

Key Decisions Forward Plan

1st May 2007 30th April 2008



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
	Document Management	June 2007
To be determined.	Storey Institute Centre for Creative Industries	5 June 2007
To be determined.	Changes to Council Tax collection policies.	5 June 2007
To be determined.	Proposed Partnering Arrangement – Responsive Repairs and Capital Programme.	5 June 2007
To be determined.	Provisional Revenue and Capital Outturn 2006/07	3 July 2007
To be determined.	Draft Parking Strategy	3 July 2007
To be determined.	Approval of an Air Quality Action Plan for Lancaster	4 September 2007
To be determined.	Introduction of a Selective Licensing scheme in the private rented sector under the Housing Act 2004 for the areas of Morecambe defined by ;-Poulton Neighbourhood Renewal Area boundary, and-Winning back Morecambe's West End Masterplan.	4 September 2007
To be determined.	Capital Investment Strategy Update 2007/08	4 September 2007
To be determined.	Medium Term Financial Strategy Update	4 September 2007
To be determined.	Improving the Cleanliness of our streets	9 October 2007
To be determined.	Budget and Policy Framework Process 2008/09	9 October 2007
To be determined.	Budget and Policy Framework Process 2008/09	13 November 2007
To be determined.	Budget and Policy Framework Process 2008/09	22 January 2008
To be determined.	Treasury Management Strategy 2008/09	19 February 2008
To be determined.	Budget and Policy Framework Process 2008/09	19 February 2008
To be determined.	Capital Investment Strategy Update 2007/08	19 February 2008
To be determined.	Medium Term Financial Strategy Update	19 February 2008

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Docur	ment Mar	nagement
WARD:		All Wa	ards	
SERVICE:		Rever	nue Servi	ices
DECISION M	AKER:			Officer Delegated Decisions
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	SINET MI	EMBER:	N/A.
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes	
CRITERIA:	Сомм	-		
	Вотн	1		
SUMMARY D				cision to upgrade or replace the document management system used within es Services – possibly with a system which could be used corporately.
DATE OF CA MEETING/DA OFFICER DE	TE FO		June 20	007
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.	
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:			N/A.	
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:			Agenda item available for public scrutiny.	
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		3 то	20th Ma	arch 2007.

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Storey Institute Centre for Creative Industries		
WARD:				
SERVICE:		Econo	omic Dev	elopment and Tourism
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	SINET M	EMBER:	Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economic Development and Lancaster Regeneration
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes	
CRITERIA:	Сомм	-		
	Вотн	ł		
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN		-	Further for Store costs.	to the report to Cabinet on 24th October 2006, to agree the terms of the lease ey Institute and any other issues that might arise from finalisation of contract
DATE OF CA MEETING/DA OFFICER DE	TE FO		5 June 2	2007
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.	
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		N/A.		
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		In writing to Corporate Director (Regeneration).		
DATE FOR REPRESENTA BE RECEIVE		з то	1st June	e 2007.

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Changes to Council Tax collection policies.			
WARD:		All W	ards		
SERVICE:		Reve	nue Servi	ices	
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Сомм	IUNITY T			
	Вотн	1			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			Council Tax "In year" collection levels are below average and the report will look at optional strategies for securing improvement.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			5 June 2	2007	
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		Staff, Advice Agencies.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		As above.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		Not yet	established.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Proposed Partnering Arrangement – Responsive Repairs and Capital Programme.			
WARD:		All Wa	ards		
SERVICE:		Coun	cil Housir	ng Services	
DECISION MA	AKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBL	Е САВ	INET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Сомм				
	Вотн	ł			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			Arrangements need to be determined for the future procurement of responsive repairs, planned maintenance, and the HRA Capital Programme.		
DATE OF CA MEETING/DA OFFICER DE	TE FO		5 June 2	2007	
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		District Wide Tenants Forum.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:					
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		10th No	vember 2006.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Provisional Revenue and Capital Outturn 2006/07			
WARD:					
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Соми	IUNITY			
	Вотн	1			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			As part of the closure of accounts process, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise. (Such as requests for carry forward of budgets, as an example).		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			3 July 2	007	
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None.			
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		None directly – though individual issues may relate to items that have been the subject of consultation previously.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		None.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTA BE RECEIVED		S TO	N/a.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Draft Parking Strategy		
WARD:		All W	ards	
SERVICE:		Prope	erty Servi	ces
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes	
CRITERIA:	Сомм	_		
	Вотн	4		
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT ISSUES:			Cabinet considered the Draft Parking Strategy in April 2006 and referred the Strategy to an Informal Working Group before the final decision being taken by the Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility prior to the consultation being undertaken. Cabinet will only consider the Strategy again if there are any substantive changes arising from the consultation.	
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			3 July 2	007
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		Formal consultation will be undertaken with a range of stakeholders and interest groups before the Cabinet meeting.		
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		Direct to Head of Property Services.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		10th No	vember 2006.	

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Appro	Approval of an Air Quality Action Plan for Lancaster		
WARD:		All Wa	ards		
SERVICE:		Health	n and Stra	ategic Housing	
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBL	E CAB	INET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Сомм				
	Вотн	ł			
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT ISSUES:			The Council has a formal duty to review and assess local air quality. Where it is concluded that one of more of the UK air quality objectives is unlikely to be achieved, the Council must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). If further assessment confirms that conclusion then an Air Quality Action Plan must be prepared and implemented. The Council has a duty to maintain an Action Plan until the air quality objectives are achieved. An Air Quality Action Plan will be submitted for approval by Cabinet. This document will have undergone extensive consultation and public participation as part of the 'action planning' process.		
DATE OF CA MEETING/DA OFFICER DE	TE FO		4 Septe	mber 2007	
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		None for purposes of this report because extensive consultation and public participation is to be carried out in advance as part of the statutory 'action planning' process.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:			Comments to Ms Suzanne Lodge, Head of Health & Strategic Housing Services.		
DATE FOR REPRESENT BE RECEIVE		3 то	11th Ma	y 2007.	

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Act 2	duction of a Selective Licensing scheme in the private rented sector under the Housing 2004 for the areas of Morecambe defined by ; Poulton Neighbourhood Renewal Area ndary, and Winning back Morecambe's West End Masterplan.		
WARD:		All W	ards		
SERVICE:		Healt	h and Str	ategic Housing	
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBL	E CAB	BINET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Сомм	-			
	Вотн	1			
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT ISSUES:		_	The Housing Strategy identifies areas of Morecambe as having a falling reputation, high incidence of crime and anti-social behaviour. These areas of the town still contain significant deprivation, featuring two of the regions most deprived wards. Pursuing the regeneration of these areas is a high corporate priority of the Council. It is proposed that Selective Licensing will be introduced in these areas in order to improve the standards of management across the entire private rented sector. For Selective Licensing to be introduced approval must first be sought from the Secretary of State.		
DATE OF CA MEETING/DA OFFICER DE	TE FO		4 Septe	mber 2007	
LIST OF BAC PAPERS FOR CONSIDERAT	ł	UND	None.		
GROUPS IDE		_	Private rented sector landlords and agents. All statutory and community stakeholders.		
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		Written and verbal representations following publicity (Formal notification will be required in the local press).			
DATE FOR REPRESENT BE RECEIVE		3 то	Prior to	submission of final report to Management Team.	

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Capital Investment Strategy Update 2007/08			
WARD:					
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Сомм	-			
	Вотн	ł			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			As part of the half yearly monitoring and update arrangements for the Capital Investment Strategy, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION		4 Septe	mber 2007		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None.			
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		N/A at present – see above.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:					
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		N/A at p	present.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Medium Term Financial Strategy Update			
WARD:					
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Соми	IUNITY T			
	Вотн	1			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			As part of the half yearly monitoring and update arrangements of the approved MTFS, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			4 September 2007		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None.			
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		N/A at present – see above.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		N/A at present – see above.			
	DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		N/A at p	present.	

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Improving the Cleanliness of our streets		
WARD:				
SERVICE:		City C	Council (C	Direct) Services
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes	
CRITERIA:	Соми	IUNITY T		
	Вотн	1		
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			The rep	oort considers proposals for improving the cleanliness of our streets following ew of street cleansing.
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			9 Octob	er 2007
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.	
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		N/a.		
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		N/a.		
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		N/a.		

ITEM FOR Budg DECISION:		get and Policy Framework Process 2008/09			
WARD:					
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ces	
DECISION M	AKER:		Cabinet		
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Соми	IUNITY T			
	Вотн	1			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			As part of the forthcoming budget and planning process, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			9 Octob	er 2007	
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		N/A.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		N/A at present.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		N/A at p	present.		

ITEM FOR Budg DECISION:		get and Policy Framework Process 2008/09				
WARD:						
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ices		
DECISION M	AKER:		Cabinet			
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	BER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes			
CRITERIA:	Соми	IUNITY T				
	Вотн	1				
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			As part of the forthcoming budget and planning process, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.			
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			13 November 2007			
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.			
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		To be set out in Budget timetable.				
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		N/A at present.				
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		N/A at p	present.			

ITEM FOR Budg DECISION:		get and Policy Framework Process 2008/09			
WARD:					
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION M	AKER:		Cabinet		
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Соми	IUNITY T			
	Вотн	1			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			As part of the forthcoming budget and planning process, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			22 January 2008		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		To be set out in Budget timetable.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		N/A at present.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		N/A at p	present.		

ITEM FOR DECISION:			asury Management Strategy 2008/09			
WARD:	WARD:					
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ices		
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet		
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:			
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes			
CRITERIA:	Сомм					
	Вотн	1				
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT ISSUES:			Formal approval of Treasury Management Strategy by Cabinet is required before 01 April, though some aspects also require full Council approval and will be referred on accordingly. The Strategy sets out overall borrowing and related budget assumptions for 2008/09.			
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			19 Febr	uary 2008		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.			
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		_	No groups identified, although the Council's professional advisors will be consulted.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:			N/A.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		S ТО	N/A.			

ITEM FOR DECISION:		Budget and Policy Framework Process 2008/09			
WARD:					
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION M	AKER:			Cabinet	
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:		
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	COMMUNITY IMPACT				
	Вотн	4			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			As part of the forthcoming budget and planning process, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			19 Febr	uary 2008	
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:			N/A.		
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		N/A at present.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		N/A at p	present.		

ITEM FOR Capital DECISION:		ital Investment Strategy Update 2007/08			
WARD:					
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION M	AKER:		Cabinet		
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	MBER:	
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Соми	IUNITY T			
	Вотн	1			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			As part of the half yearly monitoring and update arrangements for the Capital Investment Strategy, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			19 February 2008		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		UND	None.		
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		N/A at present – see above.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		N/A at present – see above.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		N/A at p	present.		

ITEM FOR Mediu		lium Term Financial Strategy Update			
WARD:					
SERVICE:		Finan	cial Servi	ices	
DECISION M	AKER:		Cabinet		
RESPONSIBL	E CAE	BINET M	EMBER:	MBER:	
KEY DECISION	FINAN	CIAL	Yes		
CRITERIA:	Соми	IUNITY T			
	Вотн	1			
SUMMARY D OF RELEVAN			As part of the half yearly monitoring and update arrangements of the approved MTFS, issues that require key decisions to be taken may well arise.		
DATE OF CABINET MEETING/DATE FOR OFFICER DECISION			19 February 2008		
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION:		None.			
GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATION:		N/A at present – see above.			
PROCESS FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO DECISION MAKER:		N/A at present – see above.			
DATE FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE RECEIVED:		N/A at p	present.		