously.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		Not applicable at present		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Lanca	ancaster District Arts Strategy		
WARD:	All Wa	ards;		
SERVICE:	Cultura	al Servic	res	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	EMBER:	Councillor June Ashworth	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU	_	To rece	ive and consider for approval the Lancaster District Arts Strategy	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	ATE FOR		er 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND	None		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Not applicable.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s то	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 to	Not applicable		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Pilot – Alternative Parks Management Model		
WARD:	All Wards;		
SERVICE:	Cultural Servi	ces	
DECISION MAKER:		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET MEMBER:	Councillor June Ashworth	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	Commi	unity Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI		on the Pilot Alternative Parks Management Models, arising from the Parks and Spaces Strategy	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	R	per 2009	
LIST OF BACKGROPAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND None		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		olicable.	
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		Consultation is ongoing as part of the Pilot Alternative Parks Management Models.	
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		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:	To See	To Seek Approval of a Draft Carnforth Air Quality Action Plan		
WARD:	Carnfo	orth Ward	d;	
SERVICE:	Health	and Str	ategic Housing	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET M E	MBER:	Councillor David Kerr	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Commu	nity Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU			approval of a draft Carnforth Air Quality Action Plan prepared under statutory nvironment Act 1995)	
	DATE OF CABINET 6 Octo MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		er 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:			ment Act 1995 Assessment of Local Air Quality in Carnforth (2008)	
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Legislation specifies the consultees to an air quality action plan. Public consultation v be encouraged.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s to	The background papers are published documents. A formal public consultation exercise will follow approval of the draft Carnforth Air Quality Action Plan. Public consultation prior to that is not appropriate.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		A formal public consultation exercise will follow approval of the draft Carnforth Air Quality Action Plan		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Apprai	ppraisal of the Winter Gardens Business Plan		
WARD:	All Wa	ırds;		
SERVICE:	Cultura	al Servic	res	
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET M E	EMBER:	Councillor Stuart Langhorn	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRI OF RELEVANT ISSU	_	Apprais	al of the Winter Gardens Business Plan	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	TE FOR		er 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND	None.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Not applicable.		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s то	This report follows from a report to Council on 29 April 2009. The report seeks to evaluate/review the Business Plan. Hence no reference to consultation.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		Not applicable.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Benef	Benefits - Additional Administration Subsidy		
WARD:	All Wa	All Wards;		
SERVICE:	Rever	nue 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	ues: authorit downtu		m Cabinet of the release of further specific administration funding to assist ies in meeting the extra demand for Benefits services due to the economic on and to seek confirmation that this, and future additional income is earmarked or those purposes in line with the Cabinet decision of 29 April 2003.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION		6 Octob	er 2009	
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND	Cabinet Report 29 April 2003 and Minute 302		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Not Applicable		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		The report seeks confirmation that additional funding from the Department of Work and Pensions for benefits administration purposes will be earmarked for those purposes only. Cabinet need to decide this for accounting purposes only.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	Not applicable.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Marke	Marketing and Communications Review		
WARD:	All Wa	Wards;		
SERVICE:	Corpo	orate Strategy		
DECISION MAKER:	DECISION MAKER:		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:	Councillor Stuart Langhorn	
KEY DECISION Financia CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT ISSUES:		An update on the proposal for a centralised marketing, communications and events function		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		6 October 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		Proposed structure Activity survey On the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO	ROUPS IDENTIFIED Staff or Consultation:			
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	s to	A formal consultation process will be undertaken as part of this process		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	s TO	9 September, 2009		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Land	Land at Aalborg Square, Lancaster		
WARD:	Duke'	e's Ward;		
SERVICE:	Prope	perty Services		
DECISION MAKER:	DECISION MAKER:		Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:	Councillor Malcolm Thomas	
KEY DECISION Finar CRITERIA:		Financia	al and Community Impact	
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT ISSUES:		To update Cabinet on the potential disposal of land at Aalborg Square, Lancaster, to facilitate an extension of the courts building.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		6 October 2009		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		Previous cabinet agenda and minutes		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATION		Ward councillors		
PROCESS FOR MAI REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:	з то	By email to gcox@lancaster.gov.uk		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	S TO	6th October 2009		

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Gas S	as Servicing Partnership		
WARD:	All Wa	Nards;		
SERVICE:	Coun	ouncil Housing Services		
DECISION MAKER:			Officer Delegated Decision	
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:		EMBER:		
KEY DECISION Fina CRITERIA:		Financia	ncial Threshold	
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT ISSUES:		Procurement 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 IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		Not applicable		
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		Consult	ation is not appropriate as this is a private contract.	
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:	Not applicable		licable	

ITEM FOR DECISION:	Tender Acceptance - Emergency Call Centre Procurement (Council Housing Services)			
WARD:	All Wards;			
SERVICE:	Council Ho	Council Housing Services		
DECISION MAKER:		Officer Delegated Decision		
RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER:				
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:	Fina	ncial Threshold		
of Relevant Issues: applic imple monit hours		aster City Council is seeking to purchase a system comprising of action/operation software, hardware, and associated project management, mentation and training services, for an Emergency Call Centre providing oring and response for community alarm/telecare services and other out of office emergency calls via a mini competition using the NHS PASA Telecare national work agreement.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	R	re 30 October 2009		
LIST OF BACKGRO PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		Cabinet Meeting 20 January 2009 Minute No 122 refers and AMWG meeting dated 1 February 2009		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO		Not applicable		
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:	Corporate and Municipal Repairs			
WARD:	All Wa	All Wards;		
SERVICE:	Proper	Property Services		
DECISION MAKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBLE CAE	BINET ME	MBER:	Councillor Malcolm Thomas	
KEY DECISION CRITERIA:			al and Community Impact	
			ate Cabinet on the extent of the backlog repairs still outstanding to the Council's ate and Municipal Building stock.	
			blish where buildings are worsening and therefore potentially failing to meet ary legislative requirements.	
			and programme the outstanding backlog repairs and legislative requirements icient and effective way.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FO OFFICER DECISION	R	10 Nove	ember 2009	
LIST OF BACKGROUPAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:	UND	47 Budget Performance 13th February 2007.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIE FOR CONSULTATIO	_	None		
PROCESS FOR MAR REPRESENTATIONS DECISION MAKER:		3		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS BE RECEIVED:		10th November 2009.		