

CABINET

Productivity In Local Government 'Productivity Plan'

Report of Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF REPORT				
Endorse the councils Productivity Plan, in response to the Productivity in Local Government request, from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC).				
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referral from Cabinet Member
Date of notice of forthcoming key decision	N/A			
This report is public				

RECOMMENDATIONS OF CLLR PHILLIP BLACK

- (1) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to finalise and submit the Productivity Plan.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the content of the Council's Productivity Plan in response to the Productivity in Local Government request, from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).
- 1.2 It should be noted that this version is draft and full endorsement is required before the Productivity Plan is submitted by 19th July 2024.
- 1.3 The Government is reviewing productivity across all public services and local government is included in this exercise. The recent Local Government Finance Settlement announced that councils would be asked to produce productivity plans. A letter received 16th April 2024 formally started that process with a submission deadline for plans on the 19th July 2024.
- 1.4 The draft Productivity Plan is based on up-to-date documentation including the recently published Council Plan 2024 – 2027, Medium Term Financial

Strategy and OBR – Fit for the Future programmes. All of which clearly demonstrate productivity via processes and services that have been democratically approved.

- 1.5 No formal template or list of criteria was provided for Productivity Plans. Although plans should be no longer than 4 pages in length.
- 1.6 The plan should reflect on what has already been done in recent years, alongside future plans and methods and metrics that monitor delivery.

2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 The Productivity Plan is structured to reflect the request from DLUHC. All content is structured under 4 key headings provided by DLUHC:
 - How have you transformed the way you design and deliver services to make better use of resources
 - How you plan to take advantage of technology and make better use of data to improve decision making, service design and use of resources
 - Your plans to reduce wasteful spend within your organisation and systems.
 - The barriers preventing progress that the Government can help reduce or remove.
- 2.2 The Council's Productivity Plan will respond to these key categories with an independent approach with language appropriate to the Council Plan and associated processes that are already delivering productivity.
- 2.3 The final Productivity Plan will be uploaded onto the Council's website and will reinforce details within The Council Plan 2024-2027.
- 2.4 The final Productivity Plan will include metrics and key performance indicators to showcase how progress is monitored. This will again reflect details already in place and in development within the Council Plan 2024-2027.
- 2.5 The Productivity Plan will be reviewed and assessed regularly with the expectation that this will become part of the existing Council Plan review and delivery.
- 2.6 Individual plans will not be rated or scored. Although central government will identify common and re occurring themes as well as good practice for shared learning across the sector.

3.0 Details of Consultation

- 3.1 Portfolio Holders have worked with Officers to produce the Productivity Plan. The Productivity Plan highlights aspects of the Council Plan where wider consultation has taken place.

4.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

	Option 1: Endorse the Productivity Plan for submission.	Option 2: Do not endorse the Productivity Plan for submission.
Advantages	If endorsed, officers will be able to finalise the Productivity Plan and submit of time.	No specific advantages are identified for this option. Although this could enable further re drafting in time for the submission deadline.
Disadvantages	No specific disadvantages are identified for this option.	The Council must submit its productivity plan by the submission date.
Risks	None identified.	None identified.

5.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)

5.1 The recommended option is to proceed with endorsing the Productivity Plan so that officers can submit the final version (Option 1).

6.0 Conclusion

6.1 The report provides details of the reasons for creating the Productivity Plan and outlines the content of the document. Cabinet endorsement will enable officers to submit the Productivity Plan to DLUHC which reflects the Council Plan 2024-2027.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Productivity Plan mirrors current Policy Framework and will contribute to strategic and financial decision-making already set out in the Council Plan 2024-2027.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

No direct impact.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

No legal implications arising directly from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications arising directly from this report.

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**Human Resources:**

No HR implications arising directly from this report.

Information Services:

No ICT implications arising directly from this report.

Property:

No property implications arising directly from this report.

Open Spaces:

No open spaces implications arising directly from this report.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix A: Lancaster City Council
Productivity Plan

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Ref: [Click here and type Ref, if applicable]