

Overview and Scrutiny

Update on the Fit for the Future Programme

10th September 2025

Report of Chief Officer, People and Policy

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with further information about the Fit for the Future Programme.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) **The Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the update on Fit for the Future and its appendices.**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report has been produced in response to a request to supply Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Budget and Performance Panel with further information about the Fit for the Future (FFTF) programme.

2.0 Information

- 2.1 The FFTF programme is now in phase 2. This phase commenced in June 2025 and introduced 13 new projects. Phase 1 started in May 2024 and contains 13 projects. Many of the phase 1 projects are ongoing.
- 2.2 The majority of the work carried out is resourced from within existing service provision, with the exception being the hire of 2 Business Analysts who are available to work across any project on the programme as required. Their support on these projects has been critical to the success of these projects.
- 2.3 Benefits review plans are in place for all phase 1 projects and updated every 3-4 months. Benefits review plans for the new phase 2 projects are in the process of being created. The purpose of these plans is to articulate the benefits each project plans to achieve, alongside suitable measures. The benefits review plans are stored and monitored by the projects office.

- 2.4 Details of the Phase 2 projects can be found in Appendix A, as well as on the Council's intranet. The appendix was written as part of the Council's quarterly reporting, so also contains high level details about the wider programme.
- 2.5 The FTF intranet pages are updated regularly and contain details for colleagues and Members on projects within the programme. They can be accessed by anyone with a Lancaster City Council Login. The link to these pages is: [Fit for the Future - Home](#)

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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

No direct impact arising from this report, which provides an update on the authorities progress on the Fit for the Future programme.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

No direct legal implications arising from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No direct financial implications arising from this report.

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources, Information Services, Property, Open Spaces

No direct resource implications arising from this report.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Given the size of the ongoing financial issues the Council faces this reshaping of the Council's services and realigning against its priorities through the OBR/ FtfF process is key to shrinking the budget gap and securing the financial sustainability of the Council going forward. It is imperative that the OBR/ FtfF work, or similar principles continues through phase 2 and beyond.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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