

Minutes

**For Presentation to the Council
At the meeting to be held on**

Wednesday, 8 March 2023

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COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council on Wednesday, 7 December 2022 in the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Abbott, Ball, Baker, Begg, Bramwell, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Carlin, Dennett, Davidson, Dourley, Fry, Garner, Gilligan, Harris, V. Hill, Hutchinson, Jones, Leck, M. Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, Loftus, Logan, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, McDermott, T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, Philbin, Polhill, C. Plumptre Walsh, N. Plumptre Walsh, Ratcliffe, Rowe, G. Stockton, Stretch, Aimee Teeling, Angela Teeling, Thompson, Thornton, Wall, Wallace, Wharton, Woolfall and Wright

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Bevan, J. Bradshaw, M. Bradshaw, Goodall, S. Hill, A. McInerney, Nolan and Wainwright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, S. Young and G. Ferguson

Also in attendance: None

Action

COU41 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 19 October 2022 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

COU42 LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader highlighted the following issues since the last meeting of the Council:

- Ofsted had revisited the Children's Services Department for a focussed visit of our 'front door' arrangements. This was the first visit since the focussed visit of November 2021. Once the formal report was received an update would be provided to Members; and
- An outline of the implications of the Government's Autumn Statement on 17 November and its anticipated impact on the Council and the public.

COU43 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Council considered the minutes of the Executive Board meetings on 20 October 2022 and 17 November

2022.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be received.

COU44 MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

The Council considered the minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting on 12 October 2022.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be received.

COU45 QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 8

It was noted that no questions had been submitted under Standing Order No. 8.

COU46 2022/23 REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

Council was asked to consider the attached report.

RESOLVED: That the revisions to the Council's 2022/23 capital programme set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report, be approved.

COU47 2022/23 REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Council was asked to consider the attached report.

RESOLVED: That the revisions to the Council's 2022/23 capital programme set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report, be approved.

COU48 DETERMINATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE 2023-24 - KEY DECISION

The Council considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, on the determination of the Council Tax Base for 2023-24.

Operational
Director - Finance

Reason for Decision

To seek approval for the Council Tax Base for the Borough and also the Council Tax Base for each of the Parishes.

Alternative options considered and rejected

The Council is required to determine annually the Council Tax Base and to notify the Cheshire Fire Authority, the

Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, the Environment Agency and Parish Councils.

Implementation date

The Council Tax Base 2023/24 will be implemented from 1 April 2023.

In accordance with Standing Order 16 (3), a recorded vote was taken.

The following Members voted FOR the motion:

Councillors Abbott, Ball, Baker, Begg, Bramwell, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Carlin, Dennett, Dourley, Fry, Garner, Gilligan, Harris, V. Hill, Hutchinson, Jones, Leck, M. Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, K. Loftus, Logan, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, McDermott, T. McInerney, Nelson, P. Nolan, Philbin, C. Plumpton Walsh, N. Plumpton Walsh, Polhill, Ratcliffe, Rowe, G. Stockton, Aimee Teeling, Angela Teeling, Thompson, Thornton, Wall, Wallace, Wharton, Woolfall, and Wright.

The following Member voted against the motion:

Councillor Davidson.

There were no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Council Tax Base for 2023/24 be set at 36,241 for the Borough, and that the Cheshire Fire Authority, the Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and the Environment Agency be so notified; and
- 2) Council set the Council Tax Base for each of the Parishes as follows:

Parish	Tax Base
Hale	668
Halebank	528
Daresbury	186
Moore	336
Preston Brook	370
Sandymoor	1,473

BOARDS AND THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE BOARD

The Council considered the reports of the following Boards in the period since the meeting of Council on 19 October 2022:-

- Children, Young People and Families;
- Employment, Learning, Skills and Community;
- Health;
- Safer;
- Environment and Urban Renewal;
- Corporate Services; and
- Audit & Governance Board.

(N.B. Councillor G. Stockton declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Minute DEV20 of the Development Management Committee as he was the applicant)

COU50 COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Council considered the reports of the following Committees in the period since the meeting of Council on 19 October 2022:-

- Development Management;
- Regulatory; and
- Appointments

COU51 NOTICE OF MOTION - GOVERNMENT ACCESS TO WORK PROGRAMME

Government Access To Work Programme

Council considered a Notice of Motion submitted in accordance with Standing Order No. 6.

The following Motion was proposed by Councillor Abbott and seconded by Councillor Wallace:-

Halton Borough Council recognises that many of the 22% of our local population who have a disability are excluded from employment often because they cannot physically get to a workplace or there is a lack of appropriate work place equipment.

HM Government "Access to work" programme enables people with disabilities to access funding to pay for transport to work and equipment in the work place.

However this scheme is millions of pounds under claimed

and many local people live in poverty on benefits even though they have the skills and abilities to undertake decent paid employment. This lack of support excludes many local people from the work force.

Halton Borough Council commits itself to publicise and promote "Access to Work" to help tackle this inequality.

Meeting ended at 6.55 p.m.

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COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council on Wednesday, 1 February 2023 in the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Ball, Baker, Begg, Bevan, J. Bradshaw, M. Bradshaw, Bramwell, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Carlin, Dennett, Davidson, Dourley, Fry, Garner, Gilligan, Goodall, Harris, S. Hill, V. Hill, Hutchinson, Jones, Leck, M. Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, Loftus, Logan, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, McDermott, A. McInerney, T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, Nolan, Polhill, N. Plumpton Walsh, Ratcliffe, Rowe, G. Stockton, Stretch, Skinner, Teeling, Thompson, Thornton, Wainwright, Wall, Wharton, Woolfall and Wright

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Abbott, Philbin, C. Plumpton Walsh and Wallace

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Vasic, M. Reaney, S. Wallace-Bonner, S. Young, E. Dawson and G. Ferguson

Also in attendance: 9 members of the public

COU52 TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME AND BUDGET PROPOSALS 2023/24 TO 2025/26

Action

The Council considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which set out revenue budget savings proposals and the implementation of a Transformation Programme for the three year period 2023/24 to 2025/26.

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) reported to Executive Board on 17 November 2022, forecast significant revenue budget funding gaps for the Council over the next three years. Subsequently, Officers had continued to assess all the factors impacting upon the financial forecast and the MTFS had been updated as further information became available.

On 19 December 2022, the provisional Local Government Grant Settlement was announced, which provided a marginal improvement in Halton's funding provision. However, with continuing inflationary increases and service demand pressures, the latest MTFS still forecast a total budget funding gap of around £25m over the next three years, with a gap of £17m for 2023/24.

During the past year the Budget Working Group had led a process to review the budgets of all Council services and savings proposals of £6.881m over a three year period 2023/24 to 2025/26 had been identified, these were presented in Appendix 1.

In order to identify sufficient savings to bridge the forecast budget gaps, a more fundamental approach was required to transform service delivery via the implementation of a three year Transformation Programme. The report outlined details of the Programme and the one-off delivery costs.

In accordance with Standing Order 16 (3), a recorded vote was taken.

The following Members voted FOR the motion:

Councillors Ball, Baker, Begg, Bevan, J. Bradshaw, M. Bradshaw, Bramwell, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Carlin, Davidson, Dennett, Dourley, Fry, Garner, Gilligan, Goodall, Harris, S. Hill, V. Hill, Hutchinson, Jones, Leck, M. Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, K. Loftus, Logan, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, McDermott, A. McInerney, T. McInerney, Nelson, L. Nolan, P. Nolan, N. Plumpton Walsh, Polhill, Ratcliffe, Rowe, Skinner, G. Stockton, T. Stretch, Angela Teeling, Thompson, Thornton, Wainwright, Wall, Wharton, Woolfall, and Wright.

There were no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Council's latest financial position and forecast budget gaps, as outlined within section three of the report, be noted;
- 2) the budget savings proposals for 2023/24 to 2025/26 presented in Appendix 1 be approved; and
- 3) the three year transformation programme and funding arrangements, as outlined within section five of the report be approved.

Operational
Director - Finance

Meeting ended at 6.56 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 8 December 2022 in Halton Stadium, Widnes

Present: Councillors Wharton (Chair), Harris, M. Lloyd Jones, J. Lowe, T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, Thompson and Wright

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: S. Young, M. Vasic, M. Reaney, E. Dawson and G. Ferguson

Also in attendance: Councillor P. Lloyd Jones. One member of the press.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
<p>EXB51 MINUTES</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2022 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p> <p>LEADER'S PORTFOLIO</p> <p>EXB52 DIRECTORATE PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW REPORTS FOR QUARTER 2 2022 - 23</p> <p>The Board considered a report of the Operational Director – Policy, People, Performance and Efficiency, on progress against key objectives/milestones and performance targets for the second quarter period to 30 September 2022, for the People Directorate (Children and Young People; and Adult Social Care and Health); and the Enterprise, Community and Resources Directorate.</p> <p>The Board was advised that the Directorate Performance Overview Report provided a strategic summary of key issues arising from the relevant quarter for each Directorate and was aligned to Council priorities or functional areas. The Board noted that such information was key to the Council's performance management arrangements and Executive Board had a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability. Performance Management would continue to be important in</p>	

the demonstration of value for money and strengthening accountability.

RESOLVED: That the report, progress and performance information be noted.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING AND SKILLS, AND HEALTH & WELLBEING PORTFOLIOS

EXB53 RIGHT TO SUCCEED

The Board had previously received a report from the Strategic Director, People, on the Right to Succeed initiative and had agreed to support the development of the initiative in the Halton Lea Ward (Minute EXB70/21 refers). The Right to Succeed team had been working in Halton Lea with a multi-agency steering group on the discovery phase. This had involved engagement and consultation with local residents and professionals via interview, surveys, workshops, focus groups and public consultation events in order to understand the perspectives of the Halton Lea community and their priorities. The themes that had emerged from the consultation were set out in the report.

Subsequently the steering group had considered the findings and had set out recommendations for:

- A family support hub model that included focussed support for SEND;
- An education strand working with local schools to better equip education providers at the five partner schools to understand child development challenges; and
- To co-design a localised youth offer.

The report outlined the overall Halton Lea Right to Succeed objectives and the long lasting outcomes which the project would achieve.

On behalf of the Board, the Children and Young People Portfolio, Councillor McInerney, thanked Nicola Goodwin for her work on this initiative.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PORTFOLIO

EXB54 SERVICES FOR MISSING FROM HOME AND CARE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS CHESHIRE FOR HALTON,

CHESHIRE EAST, CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER AND WARRINGTON: REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF STANDING ORDERS

The Board considered a request to waive compliance with Procurement Standing Orders to allow the continuation of a contract with We are With You to deliver on behalf of the Council, the Pan Cheshire Missing from Home and Care Service, for a period of one year from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. The value of the contract extension for one year was £491,633. All local authorities had agreed to continue with a joint commissioning approach with Halton acting as the lead.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) approval be given to the recommendation that the contract with We are With You be extended for a further twelve months without going through the Procurement process, in pursuance of Procurement Standing Order 1.14.4 (non-emergency procedures – exceeding a value threshold of £100,000), seeking to waive part 3.1 and 3.2 of Procurement Standing Orders.

Strategic Director
- People

EXB55 THE FUNDING FORMULA FOR MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES FOR 2023-24

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – People, which presented the proposal for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Schools Block Funding Formula for Halton's mainstream schools and academies for the Council's financial year 2023-24.

The report described how the DSG was split and how the National Funding Formula (NFF) was used by the Department for Education (DfE) to calculate the Schools Block element of the DSG allocated to Halton.

The Board was required to make a decision on the funding formula to be adopted for 2023-24. Further to the consultation paper sent to all schools (appendices A and B) and after its consideration at Schools Forum, it was agreed by them that the adoption of the NFF method, principles and rules should continue to be applied to mainstream schools and academies.

RESOLVED: That the Board approves the continuation of the National Funding Formula for 2023-24.

ADULT AND SOCIAL CARE PORTFOLIO

EXB56 HEALTH PPB SCRUTINY TOPIC 2021/22

The Board considered a report on the recent Scrutiny Review undertaken by the Health Policy and Performance Board (PPB). On behalf of the PPB, the Chair - Councillor P. Lloyd Jones, attended the meeting to present to the Board the outcomes of the Review and the proposed action plan.

The Board was advised that the scrutiny topic considered was the North West Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (NWADASS) Elected Member Commission report entitled 'The impact of Covid-19 on People with Care and Support Needs, their Families, Carers and Communities'. The topic group had met on a number of occasions and a final report was presented to the Health PPB on 27 September, and an action plan was agreed.

The attached report explained how the review was conducted, the information that was considered by the topic group and the actions agreed in relation to each of the ten NWADASS recommendations.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the attached report, in particular the action plan be noted.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING PORTFOLIO

EXB57 AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR COMMUNITY INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL SERVICE - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Director of Public Health, which sought approval to the award of a contract for the Community Infection Prevention and Control Services to Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust for the provision of community infection, prevention and control services on behalf of Halton, Warrington and St Helens Councils.

It was noted that the current contract would end on 31 March 2023 and St Helens Council as lead commissioner had undertaken a retender process. Subsequently one tender submission was received from Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The tender had been evaluated in three stages and in each Bridgewater had achieved or exceeded the required standards. The tender submitted was for £443,527 which was within budget.

Reason for Decision

To ensure business continuity and maintain provision in infection, prevention and control services across the Borough.

Alternative options considered and rejected

To issue a Direct Award for a limited period to the current provider, this does not provide a stable environment for the service area. Impacting on performance and service delivery to service users.

Implementation date

The contract will commence from 1 April 2023.

RESOLVED: That the Board approve the proposal to award the contract for Community Infection Prevention and Control Services for Halton to Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

Director of Public Health

EXB58 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) whether members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A

of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraphs 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE PORTFOLIO

EXB59 DOMICILIARY CARE CONTRACT – REQUEST FOR A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – People, which sought approval to commence with a pre-determined contract extension to the current Domiciliary Care and Personal Care Services Contract. The contract extension period would be from 2 April 2023 to 1 April 2024.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) note the contents of the report; and
- 2) approve the request for a one year contract extension to the Domiciliary Care and Personal Care Services Contract, in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.15.3

Strategic Director
- People

MINUTES ISSUED: 13 December 2022

CALL- IN: 20 December 2022 at 5.00 pm

Any matter decided by the Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 20 December 2022.

Meeting ended at 12.20 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

*At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 19 January 2023 in the Boardroom -
Municipal Building, Widnes*

Present: Councillors Wharton (Chair), Harris, M. Lloyd Jones, J. Lowe,
T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, Thompson and Wright

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: G. Cook, S. Young, M. Vasic, M. Reaney, E. Dawson,
S. Wallace-Bonner and G. Ferguson

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

EXB60 MINUTES

Action

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2022, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

LEADER'S PORTFOLIO

EXB61 TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME AND BUDGET
PROPOSALS 2023/24 TO 2025/26

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which outlined a recommendation to Council in respect of the budget savings proposals and the implementation of a transformation programme for the three year period 2023/24 to 2025/26.

The Board was advised that the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), approved at its meeting on 17 November 2022, had identified funding gaps for the Council over the next three years. The latest MTFS forecast a total budget funding gap of around £25m over the next three years, with a gap of £17m for 2023/24.

Appendix 1 outlined proposed budget savings

totalling £6.881m over the three year period 2023/24 to 2025/26. Given the significant forecast budget gap for 2023/24, further work would be undertaken to review the assumptions within the forecast and to identify further saving proposals and the scope to use one-off reserves to deliver a balanced budget for 2023/24.

In order to identify sufficient savings to bridge the forecast budget gaps, a more fundamental approach was required to transform delivery via the implementation of a three year Transformation Programme as outlined in Section 5 of the report.

The Board considered the proposal to close both Warrington Road and Ditton Daycare Centres. Further information was provided on the significant financial losses made at both sites for a number of years, proposals to provide places for 2 to 4 year olds within the current nursery setting at the same site, communication with staff, parents and Trade Unions and a letter from Derek Twigg - Halton Member of Parliament.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Council's latest financial position and forecast budget gaps, as outlined within the section three of the report, be noted;
- 2) Council be recommended to approve the budget savings proposals for 2023/24 to 2025/26 presented in Appendix 1; and
- 3) Council be recommended to approve the three year transformation programme and funding arrangements, as outlined within section five of the report.

Operational
Director - Finance

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PORTFOLIO

EXB62 SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2024 - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Executive Director – Children's Services, which requested the approval of the School Admissions Policy, Admission Arrangements and Co-ordinated Schemes, for admission to primary and secondary schools, including Academy, Free School and Voluntary Controlled schools for the September 2024 intake.

The Board was advised that in October 2022, the

Local Authority issued a statutorily required consultation on the proposed admission arrangements and co-ordinated admission schemes for the September 2024 intake for primary and secondary schools (attached as appendices 1 and 2 respectively). The primary scheme also included the proposed oversubscription criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools for whom the Local Authority was the admission authority.

The report provided details of the consultation, which ran until 11 November 2022; no responses to the consultation were received. Additionally, no amendments to the oversubscription criteria were suggested, as these worked well and met the requirements of the Department for Education's School Admissions Code.

It was noted that all Halton's secondary schools were either academies, free schools or voluntary aided and were therefore their own admission authorities, with responsibility for consulting and determining their own admissions criteria and their own Published Admission Number (PAN).

Reason(s) for Decision

The decision was statutorily required.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Other options considered and rejected included the allocation of places to community and voluntary controlled schools through random allocation (lottery), as this method could be seen as arbitrary and random.

Implementation Date

The Policy and co-ordinated schemes would apply for the September 2024 academic intake.

RESOLVED: That the Board approves the School Admissions Policy, Admission Arrangements and Co-ordinated Schemes, for admission to primary and secondary schools for the 2024/25 academic year.

Executive Director
Children's
Services

EXB63 CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2023/24 - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director – Children's Services, which provided a summary of the capital funding received by the Council from central Government to support Schools Capital Programmes for 2023/24.

The Board was advised that the Department for Education (DfE) had not announced the School Condition Allocation Capital Grant for 2023/24 however, given the timescales for some of the proposed capital projects, there was a requirement to present this report, so it was compiled using the 2022/23 allocation, which was £747,836.

The report set out details of the indicative funding available to support capital projects across the schools estate and also explained how the School Condition Allocation would be utilised.

Reason(s) for Decision

To deliver and implement the Capital Programmes.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

Implementation Date

Capital Programmes for 2023/24 would be implemented with effect from 1 April 2023.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the position regarding capital funding from the Department for Education for 2023/24 be noted;
- 2) the proposals to be funded from the School Condition Capital Allocation be approved; and
- 3) the capital allocations are put forward for inclusion in the budget report to full Council be approved.

Executive Director
Children's
Services

EXB64 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY SERVICES: RECOMMISSIONING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NHS CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE ICB - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director – Children's Services, which requested authorisation to recommission Children and Young People's Speech and Language Therapy services in partnership with NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB), with the new contract to start in August 2023.

A comprehensive consultation with a broad range of stakeholders on the requirements of the new service was

currently taking place and the service specification for the new contract would be costed following conclusion of the consultation exercise.

RESOLVED: That the Board approves the recommissioning of the service in partnership with NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB.

Executive Director
Children's
Services

ADULT SOCIAL CARE PORTFOLIO

EXB65 ADULT SOCIAL CARE (ASC) DISCHARGE FUND

The Board received a report of the Executive Director – Adult Services, which presented the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund Plan, 2022/23. Although the national fund was announced on 22 September 2022, Local Authority allocations were not notified until 18 November 2022. It was noted that the funding was being provided in two tranches with the first (40%) in December 2022 and the second (60%) by the end of January 2023 for those areas that had provided a planned spending report, fortnightly activity data and had met the associated grant conditions.

Halton's spending plan submission had been summarised and was attached as Appendix 1.

RESOLVED: That the Board note the contents of the report and associated appendix.

Executive Director
of Adult Services

EXB66 ADULT SOCIAL CARE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021/22

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director – Adult Services, requesting agreement of the Adult Social Care Annual Report for 2021/22, which was appended to the report. The period incorporated both responding to the Covid-19 pandemic and the re-opening of services as restrictions were lifted.

The Adult Social Care Annual Report was now an embedded part of the reporting cycle for the Council and whilst not a mandatory requirement, it remained supported as good practice by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS).

It was also noted that the Annual Report, also known as the 'Local Account', allowed the service to take stock and reflect on how services had developed and delivered throughout the period and the impact this had on adults in the borough who have care and support needs.

The Board thanked Officers for an informative report.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.

Executive Director
of Adult Services

ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL PORTFOLIO

EXB67 UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (UKSPF) DELIVERY PLAN HALTON

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director Economy, Enterprise and Property, that provided an overview of Halton’s Delivery Plan against the UKSPF allocation for Halton under the following three strands:

- Green, Safe, Resilient Communities - £301,059;
- Local Culture, Arts, Heritage - £188,900; and
- Town Centres - £118,063.

Operational
Director -
Economy,
Enterprise &
Property

RESOLVED: That the Board approve in principle the Delivery Plan proposals.

ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL PORTFOLIO AND EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING AND SKILLS, LEISURE, COMMUNITY PORTFOLIO

EXB68 RUNCORN SWIMMING POOL

The Board considered a report which outlined the approach the Council had taken to seek a third party who would take on the future operation of Runcorn Swimming Pool. It was noted that the opportunity to operate the pool had been advertised on the Chest on 22 March and on the Council’s website, news update, social media and business newsletters including a trade advert in Leisure Opportunities. Following advertisement of the opportunity, the Council had received no expressions of interest.

As some interest to use the building was expressed by community groups, the Council had ran a further procurement round. This time it sought expressions of interest for alternative uses for the building. The opportunity was advertised from 20 September to 14 October and no expressions of interest were received.

Subsequently, the Council had reviewed the site and the current budgetary position meant that it could not afford the significant investment needed to maintain the building. It was therefore proposed that the building would be declared surplus to requirements and the Council would place the

building on the open market for sale.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted;
- 2) the placing of the asset on the Council's Asset Disposal register be approved; and
- 3) approval is given to the Operational Director – Economy, Enterprise and Property, in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Environment and Urban Renewal and Employment, Learning and Skills and Community, to place the property on the open market for sale.

Operational
Director -
Community &
Environment

EXB69 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

DEPUTY LEADER PORTFOLIO

EXB70 DISPOSAL OF LAND AT LOWLANDS ROAD RUNCORN

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Economy, Enterprise and Property, which requested approval for the disposal of land at Lowlands Road, Runcorn.

RESOLVED: That the Executive Board

- 1) approves the disposal of the freehold interest in land at Lowland Road behind Picow Engineering on the terms reported in section 3.4; and
- 2) authorises the Operational Director for Economy, Enterprise and Property to arrange for all required documentation for the transactions to be completed to the satisfaction of the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder – Leader’s.

Operational Director -
Economy, Enterprise & Property

EXB71 RUNCORN TOWN DEAL (PROGRAMME UPDATE)

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Economy, Enterprise and Property, which provided an update on the Runcorn Town Deal Programme.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted;
- 2) the Operational Director – Legal and Democratic Services is authorised to:

Commission preparatory work and engage appropriate advisors to enable Halton Borough Council to be in a position to make a Compulsory Purchase Order, pursuant to section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, for land in Runcorn Old Town if required.

Operational Director -
Economy, Enterprise & Property

ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL PORTFOLIO

EXB72 HIGHWAYS TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Policy, Planning and Transportation, on the procurement exercise to award a new contract for Highway

Maintenance to commence on 1 June 2023 for an initial period of six years, with options to extend it for up to 4 further years.

RESOLVED: That the award of the Highway Term Maintenance Contract to the successful bidder be approved.

Operational
Director - Policy,
Planning and
Transportation

MINUTES ISSUED: 24 January 2023

CALL-IN: 31 January 2023 at 5.00 pm.

Any matter decided by the Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 31 January 2023.

Meeting ended at 3.18 p.m.

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

*At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 16 February 2023 in Boardroom -
Municipal Building, Widnes*

Present: Councillors Wharton (Chair), Harris, M. Lloyd Jones, J. Lowe,
T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, Thompson and Wright

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: G. Cook, S. Young, E. Dawson, S. Wallace-Bonner,
G. Ferguson and L. Wilson-Lagan

Also in attendance: None

ITEMS DEALT WITH UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

Action

EXB73 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2023 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

LEADER'S PORTFOLIO

EXB74 BUDGET 2023/24 - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report from the Operational Director, Finance, which outlined a recommendation to Council in respect of the Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax for 2023/24.

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), approved at the Executive Board meeting on 17 November 2022 had identified a funding gap of around £21.1m in 2023/24, £1.9m in 2024/25 and £2.0m in 2025/26. The Strategy had the following objectives:

- Deliver a balanced and sustainable budget;
- Prioritise spending towards the Council's priority areas;
- Avoid excessive Council Tax rises;
- Achieve significant cashable efficiency gains;
- Protect essential front line services and

- vulnerable members of the community; and
- Deliver improved procurement.

In terms of consultation, it was noted that the Council used various methods to listen to the views of the public, and Members own experiences through their Ward work was an important part of that process. Individual consultations were taking place in respect of specific budget proposals and equality impact assessments would be completed where necessary.

The Board received regular reports summarising spending in the current year against the budget. The latest report indicated that spending was forecast to be over budget in the current year by approximately £7.1m against a net budget of £111.7m.

The proposed revenue budget for 2023/24 totalled £140.880m; the departmental analysis of this was shown in Appendix B and the major reasons for change from the current budget were shown in Appendix C. A total of £2.830m of savings were approved by Council on 1 February 2023.

The Board was advised that the proposed budget incorporated the grant figures announced in the Local Government Finance Settlement. Additional funding for Adult's and Children's Social Care was announced as part of the provisional settlement and details of these were set out in the report.

Further information was also provided on the budget outlook, Halton's Council Tax, Parish precepts, Police, Fire and Liverpool City Region Mayor precepts, the Capital Programme, Prudential Code and School Budgets.

Reason(s) for Decision

To seek approval for the Council's revenue budget, capital programme and council tax 2023/24.

Implementation Date

8 March 2023.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended

- 1) to adopt the resolution set out in Appendix A, which includes setting the budget at £140.880m, the Council Tax requirement of £60.714m (before Parish, Police,

Operational
Director - Finance

Fire and LCR Combined Authority precepts) and the Band D Council Tax for Halton of £1,675.29;

- 2) to approve the capital programme set out in Appendix E;
- 3) to approve the introduction of a Council Tax Premium of 100% to properties where there is no resident and which are substantially furnished (typically referred to as second homes) from 1 April 2024, subject to legislation being enacted; and
- 4) to approve the Use of Capital Receipts Strategy as set out in Appendix F.

EXB75 CAPITAL STRATEGY 2023/24

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director – Finance, on the Council’s Capital Strategy for 2023/24.

It was reported that all councils were required to produce a Capital Strategy annually, the aim of which was to ensure that the Council understood the overall long-term policy objectives and resulting capital strategy requirements, governance procedures and risk appetite.

Members were advised that the Capital Strategy should be read in conjunction with the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, included on the same agenda; this detailed the expected activities of the treasury management function and incorporated the Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) and the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy for 2023/24. It was noted that the successful delivery of the Capital Strategy would assist the Council in planning and funding its capital expenditure over the next three years.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to approve the 2023/24 Capital Strategy, as presented in the Appendix attached to the report.

Operational
Director - Finance

EXB76 2022/23 SPENDING AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Board received a report from the Operational Director – Finance, which reported the Council’s overall revenue net spending position as of 31 December 2022 together with a forecast outturn.

A summary of spending against the operational

revenue budget up to 31 December 2022 was presented in Appendix 1, and Appendix 2 provided detailed figures for each individual Department. In overall terms the outturn forecast for the year showed that net spend would be over the approved budget by £7.098m. It was noted that this represented a lower figure than the figure of £7.586m forecast at 30 September 2022. The revisions to the Capital Programme were listed in the report and the revised Capital Programme was attached at Appendix 3.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) all spending continues to be limited to only absolutely essential items;
- 2) Strategic Directors take urgent action to identify areas where spending could be reduced or suspended for the remainder of the current financial year; and
- 3) Council be requested to approve the revisions to the Capital Programme as set out in paragraph 3.16.

Operational
Director - Finance

EXB77 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2023/24

The Board received the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, (TMSS) which incorporated the Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) and the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Strategy for 2023/24.

The TMSS was appended to the report and detailed the expected activities of the treasury function in the forthcoming financial year (2023/24). Its production and submission to Council was a requirement of the CIPFA Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code.

The Local Government Act 2003 required the Council to have regard to the Prudential Code and to set Prudential Indicators for the next three years, to ensure that the Council's capital investment plans were affordable, prudent and sustainable.

The Act therefore required the Council to set out its treasury strategy for borrowing and to prepare an Annual Investment Strategy (AIS), which set out the Council's policies for managing its investments and for giving priority to the security and liquidity of those investments. Government guidance notes stated that authorities could combine the TMSS and the AIS into one report, which the

Council had done and was included in Section 4.

Members noted that the production of a Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement was required and a formal statement for approval was contained within the report at paragraph 2.3, with the full policy shown in Appendix A.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to adopt the policies, strategies, statements, prudential and treasury indicators outlined in the report.

Operational
Director - Finance

EXB78 TAXI LICENSING MATTER - PROPOSED INCREASE IN THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES

The Board considered a report of the Regulatory Committee which recommended a proposed increase to the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares.

It was noted that the request to increase fares had been received from members of the taxi trade and was due to the impact of costs of living crisis on the trade over the last 12 months. The Council had the discretion to fix the fares for Hackney Carriages within the Borough and fares may be varied in accordance with the statutory procedure set out in the report.

The report detailed the proposed increased, comparisons with neighbouring authorities and the written responses that had been received from the taxi trade in support of and against the proposal that were considered by the Regulatory Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) agree the proposed increase to the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares; and
- 2) authorise officers to commence the public notification and consultation in line with the statutory procedure as detailed in the report.

Operational
Director, Legal
and Democratic
Services

EXB79 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2023-2024

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive, which set out the proposed Calendar of Meetings for the 2023/24 Municipal Year, which was appended to the report for information.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to

Chief Executive

approve the Calendar of Meetings for the 2023/24 Municipal Year, as appended to the report

ADULT SOCIAL CARE PORTFOLIO

EXB80 HOME BASED RESPITE CARE SERVICE IN HALTON

The Board considered a report which sought a waiver in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.14.4 (iv) of Part 3 of Procurement Standing Orders, for the granting of a direct award to support the continuation of the provision of the Home Based Respite Care Service in Halton, to be delivered by Crossroads Care North West for the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2025, plus an option to extend for a further one-year period.

The Board was advised that retendering the contract could result in the Council foregoing a clear benefit in developing out of hospital services with NHS Cheshire & Merseyside and may result in the Council awarding the contract to another provider, which would result in a risk to continuity of care and support to a vulnerable client group. It was preferred to remain with the existing provider to continue to achieve positive outcomes for the existing client base, through well-established relationships that they had with health, social care and the local voluntary and community sector.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) note the contents of the report; and
- 2) in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.14.4 (iv), a waiver of Part 3 of Procurement Standing Orders, for a direct award to support the continuation of the provision of the Home Based Respite Care Service in Halton delivered by Crossroads Care North West for a two year period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2025, plus an option to extend for a further one-year period be approved.

Executive Director
of Adult Services

HEALTH AND WELLBEING PORTFOLIO

EXB81 0 - 19 HEALTHY CHILD PROGRAMME, BRIDGEWATER COMMUNITY HEALTH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Director of Public Health, which sought approval to extend the 0 - 19 Healthy Child Service Contract (up to 25 for those with

additional or complex needs) with Bridgewater Community Health NHS Foundation Trust, for twelve months to provide the time required to fully procure the service anew.

It was noted that the Board has previously agreed to award the Contract to Bridgewater Community Health for an agreed period of 5 years, with the option for two additional one year contracts (EXB65/2017 refers).

Reason(s) for Decision

- a) result in the Local Authority incurring expenditure which is significant; and
- b) impact in terms of its effects on communities if contract does not continue.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

No alternative options are available.

Implementation Date

1 April 2023.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) approve the implementation of the first one year extension for the year April 2023 to March 2024, for the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme contract which is provided for within the original contract which was approved and implemented in 2018; and
- 2) approve the commencement of a full procurement exercise including service reviews in the year 2023-24 with a view to award of a new contract at the end of March 2024.

Director of Public Health

EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING AND SKILLS, AND COMMUNITY PORTFOLIO

EXB82 VARIATION OF THE NON-STATUTORY FEES OF HALTON REGISTRATION SERVICE FROM 1 APRIL 2023

The Board considered a report which sought approval to vary the non-statutory fees offered by Halton Registration Service from 1 April 2023. The proposed fee structure for 2023/24 and 2024/25 had been determined by taking into account inflationary increases and these were set out in Appendix 1. The early setting of the fees was necessary as ceremonies were arranged up to two years in advance.

Further, a published fee structure would provide customers with the amount payable and allow the Service to forward plan more effectively its income targets.

RESOLVED: That the variations to the non-statutory fees of Halton Registration Service as set out in Appendix 1 be approved.

Operational
Director -
Community &
Environment

EXB83 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

ADULT AND SOCIAL CARE PORTFOLIO

EXB84 CARE PROVIDER UPLIFT - REQUEST TO CONSULT

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director, Adults, which provided information on the proposed consultation for annual uplift for domiciliary care, direct

payments, supported living and care home providers within Halton for 2023/24.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the contents of the report be noted; and
- 2) approval be given to actively enter into discussions with care providers, with a view to offer an uplift for 2023/24.

Executive Director of Adult Services

DEPUTY LEADER'S PORTFOLIO

EXB85 PROPERTY & ACCOMMODATION REVIEW

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director Economy, Enterprise and Property, which advised on the review of the Council's property (buildings). The report sought approval to establish a Members' Working Group to consider recommendations arising from the review and to provide options for the future implementation of the review recommendations. The Group would comprise:

Deputy Leader – Portfolio Holder Major Projects;
Chair of Corporate Services Policy and Performance Board;
Chair of Development Management; and
Scrutiny Co-Ordinator.

It was noted that as the review developed, participation in the Working Group would be amended, subject to the topics under discussion.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Members note the key considerations arising from a review of the Council's property; and
- 2) the establishment of a Members' Working Group to consider the recommendations arising from the property review be agreed and reports be brought back to the Executive Board.

Operational Director - Economy, Enterprise & Property

MINUTES ISSUED: 21 February 2023

CALL-IN: 28 February 2023 at 5.00 pm.

Any matter decided by the Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 28 February 2023.

Meeting ended at 2.45 p.m.

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HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

At a meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board on Wednesday, 18 January 2023 at the Karalius Suite - Halton Stadium, Widnes

Present: Councillors Wright (Chair), T. McInerney, M. Binns, K. Butler, E. Bragger, J. Chow, L. Garner, J. Horsfall, T. Leo, W. Longshaw, D. Nolan, I. Onyia, K. Parker, H. Patel, S. Patel, W. Rourke, L. Thompson, S. Wallace-Bonner, J. Wallis, D. Wilson and S. Yeoman.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor J. Lowe and V. Elliot, P. Jones, N. Goodwin and M. Vasic

Absence declared on Council business: None

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

Action

HWB21 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2022 having been circulated were signed as a correct record.

HWB22 HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD STATUTORY GUIDANCE

The Board received a report from the Director of Public Health regarding the new Health and Wellbeing Board guidance, which was introduced in November 2022 following the changes to the NHS and, in particular, the establishment of Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) and Integrated Care Systems (ICSs).

The intent of the guidance was to support ICB and ICP leaders, local authorities and Health and Wellbeing Boards to understand how they should work together to ensure effective system and place-based working. Joint working of these agencies would determine the integrated approach that would best deliver holistic care and prevention activities, including action on wider determinants in their communities.

The guidance provided examples of case studies that illustrated how other Health and Wellbeing Boards had adapted to the changes introduced by the Health and Care Act 2022.

RESOLVED: That the report and guidance document be noted.

HWB23 ADULT SOCIAL CARE ANNUAL REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director, Adults, which presented the Adult Social Care Annual Report 2021/22. Whilst this was not a mandatory requirement, it remained supported as good practice by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS).

The Local Account took stock and reflected on how services had developed and been delivered throughout the period. It also assessed the impact on adults in the Borough who had care and support needs.

The report incorporated both responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and the re-opening of services when restrictions had been lifted.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

HWB24 WARRINGTON AND HALTON TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST UPDATES

The Board received a presentation from Lucy Gardner, Director of Strategy and Partnerships, Warrington & Halton Hospitals (WHH) which provided updates on:

Anchor Institutes – Anchor institutions were large organisations such as NHS trusts, which are unlikely, by their nature, to relocate, have a significant stake in their local area as a result, and have sizeable assets which can be used to support local community health and wellbeing, including tackling health inequalities.

WHH was an anchor institution. This meant that WHH had an opportunity to positively influence the health and wellbeing of the patients and local communities. A Board level commitment was in place to use the Trust's position and influence to work with others in responsible ways, to have an even greater impact on the wider factors that created happy, healthy and thriving communities.

An overview was provided on the WHH journey as an anchor institution and how this work was delivered through several initiatives, including the Halton Health Hub, the Community Diagnostic Centre and the emerging Health and Education Hub.

The presentation provided a progress update as WHH continued to mature as an anchor institution and advance the Trust's commitment to tackling health

inequalities, whilst striving to achieve the NHS Green Plan objectives and boosting opportunities to make a positive social impact.

The Board received an update following the completion of the project to develop an out-of-hospital hub to deliver clinical outpatient services from Runcorn Shopping City and opportunities for future development.

Halton & Warrington Community Diagnostic Centre - The Trust had been successful in bidding for brand new capital and revenue funding from NHS England to develop a Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) at the Halton site, to deliver capacity for an additional c211,000 diagnostic tests by the end of 2024.

Phase 1 was the CDC Fast Track, planned to be operational by March 2023. This was to design and build a new multi-storey car park and refurbish the Nightingale Building to create:

- 3 x cardio-respiratory rooms;
- 2 x ultrasound rooms;
- 1 x phlebotomy room;
- 1 x point of care testing room;
- 1 x medical records store;
- 1 x IT room; and
- Adequate waiting areas.

Phase 2 was the large scale CDC and it was anticipated that this would be completed by July 2024. Further updates would be provided in due course.

Halton Health Hub – In November 2022 the Trust welcomed its first patients to the Halton Health Hub which was a result of a partnership between WHH, Halton Borough Council and the Liverpool City Region. The services delivered in the first instance were:

- Paediatric Optometry / Orthoptics;
- Paediatric Dietetics;
- Adult Optometry / Orthoptics;
- Adult Dietetics; and
- Over 55 Hearing Screening and Assessment.

Progress of the Development of the Runcorn Health and Education Hub - WHH, in partnership with Halton Borough Council (HBC), Riverside College, Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (BCH) and Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust, developed

a project to create a Health and Education Hub in Runcorn as part of Reconnecting Runcorn Town Deal project.

The Health and Education Hub project was one of seven projects within the Runcorn Town Deal “Reconnecting Runcorn” plan. The focus of the hub was for families and young people, with some specific support for other demographics. Services currently planned included:

- Preventative services;
- Women and children’s services;
- Services for people with long term conditions;
- Health skills and training alongside work experience opportunities; and
- Access to employment support.

The presentation outlined the progress and the next steps.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the contents of the presentation and supported the Trusts plan for development of the CDC at its Halton site.

HWB25 PLACE SHAPING FOR HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

The Board received a presentation from the Operational Director, Economy, Enterprise and Property, which provided an overview on Place Shaping for Healthier Communities.

Place shaping was defined as putting an individual stamp on an area. This derived from the Lyons Enquiry (2004-2007) which suggested that Local Governments’ should be the voice of a whole community and as “an agent of place”. Place shaping was fundamental to enabling vibrant communities, planning for what assets, housing and infrastructure would facilitate wellbeing, healthier communities and support communities facing inequalities.

The Board received presentations from Hitesh Patel from Citizens Advice Halton and Joseph Chow from Community Shop. Both of these services located in Halton Lea Ward and served the whole Borough. The presentations described the assets of each service and how they impacted the residents of Halton.

RESOLVED: That the report and contents of the presentation be noted.

HWB26 ONE HALTON COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Board considered a report from Nicola Goodwin, One Halton Senior Programme Manager, regarding the launch of the One Halton Community Grants scheme in January 2023.

One Halton developed a community grants programme which was agreed by the Finance and Performance Committee in November 2022. This would support engagement with One Halton at grass roots enabling community led activity to directly relate to the strategy's objectives and ambitions around:-

- **Starting Well** - supporting families in financial hardship and enabling child development for speech & language and school readiness through play and family engaging activities;
- **Living Well** – changing lifestyle factors to improve health and wellbeing, increasing levels of physical activity, support to increase employability skills i.e. volunteering opportunities, digital skills development;
- **Ageing Well** – to support people to live an independent life, support people to regain independence following a change in circumstances.

The grant fund was £70,000 and initially available until 31 March 2024. This would provide an indicative allocation of £17,500 for Runcorn and Widnes each year. The grants programme would be administered by the Council's Community Development Team on behalf of One Halton.

Half-yearly reports on the grant delivery would be reported to the One Halton Finance and Performance Group and periodic reports would be brought to the Health and Wellbeing Board as necessary.

The Board was asked to promote these grants across their respective networks.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

HWB27 ADULT SOCIAL CARE DISCHARGE FUND

The Board received a report from the Executive Director, Adult Services regarding the Adult Social Care (ASC) Discharge Fund Plan 2022/23.

Due to the national issue of delayed discharges from hospitals, funding had been allocated to local areas to help

try and reduce delayed discharges over the Winter period. It was noted 40% of the allocations to local areas had been distributed directly to Local Authorities, based on the Adult Social Care Relative Needs Formula (RNF) and 60% of the funding had been distributed to Integrated Care Boards, targeted at those areas experiencing the greatest discharge delays. The available funding was expected to be pooled into local area Better Care Funds.

The first tranche of funding (40%) was received in December 2022 and the second tranche (60%) was received in January 2023. Halton's planned spending report outlined the prioritised approaches that would be most effective in freeing up the maximum number of hospital beds and reducing bed days lost.

RESOLVED: That the report and appendix be noted.

HWB28 HALTON SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD - ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

The Board considered a report from the Executive Director, Adults regarding the Halton Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2021/22.

Under the Care Act 2014, all Safeguarding Adults Boards are required to produce an annual report which summarised all of the key achievements and priorities the Board had been working towards over the past 12 months. The report set out the national and local developments on safeguarding adults at risk. This included work undertaken to support asylum seekers and refugees; supporting National Safeguarding Week and hosting a strategic planning event for Board members to agree key priorities for the Safeguarding Board going forward.

The report also contained key performance information, taken from the Safeguarding Adults Collection; a statutory return for all local authorities. It was noted that there had been a 10% increase in the number of safeguarding concerns received in 2021-22 compared to the previous year. In Halton, an adult at risk is most likely to be a female aged over 65 and living in their own home. There was also a 32% increase in the number of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard applications compared to 2020-21.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Meeting ended at 3.50pm

CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Children Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board on Monday, 23 January 2023 in the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Logan (Chair), C. Plumpton Walsh (Vice-Chair), Abbott, M. Bradshaw, Bramwell, Carlin, Goodall and Loftus

Apologies for Absence: Councillors V. Hill, Jones and Skinner

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Vasic, P. Murphy, A. Jones, J. Farrell, D. Roberts, K. Bazley and S. Ellison

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

Action

CYP16 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2022 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

CYP17 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.

CYP18 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

The minutes relating to the Children and Young People Portfolio, that had been considered by the Executive Board since the last meeting of this Board, were attached at Appendix 1 for information.

CYP19 CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE UPDATE

The Board received a report and presentation from the Executive Director of Children's Services, which provided an update of the work undertaken to date following the Ofsted Focused Visit which took place on 13 and 14 October 2021 and the subsequent actions taken in response to their findings.

The Inspectors looked at the arrangements for Children in Need, including those who were subject to a Child Protection Plan, and their report made several recommendations identified as 'areas of priority action' as outlined in the report.

It was reported that since the inspection steps had been taken to make improvements to the Service, which were outlined to Members. These improvements were overseen by a Children's Improvement Board, with regular reporting arrangements to the Department for Education.

Members were advised of a further focused visit, on 'front door arrangements' carried out on 23 and 24 November 2022. This focused on how the Council responded to contacts, referrals, strategy discussions and child protection processes. Further details on this inspection were provided in the next minute.

RESOLVED: That Members of the Board

- 1) note the steps that have been taken and the role of the Children's Improvement Board; and
- 2) support moving forward the key priorities and actions outlined in the Children's Improvement Plan.

CYP20 OFSTED FOCUSED INSPECTION

The Board received a presentation on the outcome of the Ofsted focussed visit which took place on 23 and 24 November 2022 and the subsequent actions taken in response to their findings.

Members were advised that the focus of the visit was the Council's first response in dealing with contacts and referrals to Children's Social Care and Early Help, including the strategy discussion / S27 process. Inspectors also took the opportunity to review the arrangements for managing allegations against professionals under the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) process and considered the recommendations from previous inspections, most notably the areas for priority action from the last focussed visit in October 2021.

Officers presented the key headlines from the visit and reported that there were no 'areas for priority action' identified, so no serious weaknesses existed in the quality of practice. The next steps were also outlined and discussed and it was noted that any areas for development were now

incorporated into the Improvement and Transformation programme.

The following information was provided in response to Members questions and comments:

- Regarding the recruitment of student social workers, the Council did target colleges and universities and were currently speaking to both;
- Work placements for students did take place in Halton – some work was currently being done with Hope University;
- Details of the areas being incorporated into the transformation programme were discussed – support with the workforce and SEND for example was already happening;
- Ideas on different ways of operating were always welcomed and given consideration; and
- The importance of staff supervision was discussed with regards to its purpose and effectiveness and whether this needed reviewing.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) notes the findings of the Ofsted report; and
- 2) note the update on the improvement actions presented.

CYP21 SUMMARY OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING UPDATE

The Board considered a report and received a presentation, which summarised key work taking place locally and at a regional level to support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing.

The presentation gave an overview of work taking place in Halton by a variety of organisations and teams such as: Halton Borough Council; Halton Public Health; NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Halton Place (Integrated Care Board [ICB] formally CCGs); and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Systems (ICS).

Preventative work was carried out by these organisations that aimed to keep children and young people mentally well. The report and presentation described core and statutory services that were available to provide direct interventions and support when children and young people were struggling.

Members' made comments or raised questions and the following information or points of clarification were provided:

- The bereavement support service for adults and children/young people had been extended for 12 months;
- Data relating to the use of services offered by 'Power in Partnership' and 'Nightstop' for 18-24 year olds would be sent following the meeting, as the information was not to hand for the meeting;
- As part of the transformation programme, it was planned that Halton would be included in the digital single point of access in the region;
- Team of Life training – Halton's Educational Psychologists and 30 Emotional Support Literacy Assistants (ELSAs) had accessed this training;
- Nationally people had complained about not being able to get through to crisis lines – this would be checked locally;
- Discussion around low aspirations of children / parents / teachers in some schools / areas in Halton – officers assured that this attitude was always challenged in schools and the Council shared its aspirations / ambitions for pupils regularly;
- Research had shown that 'inherited trauma' was a fact and existed in some families – examples of how nurture could intervene were given;
- The impact of social media on the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people was discussed – especially in relation to mobile telephones being used in schools – although recognised by all as a problem it was a cultural issue that was difficult to manage. Officers would raise the matter again with governors at tomorrow's governors meeting; and
- Secondary schools were not on the list of nurturing schools – explained that it was more difficult to offer nurture in secondary settings for many reasons. For example the constant movement of students between classes and having different teachers throughout the day. It was also suggested that there could be some stigma attached to a child in secondary school who was being nurtured.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) receives the presentation; and
- 2) notes the key work and services contributing to the

Executive Director
Children's
Services

positive mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.

CYP22 ANNUAL REPORT - COMMENTS, COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS RELATING TO CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE SERVICES 1 APRIL 2020 - 31 MARCH 2021

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director of Children's Services, which presented the Annual Report for comments, complaints and compliments, relating to Children's Social Care Services from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

Publication of the Annual Report was a statutory requirement, which provided an analysis on complaints processed under the Children Act 1989 Representation's Procedure and evidenced how feedback from service users had been used to improve service delivery.

The Report also provided Members with compliments made by clients and positive feedback from workers/professionals relating to Children's Services in the People Directorate. The report also demonstrated the positive impact and outcomes on the lives of people accessing services in this Directorate.

Members welcomed the report commenting that compliments were good for staff morale and complaints were not always a bad thing as lessons could be learnt from them. Following Members questions, the following additional information was provided:

- The demand for Children's Services was on the increase in certain areas such as safeguarding and Children in Care, which was up by approximately 15% in the last two years in Halton;
- Each local authority in the Country was different; some maintained their levels of demand and some had seen increases;
- Persistent complainers were on the increase, eg. a complainant contacting more than one person with the same complaint; or one officer being bombarded with complaints from the same person;
- The Council also has a duty of care to the member of staff the complaint is aimed at.

RESOLVED: That the reports presented are accepted are the mechanism by which elected Members can monitor and scrutinise children's social care complaints and compliments.

CYP23 SUFFICIENCY DUTY REPORT 2022-2023 (PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS THE CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT REVIEW (CSA))

The Board received the Sufficiency Duty Report for 2022-23 (previously known as the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Review) CSA.

It was noted that Sections 6 and 7 of *The Childcare Act (2006)* and the associated statutory guidance: *Early Education and Childcare – Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities (March 2018)*, requires all local authorities in England to undertake and provide an annual childcare sufficiency report to elected Council Members, on how they were meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare and to make it available to the public.

The report detailed achievements since the last review and outlined Halton's current position for Members. It also highlighted any gaps in provision and how these were being addressed. The report shared the longer term effects of how Covid-19 was affecting the childcare sector. It was noted that despite the impact of Covid-19, the childcare market in Halton continued to be secure and sustainable, although there were some concerns amongst providers regarding the future with the rising cost of living.

Members welcomed the report; it was noted that from 1 April there would be an increase in the national minimum wage, so this could affect some childcare providers going forward.

RESOLVED: That Members approve the revised Sufficiency Duty Report (previously known as the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment).

Meeting ended at 8.20 p.m.

EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING AND SKILLS, AND COMMUNITY POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board on Monday, 30 January 2023 in the Boardroom - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors Jones (Chair), E. Cargill (Vice-Chair), Begg, Dourley, Garner, Logan, Rowe, Stretch and Skinner

Apologies for Absence: Councillor S. Hill and C. Plumpton Walsh

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: W. Rourke, A. Jones, S. Bartlett, L. Carr and S. Lowrie

Also in attendance: R. Owen – Halton Chamber of Commerce

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
ELS18 MINUTES	
The Minutes from the meeting held on 21 November 2023 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.	
ELS19 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
It was confirmed that no public questions had been received.	
ELS20 UPDATE ON EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING AND SKILLS, AND COMMUNITY POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD - BUSINESS SUPPORT SCRUTINY TOPICS	
The Board received a report from the Operational Director – Economy, Enterprise and Property, which gave an update on the 'Provision of Business Support' Scrutiny Topic Group.	
Further to the last meeting's update, this report provided commentary on the emerging issues and key considerations relating to the LCR Growth Platform following a presentation to the Board from its Managing Director; and the emerging issues following a study visit by the scrutiny	

group to *Carpenter Additive*, on Dennis Road, Widnes.

Members welcomed the update and agreed that the Topic Group be concluded.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) notes and received the update on the Topic Group; and
- 2) agrees that the Provision of Business Support Topic Group is now concluded.

ELS21 SPORT AND RECREATION TEAM

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director for Community and Greenspace, on the Council's Sport and Recreation Service.

It was reported that the Sport and Recreation Team has two distinct areas – Sports Development Team and the Leisure Centre Team. The report included information on the service delivery for both Teams from June 2022 to December 2022. It was noted that service delivery had been extremely difficult as recruitment delays affected staff, regular customers and engagement with residents. Further, the cost of living crisis was now affecting the service as some people were cutting back on how much they spent on leisure.

An update on the building programme of the new Leisure Centre on Moor Lane, Widnes, was also given; a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) had been prepared and were appended to the report for information. It was reported that the Contractor, *Wates*, was having meaningful dialogue with the Council, such as attending HEP meetings and visiting colleges, and were committed to a strong and comprehensive programme of social value activities in Halton. The Contractor would also be providing the Council with a monthly report on social value.

The following information was provided following Members' questions on the Service:

- The staffing structure of the Leisure Centres was explained – one Leisure Centre Manager manages the two Leisure Centres and directs two Senior Operations Managers (one assigned to each site). They ensured that service standards and operational standards were achieved and also managed six

Operation Managers, who took care of the day to day operations of the buildings and staff;

- All Operation Managers' posts were filled with internal promotions;
- The pay rates for Leisure Attendants were comparable with other providers;
- Recruitment for Leisure Attendants was ongoing – the majority recruited in November 2022 have started after a long process, with the main delay being pre-employment identity checks for those under 18;
- The Council has recognised this as an issue and offers support in obtaining identification where possible for young people;
- Three part time Leisure Attendant vacant posts would be advertised in February;
- The Swim Team was carrying a number of vacancies including the Manager's post – as a result the swimming lessons waiting list remains suspended;
- Free places for swim qualifications were currently being advertised – it was hoped that workforce plans being taken forward will lead to appointments and the learn to swim programme can be expanded;
- Swimming Instructor pay rates were lower than private providers, however, there were benefits the Council offered not matched by private employers such as pension, sick pay and training;
- Shortages of staff within the leisure business was a regional problem, being experienced by neighbouring authorities; and
- Some courses were being funded by donations from Police and social landlords.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments made be noted.

ELS22 LIVERPOOL CITY REGION LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SKILLS PLAN

The Board received a report of the Operational Director – Economy, Enterprise and Property, which provided an update on the development of a Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) for the Liverpool City Region (LCR). Members welcomed Rachel Owen, from the Halton Chamber of Commerce, who delivered an accompanying presentation.

It was reported that the White Paper *The Skills for Jobs: Lifelong Learning for Opportunity and Growth* introduced a plan to put employers more firmly at the heart of the skills system to help ensure businesses and people

had the skills they needed to thrive and progress. The LSIPs were a key part of achieving this aim.

The LSIP was led by a designated Employer Representative Body (ERB); St Helen's Chamber of Commerce was designated for the LCR and would liaise with the other Chambers within the LCR. The LSIPs would set out employers' skills needs and the priority changes required in a local area to help ensure post-16 technical education and skills provision was more responsive and flexible in meeting local labour market skills needs. The report and presentation set out how this would be done and provided some guidance in respect of the LSIPs.

In response to Members questions and comments the following information was provided:

- TUC involvement was being done at a national level with DWP. St Helen's Chamber was the ERB for Halton as part of the LCR, so they could be contacted for more information about this;
- The responses to the questionnaire from Halton businesses was welcomed – there was no particular profile of companies that had responded so far; they were a mix of large, medium and small enterprises;
- Members were invited to provide details of companies in Halton they were aware of to the Chamber, for them to make contact with them;
- Although the top three sectors identified in Halton with skills gaps were manufacturing, construction, and logistics and warehousing, there was scope to include the environmental sector, for example companies such as Innovyn and Alstom (who had responded to the research);
- Construction was a very large area so a broad view of this was being taken, to include as many companies and trades as possible;
- Apprenticeships were included in the plan and focus groups would identify the skills gaps within apprenticeships as well;
- Focus groups would also identify the needs of the Borough as a whole;
- The ERB for the area was appointed by the Department for Education, after a tender process had taken place;
- Halton Chamber was working with the Colleges in Halton to identify gaps in skills provision, which was fed to Government. Any funding as a result of this went directly to the College (or other provider of education); and

- It was noted that additional specialist teachers / lecturers would also be needed to plug the gaps identified by the research and to deliver the education.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Members note the process and progress being made to develop a Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) for the Liverpool City Region; and
- 2) the Council works with Halton Chamber of Commerce to raise awareness of the Research Questionnaire contained in Appendix one of the report; additionally the Chamber maximises existing strategies and research held by the Council's Business Support Team.

ELS23 DEPARTMENT OF WORK AND PENSIONS RESTART CONTRACT UPDATE

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director – Economy, Enterprise and Property, which provided an overview of the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Restart Programme contract, currently being delivered by Halton People into Jobs (HPIJ).

It was reported that in June 2021 Halton Borough Council entered into a subcontracting arrangement with Prime Contractor (G4S) who had been tasked with delivering the DWP's new Restart Programme.

The programme is mandatory for individuals that had been unemployed and in receipt of benefits for 9 months or more. It was noted that indicative start profiles estimated that 1992 Halton residents would be supported through the programme. The programme offered 'Payment by Results' which were received on achievement of sustained job outcomes; the definition of this was explained.

The report outlined for Members the performance and achievements of the programme from June 2021 to December 2022 and listed the Customer Service Standards (CSS) that were also used to measure job starts and sustained job outcomes.

Following the presentation of the update, the following additional information was noted after questions:

- There have been two recruitment freezes by HBC

which has affected the performance of the Team, leading to financial penalties for not being fully staffed. The Team was put on a Performance Improvement Plan by G4S due to this shortage of staff, resulting in underperformance – concerns were raised over the future of the contract if this was not resolved;

- DWP referrals were lower lately which has been a national issue as well as a local issue;
- Some clients referred did refuse to enter the Programme for various reasons which presented challenges for the Team;
- Clients also received training where necessary and help towards public transport costs; and
- Some clients entering the Programme had succeeded in gaining maths, English and IT qualifications, as well as some specific job qualifications.

The Board welcomed the report and praised the HPIJ Team on their successes with the Restart Programme.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

In order to complete the presentation of the following item, a motion to move Standing Order number 50 was made, seconded and agreed by the Board.

ELS24 SUPPORTED INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME (WORK-BASED STUDY PROGRAMME)

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director – Economy, Enterprise and Property, which provided an overview of the Supported Internship (SI) Programme contract currently being delivered by Halton Borough Council's (HBC) Employment Learning and Skills Division (delivered jointly by Halton People into Jobs and Halton Adult Learning).

It was reported that in April 2021 HBC were commissioned to deliver the SI Programme which was a structured, work based study programme for young people aged 16-24 with Special Educational Needs/Disabilities (SEND) and who had an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The programme was initially contracted to deliver 10 Supported Internships in year one.

The report provided details of the SI Programme, which included its aims, its four key principles, how the Programme was delivered and achievements to date.

The role of the 'Job Coach' was explained to Members as being someone responsible for working with the Interns to identify suitable placements for them to complete. They continued to support them during the placement until the Intern and the employer were satisfied that they could undertake the role independently. The role of the Job Coach also included educating the employer, for example with the needs of the Intern and health and safety matters. Travel training was also carried out by the Job Coach to help the Intern to get to their education setting and/or employers premises. This was carried out until the Intern and their family/carer was satisfied that they could undertake their travel safely and independently.

The Board discussed the issues faced by the Programme from the recruitment prioritisation process in place since the Programme went live in September 2021. This has prevented recruitment of sufficiently qualified and experienced front line staff in the Employment, Learning and Skills Division; to deliver the Programme within the required timescales is seen as a lower corporate priority. Temporary agency staff had been used where possible, but there has still been an impact on Interns being able to receive the full Programme offer this year. Members felt that this was an important service area and where possible, recruitment to posts should be accelerated.

To update, since the publication of the report, it was announced that the total number of supported internships now moved into paid work was six, an increase of two (paragraph 3.2.2) and some now worked for the Council. It was noted that feedback on the Programme received from the Interns and their families so far was positive.

The Board thanked both Teams for their work in delivering the Supported Internship Programme so far.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Meeting ended at 9.07 p.m.

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HEALTH POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Health Policy and Performance Board held on Tuesday, 29 November 2022 at the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors P. Lloyd Jones (Chair), Baker (Vice-Chair), Ball, Bevan, J. Bradshaw, Goodall, Leck and Nolan

Apologies for Absence: Councillor McDermott

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: E. Bragger, S. Wallace-Bonner, A. Jones, D. Nolan, L Wilson and M. Lynch

Also in attendance: Councillor J. Lowe (in accordance with Standing Order 33), J. Horsefall – Halton Housing Trust, S. Vickers and P. Thomas – Cheshire and Merseyside ICB (Halton Place)

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
HEA12 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held 27 September 2022 having been printed and circulated were signed as a correct record.</p>	
HEA13 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>In accordance with Standing Order No.34 (9), the following public questions were submitted to the Board:</p>	
<p><u>Question</u></p>	
<p><i>“It is noted that as part of the Performance Priority Based Report (Page 4 of 21, Supporting Commentary) there is an underspend in the Pooled Fund for joint delivery of Integrated Care. It is understood that in Greater Manchester, Local Authorities and local NHS Trusts have used the pooled fund for Integrated Care to increase the rate paid to providers for commissioned Social Care. The increased rate has been to paid to providers agreeing to pay Care Workers the Foundation Living Wage.</i></p>	

The Foundation Living Wage – independently calculated by the Resolution Foundation – is the minimum amount that workers need to earn to make ends meet, yet a substantial proportion of care workers across Halton receive below Foundation Living Wage. This forces Care workers to work excessive hours to make ends meet, which has an impact on the quality of care as workers are burnt out.

Further, the low pay in the sector is leading to a shortage of care workers, experienced care workers are leaving the sector to work in better paid sectors, and providers are finding it more difficult to attract new staff to the sector as the level of responsibility is not reflected in the pay.

I understand Halton Council has been awarded over £500,000 for the discharge fund, this fund is to support recruitment and retention of staff in the care sector. Using this fund to support the Foundation Living Wage to care workers across Halton will aid recruitment and retention of care workers”.

As a resident of Halton can you confirm the value of the stated underspend in the pooled funding?

Response

As outlined in the Performance Report, the Pooled budget was shown to be underspent at the end of quarter two (September 2022) of 2022/23; this figure was £0.848m.

Supplementary Question

It is noted that Halton has received over £500,000 for the Discharge Fund. This Fund is to be used to recruit and retain social care workers across Halton. Low wages in the Social Care Sector is a fundamental issue of retaining and recruiting staff in the sector.

Will you commit to using the Discharge Fund to ensure the Foundation Living Wage as a minimum is paid to all care workers across Halton?

Response

The function of the Health Policy and Performance Board is scrutiny; it is not a decision making body, so it is not permitted to commit to any budget spend.

HEA14 HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD MINUTES

The minutes from the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting held on 6 July 2022 were submitted for the information of the Board.

HEA15 SUPPORT TO AN AGEING POPULATION: HALTON HOUSING

The Board received an update on Halton Housing Trust's (HHT) support for the needs of Halton's older customers from Jonathan Horsfall from Halton Housing.

HHT provide a range of housing options with appropriate levels of support to enable customers to maintain an independent and healthy lifestyle within their own home.

It was reported that HHT manage and maintain 7500 homes predominantly within the Borough of Halton. Most were for social rent, with 220 for shared ownership. The report described the services provided by them to their tenants and the types of housing available specifically for older customers. The report also gave profile information of the ages of customers; the types of accommodation they lived in; the numbers of older customers assisted over the past 6 months; and details of the work and support provided by the Halton Housing Independent Living Team.

The development of extra care schemes (Barkla Fields, Naughton Fields and Hazelhurst) were welcomed. These provided customers with care and support services, personal care and domestic services, emergency alarms and 24-hour help lines, as well as communal facilities such as lounges and bistros. Information on the newest example of this, Hazelhurst, was appended to the report.

The Board thanked Mr Horsfall for his attendance and he provided the following additional information in response to Members questions:

- Hazelhurst in Sandymoor was now open and residents had begun to move in;
- Transport links were discussed; these were getting better as the area developed;
- Applications for homes in Hazelhurst and other properties were made through the Trust's Property Pool Plus (PPP) service;
- Customers placed bids on properties using the PPP service, which placed them in a category, with Band

A (homeless) being the highest. The winning bidder was then allocated the property based on need;

- There was less demand in Band A from older people;
- IT support was available to those residents who were unable to use PPP to submit their application and it was possible to arrange for 'auto bids' to be set up;
- The service did not arrange swaps as such, but mutual exchanges were allowed between tenants in agreement with each other;
- The market was very buoyant for shared ownership properties, so those properties within Hazelhurst were expected to sell; and
- Right to Buy still existed for rented homes only.

RESOLVED: That the report is noted.

HEA16 WIDNES URGENT TREATMENT CENTRE UPDATE

This item was deferred due to the non-attendance of the presenting officers from Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

HEA17 PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS – ADDITIONAL ROLES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – People, which described the additional staff roles Primary Care Networks (PCNs) may recruit to, and the plans in place to implement this in Halton.

Members were advised that PCNs were groups of GP practices and other healthcare staff and organisations who worked together to provide integrated services to the local population. In Halton there were two PCNs, one in Runcorn and one in Widnes, aligning to the geography of the Borough.

The national PCN contract included an Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS), which provides funding to create bespoke multi-disciplinary teams. PCNs assess the needs of their local population and working with local health services, recruit additional staff to make support available to people where it was most needed.

The report presented details of the roles which may be recruited to in Runcorn and Widnes. It was noted however that whilst the scheme would facilitate a greater range of staff available to care for patients in the GP setting, there were several challenges that would affect the ability to implement the scheme; examples of these challenges were presented in the report. Information was provided to

Members on how these challenges would and are being addressed by the PCNs.

Members understood the challenges being faced in recruiting to the additional roles for Halton and questioned its achievability, particularly considering the lack of current resources. They also discussed the fact that there was a high demand for these roles throughout the Country, so there would be competition in the market. The 'First Contact Physiotherapist' role was used as an example, where it was stated the PCN were working with Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals to assist with recruitment of these.

In response to queries on communicating this information to the public, it was recognised that this would be a slow process as patients were not used to receiving care from these roles in a GP setting. It would be a case of educating patients over time of the existence of these additional roles, so that they felt confident in receiving care from them.

RESOLVED: That the Board notes the additional staff roles being employed by the PCNs to support General Practice in Halton.

HEA18 UPDATE ON ONE HALTON PLACE BASED PARTNERSHIP

The Board received an update and presentation from the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB's Director of Strategy and Transformation, Philip Thomas, on arrangements for NHS Cheshire and Merseyside delivery in Halton, incorporating One Halton, the place based integrated partnership.

The Board has received regular updates and presentations on One Halton during the transition from Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to the commencement and embedding of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs). Today's update included the following:

- An overview of the Integrated Care System (ICS);
- An overview of the Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB);
- The vision of the Cheshire and Merseyside ICB;
- The functions of the Place Based Partnerships;
- The key priorities of the ICB;
- The alignment of the ICB to Halton Place priorities;
- An overview of Halton – life course approach; and
- Halton Place priorities.

In response to the Board's questions, the following information was provided:

- Funding of £4.3b that the Cheshire and Merseyside ICB received this year, was allocated to each area using an historical formula used when the CCGs were in existence;
- It was recognised that there were health inequalities in Halton that needed to be addressed;
- The NHS Cheshire and Merseyside budget was mainly committed to large contracts;
- It was important to prioritise the wellbeing of the population to keep them healthy; and
- The 'Halton Place' structure and staff roles were described; it was noted that the Halton Place team had worked well together so far and were ready for the winter period.

It was suggested that a structure chart of the ICB and the Halton Place staff be provided to the Board – this would be sent by Halton Place staff following the meeting.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the presentation be received; and
- 2) future reporting be provided by agreed thematic agenda items.

Director of Adult
Social Services

HEA19 DEMENTIA FRIENDLY HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director – People, which presented the Dementia Friendly Halton Borough Council (HBC) Plan for information.

Dementia Friendly Communities was a Programme from the national Alzheimer's Society that encouraged everyone to share responsibility for ensuring that people with dementia felt understood, valued and able to contribute to their community. The Programme focussed on improving inclusion and quality of life for people with dementia and encouraged organisations to develop and implement local action plans.

It was reported that Executive Board gave approval in June 2022 for the development of a dementia friendly cross Council approach. The action plan, appended to the report, was grouped into three priorities:

- Priority One Actions – Organisational support and

infrastructure to support development of a Dementia Friendly HBC;

- Priority Two Actions – Raising Dementia awareness across the Council and beyond; and
- Priority Three Actions – Service Area Specific Actions.

Members were advised that monitoring of progress against the plan would be done initially via the quarterly update report to Adult Social Care Senior Management Team as this sat alongside the wider One Halton Dementia Delivery Plan, that was being led by Adult Social Care.

The Board welcomed the Plan and provided positive feedback regarding the seminars that had taken place across the Council so far. It was suggested that these awareness raising events could be beneficial to other organisations and bodies in the Borough – this would be fed back.

RESOLVED: That the report and action plan be noted.

HEA20 RESPITE PROVISION UPDATE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – People, which gave an update on the position in relation to respite care provision, in particular shared care vouchers, and the course of action now being pursued in this area.

It was noted that in June 2019, a report was presented to the Board providing information on respite provision, specifically the shared care voucher process. The need for respite is identified by social workers as part of the assessment process and depending on the nature of the person's condition, shared care vouchers were identified as a way of meeting the assessed need.

The report gave a recap of the shared care voucher process and outlined the areas identified for improvement previously. It was reported that the onset of the pandemic soon after the previous report was presented had affected the level of progress that could be made with the improvements outlined in the 2019 report. Since the easing of the pandemic the respite offer had been revisited to ensure that the necessary improvements were made and there were options available that met people's needs.

The Board was presented with new improvement

actions and the rationale behind these, after taking into consideration the two main client groups requiring access to respite – adults with learning disabilities and older people.

The following information was provided following Members questions:

- Clients were either referred to the service or they could apply directly themselves;
- Respite provision was provided based on the needs of the individual following an assessment;
- Most clients were referred to the service and their carers were able to receive an assessment as well;
- As well as care home respite, there were other respite services on offer such as Shared Lives, Direct Payments and Crossroads (Home Based Respite Care Service); and
- Adults with learning disabilities did have the support of social workers to assist them with accessing respite provision.

RESOLVED: That the Board notes the report.

HEA21 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS, QUARTER 2 2022/23

The Board received the Performance Management Reports for quarter two of 2022/23.

Members were advised that the report introduced, through the submission of a structured thematic performance report, the progress of key performance indicators, milestones and targets relating to Health in quarter two of 2022-23. This included a description of factors, which were affecting the service.

The Board was requested to consider the progress and performance information and raise any questions or points for clarification and highlight any areas of interest or concern for reporting at future meetings of the Board.

Page 91 – ASC03 – it was noted that quarter 2 data was missing as it was only a snapshot of information that was presented once a year in quarter one.

RESOLVED: That the Performance Management reports for quarter two of 2022/23 be received.

Meeting ended at 8.25 p.m.

HEALTH POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Health Policy and Performance Board held on Tuesday, 14 February 2023 at the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors P. Lloyd Jones (Chair), Baker (Vice-Chair), Ball, Bevan, J. Bradshaw, D. Cargill, Dourley, Leck, McDermott and Nolan and D. Wilson – Healthwatch Co-optee

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: S. Salaman, A. Jones, D. Nolan, L Wilson, M. Lynch and N. Hallmark

Also in attendance: A. Leo – Place Director One Halton, S. Constable, S. Kilkenny & S. Fields-Delaney – Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and S. Brennan – Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

ITEMS DEALT WITH UNDER DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

Action

HEA22 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 November 2022 were signed as a correct record.

HEA23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

It was confirmed that no public questions had been received.

HEA24 HEALTH AND WELLBEING MINUTES

The minutes from the Health and Wellbeing Board's meeting held on 12 October 2022 were submitted for the information of the Board.

HEA25 RUNCORN URGENT TREATMENT CENTRE: UPDATE

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director – Adults, which provided an update in relation to Runcorn Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC) and the current service offer delivered.

The UTC in Runcorn was open 365 days a year from 8am to 9pm and was located at Halton Hospital. Patients could walk in or book appointments for a number of different conditions, as listed in the report. It was noted that there was a GP on site at Runcorn 7 days a week for 6 hours per day, as well as medical, nursing and administrative staff on each shift, providing a high quality urgent treatment service. It was highlighted that the service met all the requirements of the 2017 UTC National Standards and was one of the only UTCs in Cheshire and Merseyside to do so.

The report outlined the service offer in detail, which included the workforce, accessing the service, performance and activity, partnerships and collaborations and gave communication examples. Members were referred to the detailed performance information in Appendix 1; and Appendix 2 presented the full *Healthwatch* review report on the service in Halton for November / December 2022.

RESOLVED: That the Board notes the report and appendices.

HEA26 WIDNES URGENT TREATMENT CENTRE: UPDATE

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director – Adults, which provided an update in relation to Widnes Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC) and the current service offer delivered.

Widnes UTC was open 365 days a year from 8am to 9pm and is located in the multi-service Health Care Resource Centre (HCRC) in Widnes. Patients could walk in or book appointments for a number of different conditions, as listed in the report. It was noted that there was a GP on site at Widnes 7 days a week for 6 hours per day, as well as medical, nursing and administrative staff on each shift, providing a high quality urgent treatment service. It was highlighted that the service met all the requirements of the 2017 UTC National Standards and was one of the only UTCs in Cheshire and Merseyside to do so.

The report outlined the service offer in detail, which included the workforce, accessing the service; performance and activity, partnerships and collaborations and gave examples of communications and promotions taking place.

Members were referred to the detailed performance information in Appendices 1 to 5, which presented comparisons with other UTC providers and other performance data.

Members requested clarity on situations where it was reported that some patients arriving at Widnes UTC were not seen at Widnes UTC, but referred to Whiston Hospital Emergency Department. It was commented that some patients required additional diagnostic tests that were not available at the UTC. Staffing levels were adequate at the UTC but some diagnostic testing required staff with additional skill sets that were only available at the Hospital, hence the referral. Decisions were made according to the needs of the patients and their safety. Broadly speaking, referrals happened occasionally, as most patients attending the UTC were treated there.

The following additional information was provided following Members questions:

- Each UTC had a close working relationship with its nearest Hospital – Runcorn UTC worked with Warrington Hospital and Widnes UTC worked with Whiston Hospital;
- There had been a recent increase in the 4-hour wait, which was dealt with by additional staff being on duty and increased partnership working; noted that Widnes UTC experiences a morning surge with people calling in before work etc;
- The communications campaign was rolled out in December 2022 so it was too early to tell if there were any results from this yet, such as successfully diverting patients from A&E to the UTC's;
- Healthwatch welcomed the communications campaign and offered assistance in raising awareness of this. They had carried out surveys in both UTC's recently and advised of two main areas of complaint: not enough waiting room capacity; and the lack of a dashboard for the queue, which would help patients to decide whether or not to wait or go back at a later time when it would be quieter; and
- Messages on health services were communicated to the residents of Halton who were given a choice about where to go for treatment to receive the care they needed.

RESOLVED: That the Board notes the report.

HEA27 SCRUTINY TOPIC 2022/23 OUTCOMES AND PROPOSED TOPICS 2023/24

The Board was presented with the draft report written in conclusion to the Scrutiny Review of Adult Social Care Workforce needs.

The report, titled *Health Policy and Performance Board Scrutiny Review: The Adult Social Care Workforce Report (December 2022)*, was attached as Appendix 1. It was commissioned by the Health Policy and Performance Board, in response to the continued pressures across the Adult Social Care system in relation to recruitment and retention and considerations around opportunities for development and progression within the sector.

Members agreed the findings of the report and endorsed its submission to the Executive Board.

The Board was requested to consider the Scrutiny topics for 2023/24, which had been discussed as part of Member involvement in the current business planning process. From this, a number of areas of activity were identified and grouped together under a single heading – *Health inequalities across Halton and approaches to reducing them*. The areas of focus were outlined in the report. It was agreed that the final topic brief would be ratified at the next meeting of the Board.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) endorse the Scrutiny Review and its recommendations to go forward to the Executive Board; and
- 2) agree that the Scrutiny Review topic for 2023/24 is 'Health inequalities across Halton and approaches to reducing them'.

Executive Director
of Adult Services

HEA28 THE STANDARDS FOR EMPLOYERS OF SOCIAL WORKERS AND THE SOCIAL WORK HEALTH CHECK

The Board received a report of the Executive Director – Adults, which provided an update regarding ongoing work taking place within Adult Social Care in relation to The Standards for Employers of Social Workers in England, which was published by the Local Government Association (LGA).

It was reported that in Autumn 2020, the LGA launched the refreshed Standards for Employers of Social Workers. The health check was a national survey run by the LGA and helped organisations consider how well they were performing in relation to the employer standards. The report provided Members with information on the results of the Social Work Health Check survey, conducted in 2021.

The report detailed the eight standards in place and it was stated that under each standard, there was a list of things that employers should do in order to meet those standards; Members were provided the respective website link to these to view more details.

It was reported that the Health Check survey for 2021 was co-ordinated at a national level with national, regional and local reports being produced. Halton's Social Workers took part in the survey between November 2021 and January 2022. The report gave details of questions asked and responses, as well as examples of statements made and the scores given. The report also presented the Framework and Improvement Plan, which addressed some of the main issues highlighted by the results from the 2021 Health Check.

Further to Members questions, the following was noted:

- The rate of turnover of Social Workers in Halton was improving but recruitment and retention remained challenging – work on the Halton offer was ongoing with the Council's HR Department;
- Some vacancies existed but were spread across Adult Social Care teams – there was a proactive approach being taken to recruitment for these; and
- The low response to the survey was questioned; it was suggested that reasons for this could be due to timing – some staff were on leave, it was close to Christmas time and some staff were off sick with Covid. The timing of the survey has been discussed with the LGA.

Members were advised that the 2022 Health Check survey was underway and being responded to between November 2022 and January 2023; a report on the results of the above survey would be brought to a future meeting of the Board.

RESOLVED: That the Board notes the report.

HEA29 PLANS FOR INTEGRATION : HEALTH & ADULT SOCIAL CARE

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director – Adults, which provided a summary on progress to date on the integration of Health and Adults Social Care services across One Halton.

Executive Director
of Adult Services

It was reported that in Halton, a number of One Halton Board sub-committees were formed to progress aspects of the integration agenda. The main sub-committee focussing on the integration of health and adult social care is the Operations and Delivery Sub-Committee (ODSC). The ODSC was responsible for overseeing the operational delivery of the integrated local health and adult social care system in Halton. The Committee is chaired by the Director of Adult Social Services and membership of the group included a breadth of representation across the Health and Social Care system.

Members were advised that there were two priority aims that would help inform the ODSC Work Streams to be undertaken (1) to live and independent life; and (2) regain independence following a change in circumstances. The report provided information on the delivery plan and work streams relating to the following areas:

- Halton Integrated Care and Frailty Service;
- Hospital Discharge;
- Care Homes; and
- Future Work Streams

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

HEA30 HEALTH BASED PRIORITY PERFORMANCE REPORTS :
QUARTER 3 2022/23

The Board received the Performance Management Reports for quarter three of 2022/23.

Members were advised that the report introduced, through the submission of a structured thematic performance report, the progress of key performance indicators, milestones and targets relating to Health in quarter three of 2022-23. This included a description of factors, which were affecting the service.

The Board was requested to consider the progress and performance information; raise any questions or points for clarification; and highlight any areas of interest or concern for reporting at future meetings of the Board.

RESOLVED: That the Performance Management reports for quarter three of 2022/23 be received.

SAFER POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Safer Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 7 February 2023 at the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors N. Plumpton Walsh (Chair), Baker, Begg, Bevan, Carlin, Loftus, A. McInerney, Ratcliffe and Wall

Apologies for Absence: Councillor V. Hill and Bramwell

Absence declared on Council business: None.

Officers present: S. Ashcroft, K. Butler, N. Goodwin and P. Wright.

Also in attendance: Councillor Martha Lloyd-Jones

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

SAF15 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Action

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided some feedback from the Cheshire Police and Crime Panel meeting which he attended along with Councillor Martha Lloyd-Jones on 3 February 2023.

The Panel received a report regarding the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed Precept (the Commissioner's element of Council Tax) for 2023/24. A letter was sent back to the Commissioner to request consideration to lowering the threshold for Halton residents.

SAF16 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2022 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

Paul Wright

An update was provided an update on "Operation Treacle" which was Cheshire Police's Halloween and Bonfire initiative. The Police recorded a 1% increase in incidents between 30 October 2022 – 6 November 2022. One of the key issues was off road bikes and of those reported, 55% of incidents occurred in Halton. Further information would be shared in due course.

At the last meeting it was requested that future Board meetings would be held at alternative venues in Runcorn

and Widnes and it was confirmed that the next meeting would be held in Widnes.

SAF17 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

It was reported that no questions had been received.

SAF18 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY

Due to apologies received from Cheshire Constabulary, this item was deferred to a future meeting.

SAF19 REFRESHED POLICE AND CRIME PLAN FOR CHESHIRE

The Board received a report on the refreshed Police and Crime Plan for Cheshire 2021-2024 which was launched on 20 January 2023. It was noted that although no one from Cheshire Constabulary was able to attend the meeting they had expressed an interest in attending a future meeting.

The Police and Crime Commissioner committed to engage and listen to residents and refresh the Police and Crime Plan to ensure it reflected the priorities of Cheshire's communities. The six priorities for policing and crime in Cheshire remained the same in the refreshed plan and were outlined:

- Prevent and tackle crime;
- Make Cheshire's roads safer;
- Deliver justice for victims of crime;
- Protect vulnerable and at risk people;
- Improve public confidence in policing; and
- Modernise our Police Service.

The Community Safety Team continued to work in partnership with the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office on the delivery of work in Halton.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

SAF20 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PROTECTION DIVISION

The Board received a report from the Operational Director, Community and Green Spaces which provided an update on progress of the new Community Safety and Protection Division. It was noted that Nicola Goodwin had been appointed as the Divisional Manager and the priority was to articulate the Division's service needs and framework for delivery.

The report highlighted some updates on the Community Safety and Protection Division which included:

- Domestic Abuse Service – this service had transferred to the Council as of 11 January 2023;
- Emergency Planning – PROTECT duty to be implemented in Spring 2023. This was otherwise known as “Martyn’s Law” and was in response to the Manchester Arena incident;
- Anti-Social Behaviour – ongoing partnership work with local policing units to raise awareness of the Anti-Social Behaviour Victim and Witness Support Service, the Multi Agency Meeting and the Tasking and Co-ordination Meeting and the Anti-Social Behaviour Pathway; and
- Enforcement – this was a new service in the Division and during last quarter (October-December), there had been 79 incidents of waste related offences and environmental crime which included fly-tipping and dog fouling.

Members raised concerns about enforcement and Halton’s lack of zero tolerance against issues such as dog fouling, anti-social behaviour, parking etc and provided examples of such problems in areas across the Borough. It was the view of the Members that perpetrators should be issued with fines instead of warning letters.

Examples were given of joint working initiatives between the Council and the Police and how they had worked well. Comments were taken on board and consideration would be given to more joint working opportunities.

With regards to parking issues, Members commented that PCSO’s needed to be vigilant, in particular to “hot spots” and busy built up areas. It was also suggested that delivery companies e.g. Amazon, supermarkets, pharmacies and take-aways should issued with letters, to remind them not to park on grass verges.

As the new division evolved, the Board would continue to receive further update reports in due course.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

SAF21 DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

The Board considered a report regarding the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Service and the activities being supported across the Borough. The report was presented by the Domestic Abuse Manager.

In January 2023, the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Service transferred to the Council and the three elements to the service were:

- Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA's). The main purpose of this service was to address the safety of victims at high risk of harm from intimate partners, ex-partners or family members to secure their safety and the safety of their children.
- Domestic Abuse Accommodation Service. In January 2023, this service was awarded to SHAP, a Charity that had provided housing and supported young and vulnerable people across Merseyside for over 40 years. The purpose was to reduce the impact of domestic abuse on individuals, families and the community and to enable people of all ages affected by domestic abuse to be safer to cope and to recover.
- Listening Ear Domestic Abuse Services for Children, Young People and Families. This service responded to children and young people who had been impacted by domestic abuse and would contribute to a co-ordinated approach. It provided a "DiAmond", a therapeutic service for children, young people and families where domestic abuse had been an issue within 12 months of a referral. This was an enhanced service offer in Halton which included therapeutic interventions and counselling for children and young people affected. Eligibility was for children and young people who resided in Halton and for those aged up to 25 years if they had additional needs. The referral pathway came via MARAC, Integrated Contact and Referral Team screening and domestic abuse supported accommodation requests.

Arising from discussions, it was noted that:

- A Partnership event had been arranged to take place on 5 April 2023 to review the Halton Domestic Abuse Partnership Strategy and formalise its action plan. Members were invited to attend and further details would

be circulated in due course.

- There needed to be a better understanding of how technology could help victims of abuse.
- Members raised concerns that there needed to be more support in place to help parents who were victims of abuse from their child.
- There had been a marked deterioration of behaviour and discipline in schools since the Pandemic. The Chair said he would be interested to see a research paper on this issue.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Meeting ended at 7.45 p.m.

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CORPORATE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

*At a meeting of the Corporate Policy and Performance Board on
Tuesday, 24 January 2023 in the Civic Suite - Town Hall, Runcorn*

Present: Councillors Gilligan (Chair), Hutchinson, P. Lloyd Jones, A. Lowe,
N. Plumpton Walsh, Teeling and Thornton

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Philbin, Wainwright and Wall

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: K. Butler, E. Dawson, P. Garnett and J. Yates

Also in attendance: None

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
CS22 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes from the meeting held on 1 November 2022 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
CS23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.</p>	
CS24 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES	
<p>The Board considered the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Board relevant to the Corporate Policy and Performance Board.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Minutes be noted.</p>	
CS25 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT GROUP NOTES	
<p>The Board considered the minutes of the Member Development Group meeting held on 20 July 2022.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.</p>	
CS26 HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND - 1 OCTOBER 2022-31	

MARCH 2023

The Board received a report from the Operational Director, Finance, which updated Members on the progress of the delivery of the Government's Household Support Fund from 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Operational
Director - Finance

Halton was awarded grant funding of £1,297,880 and any unspent grant as at 31 March 2023 must be returned to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The report outlined the Spending Plan which set out how the grant funding would be utilised via a combination of Council Departments and the Voluntary Sector, to deliver help and assistance to vulnerable households. The Benefits Division would co-ordinate the use of the grant on behalf of the Council in order to maximise the benefit of the grant funding for the Borough and to ensure that it would be fully utilised.

£178,000 was allocated to a Discretionary Support Scheme for individuals or families who needed urgent help to pay for things such as essential food, toiletries, household items or essential fuel bills. During the period 1 October – 31 December 2022, 421 households had received support.

The Household Support Fund was intended to cover a wide range of low income households in need, including families with children, pensioners and people with disabilities. Free school meal vouchers of £12 per week would be issued during school holidays. £100 would be awarded to vulnerable pensioner households in receipt of council tax reduction. By December 2022, 4,181 vulnerable pensioners had been awarded the payment.

Progress on delivery of the Household Support Fund to be continued to be reported to the Board.

RESOLVED: That:

- 1) progress with delivery of the latest Household Support Fund be noted; and
- 2) preparations for administration of the extension of the Household Support Fund and the Energy Bills Alternative Funding Scheme be noted.

The Board asked that thanks be noted to the Benefits Team for their work co-ordinating this grant funding.

Stephen Young

The Board received a report from the Executive Officer, Chief Executive's Department which provided an update on related activities aimed at reducing the Council's impact on the environment and CO2 emissions from Council activities.

Since it started to measure its carbon emissions in 2006/2007, overall emissions have reduced in the Council's operations from 26,338 tonnes of CO2 to 9,327 tonnes. In 2020/21, emissions were 9,770 tonnes of CO2 and in 2021/22 the overall emissions had reduced a further 4.5% to 9,327 tonnes.

The report outlined a number key projects which had been completed or commenced during 2022 which included:

- Plans to extend the existing Solar Farm at the former St. Michael's Golf Course;
- Electric Vehicle charging infrastructures to be provided at Lower House Lane Depot and Air Source Heat pumps to be installed at the Leisure Centre, which would significantly reduce the carbon footprint of the building;
- Raised awareness of climate change which included an e-learning course for Officers and Members;
- The launch of the Big Halton Forest Project. The aim was to plant an additional 130,000 new trees over the next 7 years; and
- The continuation of the LED street lighting upgrade programme; 90% of the Borough had now been completed.

There was a number of projects that the Council was working on in partnership with the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority which included:

- Green Homes Grant;
- Sustainable Warmth Fund;
- Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund; and
- Solar Together.

Following discussions, it was agreed that the Council would look into whether any wind turbines could be accommodated and whether solar panels could be installed on school buildings.

RESOLVED: That the report and the ongoing work be noted.

CS28 CORPORATE COMPLAINTS

The Board considered a report which provided a statistical analysis of the Corporate Complaints received during the 2021/22 financial year.

The report outlined the two stage procedure to deal with corporate complaints; a corporate complaints trend analysis from 2021-22; the nature of those complaints received; and outcomes. In addition, the report also provided a summary on complaints and queries that had been received by the Local Government Ombudsman during 2021-22. It was noted that the Ombudsman had made 13 decisions during the year and upheld 3 complaints.

RESOLVED: That the content of the report be noted.

CS29 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT FOR QUARTER 2 OF 2022/23

The Board received the Performance Management Report for Quarter 2 of 2022-23. The reports related to the following functional areas which reported to the Board and detailed progress against service objectives and milestones and performance targets, and provided information relating to key developments and emerging issues that had arisen during the period:

- Finance;
- Human Resources and Organisational Development;
- ICT and Administrative Support;
- Legal and Democracy;
- Catering, Stadium and Registration Services; and
- Property Services.

RESOLVED: That the Quarter 2 Performance Management report be noted.

Meeting ended at 7.25 p.m.

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Audit and Governance Board held on Wednesday, 23 November 2022 at the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chair), A. Lowe (Vice-Chair), J. Bradshaw, E. Cargill, Garner, Jones, McDermott, Nolan, Philbin and Wallace

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Harris

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: E. Dawson, M. Guest, M. Murphy, S. Baker and G. Ferguson

Also in attendance: S. Nixon and M. Green – Grant Thornton

ITEMS DEALT WITH UNDER DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

	<i>Action</i>
<p>BEB15 MINUTES</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2022 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>BEB16 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER BIENNIAL UPDATE 2022/23</p> <p>The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Policy, Planning and Transportation, on the bi-annual update of the Corporate Risk Register for 2022/23.</p> <p>The Board was advised that the Council recognised its responsibility to manage both internal and external risks as a key component of good corporate governance. At Directorate level, arrangements were in place for the high risk mitigation measures on the half year monitoring reports which were reviewed and updated at mid-year in line with Directorate Business Plans. Progress was then reported to Management Team and Policy and Performance Boards.</p> <p>It was reported that the Risk Control Measures had been reviewed and updated in line with current changes within the Authority and as proposed by managers and stakeholders. The risks had been re-prioritised so that people, (the community and staff), took priority. These were set out in the report.</p>	

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the progress of actions be noted; and
- 2) the robustness of the Corporate Risk Register and the adequacy of the associated risk management arrangements be noted.

BEB17 2021/22 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director - Finance, which sought approval of the final 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement (AGS).

The 2021/22 AGS was originally presented to the Board on 6 July 2022. It had however been updated to reflect developments in the Council's governance arrangements since that date. As in previous years the AGS also included an action plan to ensure that the Council continued to maintain and improve its existing governance arrangements. The action plan from 2020/21 had also been reviewed and updated to reflect current progress.

Once approved the AGS would be signed by the Council Leader and Chief Executive and published on the Council's website.

Arising from the discussion, a Member requested further information on the recent Senior Management restructure which was to become effective shortly. It was agreed that this would be provided to the Board.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 be approved.

Operational
Director - Finance

BEB18 2021/22 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT AND LETTER OF REPRESENTATION

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which sought approval for the Council's 2021/22 Statement of Accounts (the latest version of which was enclosed with the Agenda), and the report of the Audit Findings of the External Auditor (Grant Thornton) on the 2021/22 financial statements. The report also sought approval of the Council's Letter of Representation.

It was reported that the Statement of Accounts set out the Council's financial performance for the year in terms of revenue and capital spending and also presented the year-end financial position as reflected in the balance sheet. The

key elements were detailed in the report.

The External Auditor presented the Audit Findings report which summarised the findings from 2021/22 external audit. Section 2 of the Audit Finding report presented the finding of the External Auditor in respect of matters and risks identified at the planning stage of the audit and additional and significant matters that arose during the course of their work.

It was explained that the audit work is substantially complete, except for work relating to a national infrastructure assets issue that was impacting all organisations with material balances in this area.

In addition the Council was required to provide the External Auditor with a Letter of Representation relating the financial statements, as shown in Appendix 1. The letter was required to be signed by the Chair of the Board on behalf of the Council.

It was noted that on 1 April 2020 the National Audit Office had introduced a new Code of Audit Practice. The Code introduced a revised approach to the audit of Value for Money (VFM). Work on VFM arrangements was ongoing and the External Auditor expected to complete the work by 31 December 2022. The results would be included with the Auditors Annual Report to be published at a later date.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the draft Letter of Representation in Appendix 1 be approved and any subsequent additions or amendments be approved by the Operational Director - Finance, in liaison with the Chair of the Board;
- 2) the External Auditor's draft 2021/22 Audit Findings Report in Appendix 2 be received and any subsequent additions or amendments be approved by Operational Director - Finance, in liaison with the Chair of the Board; and
- 3) the Council's draft 2021/22 Statement of Accounts in Appendix 3 be approved and any subsequent additions or amendments be approved by the Operational Director - Finance, in liaison with the Chair of the Board.

Operational
Director - Finance

BEB19 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) whether members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

BEB20 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT

The Board received a report from the Divisional Manager – Audit, Procurement and Operational Finance, updating them on the internal audit activity since the last progress report to the Board on 28 September 2022. It also highlighted any matters that were relevant to the Board's responsibilities as the Council's Audit Committee.

Members were referred to appendix one, which listed all the planned work for the year and its current status. The schedule of audits had been updated to reflect the progress made in completing audits since the last update to the Board. By the end of October 2022, 399 days of audit work

had been completed, which represented 39.9% of the total planned days for the year. Planned work continued to progress but it was noted that as reported previously, planned work remained behind target due to staff turnover and delays in filling vacancies.

Appended to the report were the executive summaries of the reports issued numbering 2 to 9, as listed in the report.

RESOLVED: That the Internal Audit Progress Report and comments made be noted.

Meeting ended at 7.10 p.m.

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DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Development Management Committee on Tuesday, 6 December 2022 at the Civic Suite - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors S. Hill (Chair), Leck (Vice-Chair), J. Bradshaw, Carlin, A. Lowe, Philbin, Polhill, Thompson and Woolfall

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Abbott and Hutchinson

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Jones, T. Gibbs, A. Plant, J. Eaton, G. Henry and L. Wilson-Lagan

Also in attendance: 6 members of the public and one member of the press

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

	<i>Action</i>
DEV26 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2022, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
DEV27 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE	
<p>The Committee considered the following applications for planning permission and, in accordance with its powers and duties, made the decisions described below.</p>	
DEV28 22/00152/FULEIA - PROPOSED STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION UNIT (B8 USE) WITH ANCILLARY OFFICERS (E(G)(I) USE), ELECTRICITY SUBSTATION, TWO SECURITY GATEHOUSES, VEHICLE WASH, HIGHWAYS INFRASTRUCTURE INCLUDING ACCESSES, CAR PARKING, SERVICE AND DELIVERY AREAS AND ASSOCIATED OTHER WORKS INCLUDING GROUND WORKS, DRAINAGE AND LANDSCAPING ON LAND OFF LOVELS WAY, HALEBANK, WIDNES	
<p>The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.</p>	

It was reported that one additional condition was suggested, as presented on page one of the published AB Update List, to appropriately secure the planning obligations in relation to the proposed development, in addition to those outlined in full in the report (this has been added to the list of conditions below as number 35).

In addition, further observations from the Council's Ecological Advisor relating to priority habitats were noted (pages 2 and 3). A document containing habitat creation principles had since been submitted to the Council and confirmed by the Council's Ecological Advisor as being acceptable. This document would now be added to plans and supporting documentation list in condition number two.

Clarifications to several paragraphs of the report, described on page 4 of the AB Update List, were noted.

Ms Landor, a planning consultant who represented Halebank Parish Council (HBPC), addressed the Committee. She recognised that revisions had been made to the scheme following consultation with HBPC, however they remained opposed to two aspects of the application as follows:

- The noise that would be generated from a 24/7 operation of docking bays for HGV's; and
- The height of the building, this was excessive in relation to the adjacent residential properties and Conservation Area.

She suggested that the first objection could be resolved with a planning condition. Comparisons were made on the height of the building with the Alstom site, which was lower. She also questioned that without an end user being identified, there was no business case for the height and proposed operational hours of the building.

To conclude she argued that without changes to address the above two objections, the application was contrary to the Development Plan and requested that a decision be deferred until appropriate conditions could be agreed.

The Committee was addressed by Ms Bell, the Planning Agent for the applicant. She gave examples of previous high quality developments they had completed across the North of England, including Manor Park and Daresbury in Runcorn. She advised, *inter alia*, that:

- The application was the culmination of 18 months' engagement with the Council and local community;
- Local communities, the Council and other stakeholders had provided meaningful feedback;
- This feedback had resulted in a series of design amendments to the scheme;
- After the initial consultations a further 3 rounds of consultation had taken place with the local community upon submission of the application during the determination period, and the views of the community had helped shape the development;
- The building height has been reduced to 18m;
- The secondary access road has been removed;
- The plant to the North of the building had been relocated to reduce noise;
- No technical objections had been received from statutory consultees (other than HBPC);
- A noise management plan condition was attached to the application;
- The scheme benefits from £65m worth of investment with 600 jobs being created during construction and 500 being created once the site was in operation; and
- The building would be sustainable and was predicted to achieve a BREEAM Excellent Design award.

In conclusion, Ms Bell stated that the application provides a significant commitment to the economy in Halton and the local community through the creation of jobs and direct investments that would follow.

Further to Members questions, the following was clarified:

- the operating times of the site without the identification of an end user – it was commented that this was not relevant as a noise assessment had been done based on 24 hours of operation 7 days a week and this was deemed acceptable;
- access to the site was via Speke Road/Knowsley Expressway; and
- there were 480 parking spaces on the site and the future end user can offer/encourage employees to use alternative sustainable ways of getting to work other than driving, such as cycling and walking, making use of Halebank Park.

Members' discussed the application taking into consideration the comments made by the speakers and the responses provided by Officers in relation to questions raised. The Committee agreed that the application be approved in line with the recommendation.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following:

- a) entering a legal agreement under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 requiring Commercial Development Projects Ltd to enter into an agreement under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, with the Council when it has acquired an interest in the relevant land relating to:

Financial Contributions

Off-site signage - £105,837.21

Cycle and bus route improvements - £49,871.62

Skylark Field Commuted Sum - £2,746.79

Habitat Creation Commuted Sum (for use on sites in the ownership of others such as Local Authority/Cheshire Wildlife Trust/Mersey Gateway) - £200,000.00.

Other Obligations

Pond/reedbed creation on sites within the ownership of the applicant (provisional sites have been identified at Daresbury and Manor Park); along with the submission of appropriate Biodiversity Management Plans.

- b) conditions relating to the following:

1. The development must be begun within 3 years of the date of this decision notice.

Reason – Section 91 (as amended) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following application drawings:

PLANS

Planning Location Plan - M2999-P105 Rev C

Site Layout - M3179-100-1 Rev E

Sub-station Details - M2999-P106
Gatehouse Island Details - M2999-P107 Rev A

Vehicle Wash - M2999-P108
Sprinkler Tank Pump House – M2999-P109
Planning Condition Plan – 01 – M2999-P111
Planning Condition Plan – 02 – M2999-P112
Proposed Services Plan - 3179-102 Rev D
Fencing Layout Plan - M3179-104 Rev C
Proposed Access Arrangement - 80191-CUR-00-
XX-DR-TP-75001-P08
Detailed Planting Plans - DR-5864-02.01 Rev A
Detailed Planting Plans - DR-5864-02.02 Rev A
Detailed Planting Plans - DR-5864-02.03 Rev A
Landscape Masterplan - DR-5864-02.04 Rev A
Tree Product Packages - GBU-STANDARD-3102
rev C
Tree Product Packages - GBU-STANDARD-3103
rev C
Tree Product Packages - GBU-STANDARD-3106
rev C
Electrical Services External Lighting Calculations -
M2999-AFC-SW-XX-DR-E P05
Floor Layout Plan - M2999-200
Office Layout Plans - M2999-201
Roof Plan - M2999-202
Elevations - M2999-301 Rev A
Swept Path Analysis 16.5m Articulated HGV -
80191-CUR-00XX-DR-TP-05001-P09
Bird and Bat Box Plan – ER-5864-09.2

REPORTS

Construction Environmental Management Plan -
September 2022
BREEAM New Construction 2018 Pre-
Assessment Report - 11 February 2022
Statement of Community Involvement - March
2022
Health Impact Assessment Review - 25 July 2022
External Lighting Strategy – Received 09.08.2022
Arboricultural Impact Assessment – AR-5864-01
January 2022 Revised October 2022
Design and Access Statement

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT (MARCH 2022)

Volume 1 NTS - March 2022
Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 1: Introduction -
March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 2: Approach -
March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 3: Site Description
- March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 4: Alternatives -
March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 5: The Proposed
Development - March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 6: Landscape and
Visual - March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 8: Archaeology
and Heritage - March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 9: Ground
Conditions - March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 11: Transport and
Access - March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 12: Air Quality -
March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 13: Noise and
Vibration - March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 14: Climate
Change - March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 15: Cumulative
Effects - March 2022

Volume 2: Main Text – Chapter 16: Summary of
Mitigation and Residual Effects – March 2022

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 2.1: EIA
Scoping Report - November 2021

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 2.2: EIA
Scoping Opinion - 21 December 2021

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 6.1: LVA
Methodology Summary and Criteria Tables

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 6.2: Landscape
Character Area Extracts

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 6.3: SPD
Extracts

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 6.4: Landscape
Character Assessment Table

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 6.5: Visual
Assessment Table

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.5: Alstom
Ecology Chapter Part 1 - November 2015

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.6: Alstom
Phase 1 Survey Update - June 2014

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.7: Alstom
Aquatic Invertebrates - May 2014

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.8: Alstom
Barn Owl and Bat Activity - October 2010

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.9: GCN
Survey 2014 - June 2014

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.10: GCN Survey Report 2016 - April 2016

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.11: Japanese Knotweed Survey - February 2016

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 8.1: Historic Environment - February 2022

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 9.1: Geo-Environmental Desk Study - June 2011

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 9.2: Phase 1 Environmental Assessment – October 2015

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 9.3: July 2011 Land Contamination ES Chapter - July 2011

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 9.4: Geo-environmental Desk Study - 5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-G-0601-S2-P02 – January 2022

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 9.5: Preliminary Logs - 21 July 2011

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 9.6: RSA Lab Analysis - 13 July 2011

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 9.7: Exploratory Hole Location Plan - 30467-02-F1 – July 2011

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 9.8: Exceedance Plan Soils - 30467-02-F2 – July 2011

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 9.9: Exceedance Plan Leachate - 30467-02-F3 – July 2011

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 11.1: Transport Assessment - 80191-CUR-XX-XX-T-TP-00001-P02 – 2 February 2022

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 11.2: Travel Plan - 80191-CUR-XX-XX-T-TP-00002-P02 – 2 February 2022

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 12.1: Air Quality Assessment Glossary

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 12.2: Air Quality Construction Phase Dust Assessment

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 12.3: Air Quality Traffic Data Used in the Assessment

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 12.4: Wind Rose

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 12.5: Air Quality Model Verification

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 14.1: Steps Involved in Assessing Climate Change

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 14.2: Steps Involved in Assessing GHG Emissions

Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 14.3: Results of Carbon Modelling

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT ADDENDUM
(AUGUST 2022)

Volume 1 NTS - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 1: Introduction - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 2: Approach - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 3: Site Description - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 4: Alternatives - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 5: The Proposed Development - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 7: Ecology - August 2022 – Supersedes March 2022 ES
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 8: Archaeology and Heritage - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 9: Ground Conditions - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 10: Drainage and Flood Risk - August 2022 – Supersedes March 2022 ES
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 11: Transport and Access - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 12: Air Quality - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 13: Noise and Vibration - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 14: Climate Change - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 15: Cumulative Effects - August 2022
Volume 2: Main Text - Chapter 16: Summary of Mitigation and Residual Effects - August 2022
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 0.1: Consultation Responses
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 6.6: Photomontages - August 2022
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 6.7: Landscape and Visual Response Letter - 3 August 2022
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.1a: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal - ER-5864-02.3 – 25 January 2022
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.2a: Ornithological Survey - ER-5864-01.1 – December 2021
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.5: Alstom

Ecology Chapter Part 1 - November 2015
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.6: Alstom
Phase 1 Survey Update - June 2014
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.7: Alstom
Aquatic Invertebrates - May 2014
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Barn Owl and Bat Activity - October 2010
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.9: GCN
Survey 2014 - June 2014
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.10: GCN
Survey Report 2016 - April 2016
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.11: Japanese
Knotweed Survey - February 2016
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.13: Breeding
Bird Survey
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.14: GCN
eDNA Survey
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 7.15: Reptile
Survey
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 10.2: Drainage
Impact Assessment - 5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-D-
0622-S2-P02 – June 2022
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 10.3: Drainage
Maintenance and Management Report - 5862-
JPG-XX-XX-RP-D-0623-S2-P01 – July 2022
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 11.3: Transport
Response Letter - 80191-CUR-XX-XX-T-TP-
00004-P01 – 18 July 2022
Volume 3: Appendices - Appendix 13.1: Noise and
Vibration Response Letter - 50-462-R1-4 – 19 July
2022

SUPPLEMENTARY SUBMISSION (OCTOBER
2022)

Ecology Construction Environmental Management
Plan - ER-5864-08.1
Remediation Strategy - 5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-G-
0605-S2-P04 – 17.10.2022.
Factual Report on Geo-environmental Ground
Investigation - 5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-G-0603-
S2-P02 – 30.09.2022
Geo-environmental Ground Investigation
Interpretative Report -5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-G-
0604-S2-P02 – 29.09.2022
Habitat Regulations Assessment No ER-5864-
03.8– 31.01.2022 – Revised 25.11.2022
Appendix 7.4b: BNG Assessment - ER-5864-04.4
– 16 March 2022
Landscape and Ecology Management Plan – ER-

5864-10 – 03.10.2022.

Appendix 7.16a: Bat Activity Survey - ER-5864-06.3 – 12.07.2022 – Revised 03.10.2022

Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy - 5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-G-0620-S2-P05 – January 2022 – Revised 12.10.2022

ES Addendum Letter - 30 September 2022

Reason - For the avoidance of doubt.

3. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the proposed site levels and finished floor levels as shown on the plans detailed below:

JPG - Proposed Levels – Scale 1:1250 – 5862-JPG-ZZ-ZZ-DR-C-1201 S4 P05 – Date 21.07.22 (Contained within Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy - 5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-G-0620-S2-P05 – January 2022 – Revised 12.10.2022)

Reason: to ensure that the development is carried out satisfactorily, in accordance with Policy GR1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

4. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the Construction Environmental Management Plan, detailed below throughout the construction phase:

Marshall Construction Group – Construction Environmental Management Plan – September 2022 – received 30.09.22.

Reason – to allow the Local Planning Authority to ensure that sufficient regard is given to minimising potential impacts on neighbours and the environment in accordance with Policies CS23, HE1, HE7, HE8 and HE9 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

5. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan detailed below including monitoring and management as set out:

Brooks Ecological – Landscape and Ecological Management Plan HBC Fields – Report Reference ER-5864-10 – date 03.10.22 – received 03.10.22.

Reason – in order to ensure appropriate landscape and ecological management in accordance with Policies CS(R)20 and HE1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

6. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the Ecology Construction Environmental Management Plan detailed below throughout the construction phase:

Brooks Ecological – Ecology Construction Environmental Management Plan – Report Reference ER-5864-08.1 – date 12.09.2022, revised 15.09.2022 – received 30.09.2022.

Reason: in the interests of ensuring appropriate protection for ecology, in accordance with Policies CS(R)20 and HE1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

7. The bat and bird box plan detailed below shall be implemented prior to the first occupation of the proposed development and be maintained thereafter.

Brooks Ecological – Bird and Bat Box Plan – Report Reference ER-5864-09.02 – date 12.09.2011 revised 03.10.2022 – received 03.10.2022.

Reason – in the interests of ensuring appropriate mitigation for ecology, in accordance with Policies CS(R)20 and HE1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

8. The lighting scheme detailed below shall be implemented prior to the first occupation of the proposed development and be maintained thereafter.

Lighting Project Solutions – New Industrial Development HBC Fields, Widnes – External Lighting Strategy – received 09.08.2022.

Reason: in the interests of ensuring appropriate protection for neighbours and ecology, in accordance with Policies CS(R)20, HE1 and HE7 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

9. No above ground works shall take place until a

scheme detailing precise finishes of hard landscaping has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be fully implemented prior to the first occupation of the proposed development.

Reason: to ensure that an appropriate hard landscaping scheme is implemented in accordance with Policy GR1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

10. Boundary treatments scheme detailed below shall be implemented prior to the first occupation of the proposed development and be maintained thereafter:

Building Management Services Ltd – Fencing Layout Plan – M3179-104 Rev C – date July 2022 – received 30.09.2022.

Reason: to ensure that an appropriate boundary treatments scheme is implemented and maintained thereafter in accordance with Policies GR1 and GR3 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

11. Notwithstanding the details on the submitted plans, no above ground works shall take place until a scheme detailing precise external facing materials has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed scheme.

Reason: to ensure that the development has a satisfactory appearance, in accordance with Policy GR1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

12. No above ground works shall take place until a scheme detailing precise external finishes including colour coating of the security gatehouse, sprinkler tanks, pump house, vehicle wash and external transformer has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. Each element of the development shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed scheme.

Reason – to ensure that the development has a satisfactory appearance, in accordance with Policy GR1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

13. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the approved Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy – JPG-5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-G-0620-S2-P05 – January 2022 – revised 12.10.2022 which includes the following mitigation measures and be maintained thereafter:

Finished floor levels shall be set no lower than 10.50 metres above Ordnance Datum (AOD) (Appendix I).

Compensatory flood storage shall be provided with a minimum volume of 300m³ (section 5.1 and Appendix K).

Reason: to reduce the risk of flooding to the proposed development and future occupants and to prevent flooding elsewhere by ensuring that compensatory storage of flood water is provided in accordance with Policies CS23 and HE9 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

14. No development shall be occupied until a verification report has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority confirming that the Sustainable Urban Drainage System has been constructed in accordance with the approved design drawing set out below and also in accordance with best practice:

Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy – JPG-5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-G-0620-S2-P05 – January 2022 – revised 12.10.2022.

Drainage Impact Assessment – JPG – Reference 5862=JPG-XX-XX-RP-D-0622-S2-P02 – date June 2022.

Drainage Maintenance and Management Plan – JPG – Reference 5862-JPG-XX-XX-RP-D-0623-S2-P01 – date July 2022.

For the avoidance of doubt, the verification report shall include the submission of as-built drawings

and specification sheets for materials used in the construction, plus a copy of Final Completion Certificate.

Following implementation of the Sustainable Urban Drainage System, it shall be maintained and managed in accordance with the agreed details thereafter.

Reason: to ensure that surface water is drained appropriately from the site, in accordance with Policies CS23 and HE9 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

15. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the tree protection measures set out in the following document throughout the construction period:

Brooks Ecological – Arboricultural Impact Assessment Plus Tree Survey – fields off Hale Bank Road, Widnes – Report Reference AR-5864-02.01 – January 2022 revised October 2022 – received 21.10.2022.

Reason: to ensure that the development is carried out with minimum loss of existing landscape features and, in particular, that trees to be retained on the site suffer minimum disturbance, in accordance with Policy HE5 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

16. No development shall take place other than site setup and earthworks until the following has been undertaken:

An updated remedial strategy upon completion of the revised ground gas risk assessment which has subsequently be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority.

The agreed remedial strategy shall be demonstrably and successfully completed in accordance with the details agreed above before the proposed use commences.

Reason: to ensure that any contamination is treated to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework, which states that as a

minimum, after carrying out the development and the commencement of its use, the land should not be capable of being determined as contaminated land under Part 11A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Also in accordance with Policies CS23 and HE8 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

17. Within 4 weeks of the completion of the implementation of the agreed strategy required by condition number 16, a Site Validation/Completion Report completed by a suitably qualified professional shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. This shall include adequacy of the remediation; certificates of the suitability of the imported cover materials from a suitably qualified independent person; the fate of any excavated material; and any necessary verification monitoring programme, including details of any installed post completion monitoring devices, together with measures to be undertaken should action limits be exceeded.

Reason: to ensure that any contamination is treated to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework which states that as a minimum, after carrying out the development and the commencement of its use, the land should not be capable of being determined as contaminated land under Part 11A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Also in accordance with Policies CS23 and HE8 of the Halton Delivery and Allocation Local Plan.

18. If, during development, contamination not previously identified is found to be present at the site, then no further development shall be carried out until a remediation strategy detailing how this contamination will be dealt with has been submitted to, and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. The remediation shall be implemented as approved.

Reason: to ensure that any contamination is treated to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework which states that as a minimum, after carrying out the development and the commencement of its use, the land should not be

capable of being determined as contaminated land under Part 11A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Also in accordance with Policies CS23 and HE8 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

19. The soft landscaping scheme detailed on the plans below within the area shown in red on Planning Condition Plan – 01 – M2999-P111 be implemented by the end of the first planting season following the occupation of the development and be maintained thereafter.

Brooks Ecological – Detailed Planting Plan – Drawing No: DR-5864-01.01 Rev A – date October 2022 – Received 03.10.2022.

Brooks Ecological – Detailed Planting Plan – Drawing No: DR-5864-01.02 Rev A – date October 2022 – Received 03.10.2022.

Brooks Ecological – Detailed Planting Plan – Drawing No: DR-5864.01.03 Rev A – date October 2022 – Received 03.10.2022.

Brooks Ecological – Landscape Masterplan – Drawing No: DR-5864.01.04 Rev A – date October 2022 – Received 03.10.2022.

Any planting, which within a period of 5 years of implementation dies, is removed, or becomes seriously damaged or diseased, shall be replaced during the next planting season with others of a similar size or species, unless the Council as Local Planning Authority gives written consent to a variation.

Should replacement planting be necessary, the Council shall be notified in writing not less than 7 days prior to the planting taking place. Notification shall include details of the problem with the implemented scheme and the specification and timing of the replacement planting.

Reason: to ensure that an appropriate landscaping scheme is implemented and maintained in accordance with Policies GR1, GR3 and HE5 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

20. The soft landscaping scheme detailed on the plans below within the area shown in green on Planning Condition Plan – 02 – M2999-P112, shall be implemented prior to first occupation of the proposed development and be maintained

thereafter.

Brooks Ecological – Detailed Planting Plan –
Drawing No: DR-5864-01.01 Rev A – Date October
2022 – Received 03.10.2022.

Brooks Ecological – Detailed Planting Plan –
Drawing No: DR-5864-01.02 Rev A – Date October
2022 – Received 03.10.2022.

Brooks Ecological – Detailed Planting Plan –
Drawing No: DR-5864.01.03 Rev A – Date October
2022 – Received 03.10.2022.

Brooks Ecological – Landscape Masterplan –
Drawing No: DR-5864.01.04 Rev A – Date October
2022 – Received 03.10.2022.

Any planting, which within a period of 5 years of implementation dies, is removed or becomes seriously damaged or diseased, shall be replaced during the next planning season with others of a similar size or species, unless the Council has Local Planning Authority gives written consent to a variation.

Should replacement planting be necessary, the Council shall be notified in writing not less than 7 days prior to the planting taking place. Notification shall include details of the problem with the implemented scheme and the specification and timing of the replacement planting.

Reason: to ensure that an appropriate landscaping scheme is implemented and maintained in accordance with Policies GR1, GR3 and HE5 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

21. The approved Framework Travel Plan detailed below shall be implemented in accordance with the timetable contained therein and shall continue to be implemented as long as any part of the development is occupied and in use.

Appendix 11.2: Travel Plan – 80191-CUR-XX-XX-T-TP-00002-P02 – 2 February 2022.

An annual report shall be submitted to the Council no later than one month following the anniversary of the first occupation of the development for a period of 5 years. The report shall include a review of the Travel Plan measures, monitoring data and updated action plan.

Reason: to maximise opportunities for travel by modes of transport other than the private car, and to ensure that the development is sustainable, in accordance with Policies CS(R)15 and C1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

22. The development shall not be occupied until 102 no. covered cycle parking spaces have been implemented in accordance with a scheme providing precise details, which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be maintained thereafter.

Reason: to ensure that the cycle parking provision is both functional and of a satisfactory appearance, in accordance with Policies CS(R)15, C1 C2 and GR1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

23. The proposed development shall not be brought into use until the areas indicated on the plans detailed below to be set aside for related parking and servicing have been surfaced, drained and permanently marked out or demarcated in accordance with the details and specifications shown.

Building Management Services – Site Layout Plan – M3179-100-1 Rev E – date March 2022 – received 30.09.2022.

Curtins – Proposed Access Arrangement – 80191-CUR-00-XX-DR-TP-75001-P08 – date 24.11.2021 – received 30.09.2022.

Curtins – Swept Path Analysis 16.5m Articulated HGV – 80191-CUR-00XX-DR-TP-05001-P09 – date 24.11.2021 – received 30.09.2022.

The parking and servicing areas shall be retained as such thereafter.

Reason: to ensure that adequate provision is made on the site for the traffic generated by the development, including allowance for safe circulation, manoeuvring, loading and unloading of vehicles as well as parking, and that hard surfaced areas have a satisfactory appearance, in accordance with Policies C1 and C2 of the Halton

Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

24. Highway improvement works comprising the new site access arrangement from Lovels Way as detailed on the plan below shall be implemented prior to the development being brought into use.

Building Management Services – Site Layout Plan – M3179-100-1 Rev E – date March 2022 – received 30.09.2022.

Curtins – Proposed Access Arrangement – 80191-CUR-00-XX-DR-TP-75001-P08 – date 24.11.21 – received 30.09.2022.

Reason: to ensure that sufficient measures are taken such that the highway network can accommodate the development and that the traffic generated does not result in unsatisfactory highway or transportation conditions. This is in accordance with Policies C1 and C2 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

25. The development shall not be occupied until lighting within Halebank Park to improve the overall security and attractiveness for both pedestrians and cyclists has been implemented in accordance with a detailed scheme, which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be maintained thereafter.

Reason: to encourage journeys to be made by sustainable modes of travel including walking, cycling and public transport in accordance with Policies CS(R)15 and C1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Plan.

26. The development shall not be occupied until proposed vegetation removal within Halebank Park to improve the security of the Greenspace/Greenway to create lines of site including onto Clapgate Crescent, has been implemented in accordance with a detailed scheme which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority.

Reason: to encourage journeys to be made by sustainable modes of travel including walking, cycling and public transport in accordance with

Policies CS(R)15 and C1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

27. The development shall not be occupied until a safe cyclist/pedestrian crossing point across the HGV exit from the proposed development has been implemented in accordance with a detailed scheme, which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be maintained thereafter.

The approved cyclist/pedestrian crossing point scheme shall be fully implemented prior to the first occupation of proposed development and be maintained thereafter.

Reason: to encourage journeys to be made by sustainable modes of travel including walking, cycling and public transport in accordance with Policies CS(R)15 and C1 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

28. The development shall not be occupied until Electric Vehicle Charging Points for the 24 no. spaces as shown on the site layout plan (Site Layout – M3179-100-1 Rev E) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be maintained thereafter.

Reason: to ensure that the development incorporates facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles to help reduce pollution in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy C2 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

29. Notwithstanding The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended), the development hereby approved as shown in red on Planning Condition Plan – 01 – M2999-P111 shall only be used for purposes that fall within The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended) as set out below:

Use Class B8 – Storage or Distribution (including ancillary offices) – up to 50,632 sqm.

Reason: in the interests of maintaining the amenities of residents in the locality and to ensure the proper functioning of the area, in accordance with Policies GR1 and GR2 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

30. Precise details of any outdoor storage or display of equipment, plant, goods or material within the site other than that shown in the approved plans shall be implemented in accordance with details, which have first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority.

Reason: in the interests of visual amenity, in accordance with Policies GR1 and GR2 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

31. Notwithstanding the provision of Schedule 2, Part 7, Classes H and J of The Town and Country (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended), or any Order revoking or re-enacting that Order, no further development shall take place within the area defined in green on Planning Condition Plan – 02 – M2999-P112 unless planning permission is sought from and granted by the Council as Local Planning Authority.

Reason: to ensure appropriate protection for Halebank Park as a designated Greenspace and Green Infrastructure in accordance with Policies CS(R)21 and HE4 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

32. The development shall not be occupied until noise operational management measures have been implemented in accordance with a detailed scheme, which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be carried out thereafter.

Reason: to ensure that the amenity of the locality is not unduly compromised in accordance with Policies CS23 and HE7 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

33. The proposed development shall not be occupied until a noise impact assessment detailing external plant to be installed by the end user and has been implemented following it having been submitted to

and approved in writing by the Council as Local Planning Authority.

For the avoidance of doubt, all external plant should be located on the northern side of the building below roof height, such that it is afforded attenuation from the building and the distance from local residents.

Reason: to ensure that the amenity of the locality is not unduly compromised in accordance with Policies CS23 and HE7 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

34. The proposed development shall be implemented in accordance with the measures set out in the BREEAM New Construction 2018 Pre-Assessment Report – 11 February 2022, in order to have regard for the predicted effects of climate change and deliver a BREEAM ‘Very Good’ standard or above.

Reason: to ensure that the proposed development is sustainable and is designed to have regard for the predicted effects of climate change in accordance with Policy CS(R) of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.

35. No development shall commence until all those with an interest in the land comprising the development hereby permitted have entered into an agreement with the local planning authority under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The agreement must contain obligations in relation to:

- i. The provision of off-site signage;
- ii. Cycle and bus route improvements;
- iii. Mitigation/compensation for the loss of breeding bird habitat; and
- iv. Pond/reedbed creation (including appropriate biodiversity management plans).

Reason: to ensure improved access to the site by sustainable modes and to ensure appropriate ecological mitigation and management in accordance with Policies CS(R)15, CS(R)20, CS(R)21, C1, C2, GR1, GR2, HE1 and HE4 of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan and NPPF.

- c) that if the S111 Agreement was not executed within a reasonable period of time, that authority be delegated to the Operational Director – Policy, Planning and Transportation, in consultation with the Chair or Vice Chair of the Committee to refuse the application.

Meeting ended at 6.55 p.m.

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REGULATORY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on Wednesday, 11 January 2023 in the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Abbott (Vice-Chair), Fry, Loftus, A. McInerney, G. Stockton and Teeling

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Wallace and Wainwright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: K. Hesketh and L. Wilson-Lagan

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

REG5 MINUTES

Action

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2022 having been circulated were signed as a correct record.

REG6 TAXI LICENSING MATTER

The Committee considered a report which outlined a request from the Taxi Trade to increase the current Hackney Carriage Table of Fares due to the impact of the costs of living crisis. The Trade had been consulted on 1) whether there should be a fare increase and 2) the method of the increase. The Committee were referred to the responses and counterproposals received which were appended to the Committee report.

Most of the trade were in favour of an increase and the proposal set out at page 7 of the report. The Committee were advised of slight typographical errors set out in the proposed new table of fares on page 7 and were handed a new table setting out the correct proposal.

The proposal was for a 30p increase to the start rate as well as a 10% reduction on the yardage figures (except for the first 440 yards used to calculate the start rate) on all

tariffs. The yardage figure is reduced on Tariff 1 from 220 to 200 yards, on Tariff 2 from 165 to 150 yards and on Tariff 3 from 132 to 120 yards. The yardage unit price of 0.20p was to be maintained. It was also proposed that the waiting time be increased by £3.00 per hour. The table below sets out the proposed new rates.

T1	£3.30 for the first 440 yards (402 metres) then £0.20 for each 200 yards (182.9 metres) or part thereof
T2	£4.10 for the first 440 yards (402 metres) then £0.20 for each 150 yards (137.2 metres) or part thereof
T3	£4.90 for the first 440 yards (402 metres) then £0.20 for each 120 yards (109.7) or part thereof
Waiting Time	
The hirer will be charged £0.20 for the following periods or uncompleted part thereof Tariff 1 – 48 seconds Tariff 2 – 34 seconds Tariff 3 – 27 seconds	

The Committee were advised that the proposal represented a 10% monetary increase in fares.

The Committee also took into account information from two drivers who were for and against the proposal. This information was handed to the Committee on the night and read out by Officers.

In analysing the proposal, the Committee considered the increase in the cost of living as shown by the Consumer Prices Index which rose by 11.1% in the 12 months up to October 2022 and in overheads for drivers and proprietors especially the cost of fuel, noting that most of the Hackney Carriages in Halton were diesel. It also noted that the UK national minimum wage, DWP benefits and the basic and new state pensions were set to rise from April 2023 by around 10%.

The Committee also noted that the proposed table of fares was consistent with that charged by neighbouring authorities in the City Region and Cllr Stockton stated that the proposed new fares were still much lower than those charged by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

The Committee also considered the proposed increase in light of the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty as statistics showed that the elderly and people with disabilities are more reliant on public transport, particularly the bus and taxis, than younger adults and non-disabled

adults. It noted that age and disabilities groups would be consulted. However, given that a 10% fare increase was proposed and the basic and state pension together with Disability Living Allowance was set to rise by 10% by April 2023, it accepted that any negative impact would be short lived and there would be a negligible impact from April 2023.

Whilst noting the objections from some members of the trade, the Committee also noted that the Table of Fares was the maximum amount that drivers/ proprietors were allowed to charged and that a lower fare could be agreed with consumers if drivers so wished. It was considered that this dealt with the concerns raised by those objecting to the proposal.

The Committee accepted the Officer's conclusions that the proposal was in line with inflation and that it was a reasonable and proportionate increase which struck the right balance between the needs of the fare-paying public, the requirements for affordable transport and also the needs of the taxi drivers to make a fair living.

It therefore recommended that the proposed new table of fare be accepted by the Executive Board and that Officers commence the public notification and consultation procedure as required by the statutory procedure.

During the debate, Cllr Loftus explained that there were no direct routes for taxis to travel around the north end of Runcorn. For example, going from Asda to Palace Fields requires them to go through numerous housing estates. This is more time consuming and expensive for members of the public. She proposed the busways be opened to taxis as a solution and it was agreed that the matter be referred to Transportation for further comment and for her request to be noted in these minutes.

RESOLVED: The Committee requested that the Executive Board:-

1. agree the proposed fare increase; and
2. authorise officers to commence the public notification and consultation as required by the statutory procedure.

Operational
Director, Legal
and Democratic
Services

REG7 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) whether members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

REG8 CREAMFIELDS EVENT 2022

The Committee considered a report summarising the Creamfields Event 2022 from the responsible authorities.

The Committee accepted the report. However, requested that representatives from the Police attend the next Committee meeting to provide some further information.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the report be noted.

Operational
Director, Legal
and Democratic
Services

Meeting ended at 7.10 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Appointments Committee held on Tuesday, 13 December 2022 at the Boardroom - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors Wharton (Chair), J. Bradshaw, Gilligan, J. Lowe, McDermott, Ratcliffe and Thompson

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: S. Young and S. Wallace-Bonner

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

APC12 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 7 October and 10 October 2022, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and agreed as a correct record.

APC13 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) whether members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in

Action

disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

APC14 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DELIVERY UNIT

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive, which set out proposals for the rearrangement of some key corporate functions and the establishment of a Chief Executive's Delivery Unit in the new Chief Executive's Directorate of the Council. This followed the implementation of the new senior management structure on 1 December 2022 and the commencement of the Council's Transformation Programme.

RESOLVED: That the Committee

Chief Executive

- 1) note the report;
- 2) considered and agreed the proposed structural changes and associated reporting lines;
- 3) determined the salary for the proposed Corporate Director post; and
- 4) confirmed that the terms and conditions of employment applicable to the Corporate Director post grade will be those outlined in the National Salary Framework and Conditions of Service Handbook for Chief Officers.

APC15 RECONFIGURATION OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director Adults, which set out proposals for the reconfiguration of the management structure in the new Adult Services Directorate.

RESOLVED: That the Committee

- 1) note the report;
- 2) considered and agreed the proposed Management Structure and associated reporting lines; and
- 3) considered and determined the appropriate recruitment route for proposed Operational Director posts.

Executive Director
of Adult Services

Meeting ended at 1.00 p.m.

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APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Appointments Committee held on Thursday, 5 January 2023 at the Boardroom - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors Wharton (Chair), J. Bradshaw, McDermott, Ratcliffe, Thompson and T. McInerney

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: S. Young, R. Rout and M. Vasic

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

Action

APC16 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) whether members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption

outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

APC17 STAFFING MATTER

The Committee considered information submitted in respect of a staffing matter.

RESOLVED: That an option for a course of action, as outlined in the report, be approved.

Chief Executive

Meeting ended at 1.05 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Appointments Committee held on Wednesday, 8 February 2023 at the Boardroom - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors Wharton (Chair), J. Bradshaw, McDermott, Nolan, Ratcliffe and Thompson

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: H. Hamlett and S. Young

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

Action

APC18 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2022 and 5 January 2023, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and agreed as a correct record.

APC19 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) whether members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were

applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

APC20 SELECTION INTERVIEW FOR THE POST OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR

Following the establishment of a new Senior Management Structure and in accordance with the Council's Staffing Protocol, the Committee considered a candidate for the post of Corporate Director.

RESOLVED: That Richard Rout be appointed to the post of Corporate Director, with effect from 1 March 2023.

Meeting ended at 12.40 p.m.

REGULATORY SUB COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Sub Committee on Monday, 3 October 2022 at Willow Room - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors Wallace (Chair), Abbott and Wainwright

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: K. Hesketh and E. Wilson-Lagan

Also in attendance: None

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

Action

REGS1 APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE - ABI MINI MART, HALTON BROOK, RUNCORN

The Committee met to consider an application which had been made under Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003 to vary the above premises licence. The hearing is held in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 and Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

1. Preamble

A meeting of the Regulatory Sub-Committee (acting as Licensing Committee under the Licensing Act 2003) of Halton Borough Council is held at Municipal Building, Widnes on Monday 3 October 2010 commencing at 10:00 am.

The meeting was held to hear an application made under section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003 for a variation of a premises licence for the ABI Mini Mart in Halton Brook, Runcorn. The application had been amended prior to the hearing following discussions with the Police. It is the amended application that is to be determined as there remained one relevant representation from local residents, Mr and Mrs Wend, which had not been withdrawn.

In attendance were:-

1. Members of the Regulatory Sub-Committee comprising Cllr Wallace, Cllr Abbott and Cllr

Wainwright (the sub-committee)

2. Mr Aravendan Kanthanathan (the applicant)
3. Mr Ian Rushton (the applicant's Licensing Agent and representative)
4. Kim Hesketh (Licensing Manager)
5. Elizabeth Wilson-Lagan (Legal Adviser)

Mr and Mrs Wend, who had made relevant representations did not attend. The sub-committee were satisfied that Mr and Mrs Wend had been properly notified of the hearing and noted that they had not confirmed their attendance pursuant to Regulation 8 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005. The notification is sent both by email and hand delivered to their address. They were also contacted on 29 September 2022 to check whether they would be attending the hearing. No response had been received. In light of this, the sub-committee determined to hear the matter in their absence.

After the Chair of the sub-committee, Cllr Wallace, had introduced the parties, the Legal Adviser, Elizabeth Wilson-Lagan, outlined the procedure to be followed. Licensing Manager, Kim Hesketh, then outlined the nature of the application and the relevant representations that had been made. The sub-committee was advised that two relevant representations had been made in respect of the original application but one of the representations had been withdrawn following the amended application and after preparation of the agenda but prior to the hearing. The sub-committee is not to have regard to the second representation.

2. Details of existing premises licence

The current licensable activities are as follows:-

Supply of Alcohol	Monday to Sunday	07:00	to
		23:00	
Hours open to public	Monday to Sunday	06:00	to
		23:00	

3. Details of the application (as amended before the hearing)

The application as amended following agreement with the Police is for a variation of the existing premises licence as follows:-

Provision of late night refreshment	Monday to Sunday
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23:00 to 01:00	
Supply of Alcohol (off premises)	Monday to Sunday
06:00 to 01:00	
Hours open to the public	Monday to Sunday
06:00 to 01:00	
Delivery service only	Monday to Sunday
01:00 to 02:00	

Delivery conditions:-

Alcohol may not be sold from the delivery vehicle.
The delivery driver may only carry alcohol that had been pre-ordered.

Conditions on CCTV

The premises will retain CCTV footage in an unedited format for a minimum of 28 days.

CCTV shall be provided to the Police and Local Authority upon reasonable request.

4. The hearing

Mr Rushton presented the case on behalf of the applicant. He explained that the applicant had purchased the premises in a poor condition and had refurbished it. The premises was a local convenience store which sold a range of goods and it was considered an asset. Alcohol was only part of the business. The applicant was an extremely experienced retailer with over 25 years of experience and he owned various licensed premises. In respect of the ABI Mini Mart, he was the designated premises supervisor and he was responsible for the running of the business on a daily basis. The shop was run well and in accordance with the licensing objectives. This was evidenced by the fact that there had been no reviews of the premises licence, complaints or problems. The applicant was keen to develop the business further and intended on extending its alcohol licence until 2 am, with the last hour being a delivery service. As for the provision of late night refreshment, it was the applicant's intention to install a coffee machine.

Mr Rushton then took the sub-committee through Appendix B of the agenda and the conditions on CCTV, staff training and the additional conditions agreed with the Police in support of the application and how the applicant intended to achieve the licensing objectives.

He went on to state that the fact that there had been no relevant representations from the responsible authorities spoke volumes and reminded the sub-committee that the

Police were their main advisers on the crime and disorder licensing objective. He explained that he had emailed the 2 objectors to explain the application and to offer them reassurance. One of the objections had been removed after this contact, but unfortunately he is unable to speak to Mr and Mrs Wend prior to the hearing. In terms of Mr and Mrs Wend's objections, he advised that there would be cameras on the outside of the premises as well as indoors and it would be given to police if there were any issues. As for the sale of alcohol, he advised that it is an offence and a condition of the licence that alcohol could not be sold to those that were drunk or underage. The representations made by Mr and Mrs Wend were based on speculation and no evidence had been provided in support of their objections which was key and meant that a refusal could not be maintained on this basis. If there were any issues, the review process acts as a safety net and action could be taken. He concluded by saying that the application is strong and the conditions comprehensive.

Questions were posed by the sub-committee on the delivery service and it is confirmed that this would be sub-contracted out to a company like Uber Eats/ Deliveroo. They were provided with a copy of the licence and there would be a contract in place to ensure compliance with the conditions. The delivery drivers would be provided by these professional companies and if there were any concerns regarding the age of the buyer, the sale would be refused and the alcohol brought back to the shop. Payment would be made electronically. Mr Rushton also referred the sub-committee to the additional conditions on delivery and CCTV. The applicant also confirmed that the last order for delivery would be 30 minutes before closing time. Mr Rushton emphasised that the Applicant is a responsible licence holder and did not want any problems.

The Members confirmed that they had read the relevant representations from Mr and Mrs Wend and did not require them to be read out at the hearing.

Mr Rushton summed up the applicant and the case in support. The sub-committee then retired to consider the matter. All parties except the sub-committee Members and the legal adviser left the room.

5. The determination

The sub-committee resolved to grant the application (as amended) subject to the hours set out below, the additional conditions agreed with the Police as detailed in section 3 above and the conditions in the operating schedule.

Provision of late night refreshment 23:00 to 01:00	Monday to Sunday
Supply of Alcohol (off premises) 06:00 to 01:00	Monday to Sunday
Hours open to the public 06:00 to 01:00	Monday to Sunday
Delivery service only 01:00 to 02:00	Monday to Sunday

6. Specific reasons for the determination

In making its determination, the sub-committee had regard to the licensing objectives, the statutory guidance and Halton Council's own Statement of Licensing Policy.

The sub-committee found that:-

1. The ABI Mini Mart was an established convenience store which had held a licence to sell alcohol (off premises) since 9 December 2015. The sale of alcohol was only part of the business. Since that time, there had been no reviews of the licence or complaints received or problems that the sub-committee is aware of.
2. The applicant was an experienced retailer with over 25 years of experience and he can therefore be trusted to continue to run the premises in a responsible manner and in promotion of the licensing objectives.
3. The Council's own statement of policy stated that in respect of shops, stores and supermarkets that "the norm will be for such premises to be free to provide sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises at any times when the retail outlet was open for shopping unless there were very good reasons for restricting those hours.
4. As set out in the statutory guidance, the sub-committee was to look to the Police as the main source of advice on crime and disorder. Significantly, the Police had removed their objections having reached an agreement on the amended hours of opening, the option of a delivery service and the additional conditions on how the delivery service was to operate and on CCTV. Equally, no representations had been received from the Environmental Health Department. As neither the Police nor the Environmental Health Department object to the

amend application, the inference drawn from this is that it is their expert professional position that the proposal was not considered likely to undermine the licensing objectives. Significant weight had to be attached to that position as each were considered the lead in their respective fields.

5. In respect of Mr and Mrs Wend's concerns regarding the late night/early hour distribution with people driving down the street and antisocial behaviour disturbing the peace, the statutory guidance made it clear that in considering public nuisance, the actions of individuals beyond the immediate area surrounding the premises were matter for the personal responsibility of individuals under the law. However, the Applicant had agreed to additional conditions on the delivery service and CCTV and it was already a condition of the licence that deliveries were to be arranged at appropriate times so as not to cause any disturbance to local residents. These conditions seek to monitor and combat issues of nuisance and crime and disorder.
6. Whilst the sub-committee noted the concerns of Mr and Mrs Wend, their concerns were based largely on speculation. The sub-committee was mindful of the decision of Daniel Thwaites Plc v Wirral Borough Council and others which made it clear that the sub-committee should look for real evidence and only impose regulation where the circumstances required it. Mr and Mrs Wend had not provided any evidence in support of their representations.
7. On balance, it therefore found that the application did not undermine the licensing objectives.

The sub-committee recommended that the premises and residents engage in dialogue should there be any concerns in future. In the event that the proposed operation of the premises did lead to issues, residents were strongly advised to report matters to the Police and Environmental Health, where appropriate.

There were powers to deal with premises if a licence lead to the licensing objectives being undermined. Not least was the power for residents or responsible authorities to bring review proceedings where steps could be taken to restrict the licence, impose further conditions or, in extreme circumstances, revoke the licence when evidence showed issues result from licensable activity. Action could also be taken separately by Environmental Health in relation to

statutory noise nuisance, if reported. The sub-committee hoped that this would bring some reassurance to the residents.

7. Time that the determination shall take effect

Forthwith.

Meeting ended at 11.10 a.m.

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TAXI LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Taxi Licensing Sub Committee on Monday, 23 January 2023 in the Boardroom - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors G. Stockton and Dourley

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Wallace

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: K. Hesketh and L. Wilson-Lagan

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

	<i>Action</i>
TLC7	MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING
	The minutes of the meeting held on the 22 August 2022 having been circulated will be signed as a correct record.
TLC8	SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
	The Board considered:
	1) whether members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
	2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public

interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

TLC9 TAXI LICENSING MATTER

Case 767

RESOLVED: That the Single Status Drivers Licence can be granted with a written warning that would remain on file.

Meeting ended at 11.57 a.m.