

Extract of Executive Board Minutes relevant to the Environment & Regeneration Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 16 JANUARY 2025

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| EXB77 | WASTE MANAGEMENT UPDATE |
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The Board considered a report of the Executive Director Environment and Regeneration, that provided an update on the progress in developing Plans and Strategies in relation to the collection and recycling of Halton's waste.

At a previous meeting of the Board held on 16 March 2023, Members approved the principles set out in a LCR Zero Waste 2040 Strategic Framework to reduce waste related carbon emissions (Minute EXB94 refers). A Zero Waste Strategy had now been developed for the LCR and a copy was attached at Appendix 1. The Board was requested to endorse the draft strategy document and were advised that a final branded version would be produced.

Members were also advised that from 1 April 2026, all Councils across England would be legally required to offer a food waste collection service to all households in their area. The service must be provided on a weekly basis, be separate and preferably treated by anaerobic digestion. Attached to the report attached as Appendix 2 was a report produced by a specialist waste management consultancy who were appointed by the LCR Waste Partnership to develop a Strategy to meet the requirements for a food waste collection.

The report also sought approval to support the principals of, in the longer term, the purchase of green gas powered vehicles to collect the food waste. Liverpool City Region Waste Partnership would explore this approach further. In June 2024 DEFRA allocated capital monies to Council's to fund the vehicle and caddy purchasing requirement for food waste collection. Halton was allocated £1.019m. Procurement was now at an advanced stage and approval was sought to purchase the vehicles and caddies.

The Board noted that in January 2024, DEFRA announced that revenue resource transitional funding would be provided to Waste Collection Authorities from the 2024/25 financial year to implement the weekly food waste collection. Further allocations would be provided in 2026. The allocations to Halton were not known at this stage.

A further report would be brought to the Board on the proposals for the processing/treatment of collected food waste.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) endorse the Zero Waste Strategy for the Liverpool City Region (attached as Appendix 1);
- 2) give delegated authority to the Executive Director – Environment and Regeneration, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Environment and Urban Renewal, to agree the final branded version of the Zero Waste Strategy for the Liverpool City Region;
- 3) support a proposal to transition to a circular food waste system for the Liverpool City Region by:
 - i. Supporting the principles of local circularity and green powered vehicles over the longer term
 - ii. acknowledging the high level business case to support such an approach
 - iii. endorsing the further exploration of this approach by the Liverpool City Region Waste Partnership; and
- 4) approve the capital spend associated with the procurement of food waste receptacles and collection vehicles using monies allocated to the Council by DEFRA for that purpose.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2025

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| EXB91 | HALTON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LDS) |
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In December 2024, the Deputy Prime Minister wrote to all Local Planning Authorities requesting an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) be sent to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) by 6 March 2025. The LDS informs work which was required to maintain a Local Plan, in line with National Policy.

The Board considered a request to delegate powers to the Director for Planning and Transport, in consultation with Portfolio Holders for Environment and Urban Renewal and Climate Change, to make editorial changes to the Local Development Scheme work plan prior to submission to the MHCLG.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) note the report;
- 2) approve the schedule of work within the LDS; and
- 3) give delegated powers to the Director of Planning and Transport, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Urban Renewal, for the final approval before submission on the 6 March 2025.

EXB95

PART 2 ITEM: COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER FOR LAND AT SCI-TECH DARESURY – KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment and Regeneration, which sought approval to exercise the Council's powers of compulsory purchase to enable the delivery of the extension to the Sci-Tech Daresbury campus and to enable the development of delivery land and interests to provide the subject site with vacant possession.

Reason(s) for Decision

A decision is required to enable the Council to agree to make use of its powers of compulsory purchase to acquire the land necessary to enable the delivery of the Sci-Tech Daresbury masterplan.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

The compulsory purchase of land is considered the best course of action to ensure that the land is available for the delivery of the scheme.

Implementation Date

Quarter 2 of 25/26

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted;
- 2) Council updates the Capital Programme to reflect the costs of the Scheme;
- 3) the Director – Legal and Democratic Services is authorised to make the Halton Borough Council (Sci-Tech Daresbury) Compulsory Purchase Order 2025 ("Order) pursuant to section 226 (1) (a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and all other enabling powers, for the purposes of site assembly necessary to deliver the Scheme, and that the recommendations set out in paragraphs 2.3.2 – 2.3.10 of the report be approved;
- 4) the Executive Director, Environment and Regeneration, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to: continue, in partnership with the Sci-Tech Daresbury Joint Venture, to negotiate with third parties alongside the progression of the CPO and, agree the terms of any acquisition, relocation or accommodation works required or the amount of any compensation payable with the JV as a result of the Order, including compensation for disturbance and upon possession of any land within the Order, to take the necessary steps to clear, secure or ensure such land as is necessary; and
- 5) the Director – Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Director – Economy, Enterprise and Property, is authorised to:

- enter into other agreements with interested parties including agreements for the withdrawal of blight notices and/or the withdrawal of objections to the CPO including where appropriate seeking the exclusion of land or rights from the CPO, making provision for the payment of compensation and/or for relocation.
- Agree minor modifications to the Order or the Order Map to secure confirmation of the Order.

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| EXB96 | PART 2 ITEM: FOUNDRY LANE RESIDENTIAL |
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The Board considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment and Regeneration, which provided an update on the Foundry Lane Residential scheme and sought approval:

- For the acquisition of the land required for Phase 2; and
- To accept the additional funding from Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) and enter into a new/addendum Grant Funding Agreement (GFA) to support the acquisition and development.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) authority be given to the Director Economy Enterprise and Property, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to conclude the legal and funding arrangements for the acquisition of the Phase 2 required land;
- 2) authority be given to the Director Economy Enterprise and Property, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to enter a new Grant Funding Agreement with LCRCA; and
- 3) the inclusion of the aforementioned items in the Capital Programme be approved.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2025

N.B. Councillors Thompson and Wharton declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the following item of business as they are a Non-Executive Director of Mersey Gateway Crossings Board and left the meeting for the duration of the item. Councillor Nelson declared a Disclosable Other Interest as a member of the Environmental Trust Board.

COUNCILLOR HARRIS IN THE CHAIR

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| EXB106 | MERSEY GATEWAY |
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The Board considered a report of the Director, Legal and Democratic Services, which recommended that the Council enter into a new provision of services contract

with Mersey Gateway Environmental Trust. The Trust was set up as the long-term vehicle for the Environment Mitigation Plan to deliver lasting benefits associated with the Project and related environmental initiatives. On 19 November 2015, Mersey Gateway Crossings Board Ltd appointed the Trust to carry out the responsibility for the environmental services.

The Trust, the Board and the Council were now proposed to enter the second phase of the Environmental Services Contract to maintain the environmental monitoring and environmental improvement of the Mersey estuary through the implementation of the Trust's charitable objectives that were agreed in the Project Agreement. The report highlighted the reflected changes in the proposed agreement for the following Scheme Titles:

- Business Operation;
- Environmental Monitoring;
- Wigg Island; and
- Saltmarsh

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) give authority for the Council to enter into a new contract for the provision of services by Mersey Gateway Environment Trust; and
- 1) authorises the Director, Legal and Democratic Services to take all necessary steps to bring the contract into effect by 1 April 2025.

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| EXB107 | HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION SPD AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADAPTATION SPD |
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The Board considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment and Regeneration, which sought approval to adopt the following Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs):

- Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) SPD; and
- Climate Change and Adaptation SPD

Once agreed, the SPDs would be sent to the Secretary of State as part of the adoption process, made publicly available and used as a material consideration in planning decisions in addition to the Local Plan.

RESOLVED: That the adoption of the Supplementary Planning Documents is approved.

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| EXB108 | ADDITIONAL HIGHWAY GRANT ALLOCATIONS |
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The Board considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment and Regeneration, that sought approval to accept capital funding from the Liverpool City

Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) in compliance with Council Standing Orders. The Council had received from the LCRCA a grant of £1,233,766 for the Runcorn Busway and expected funding of £995,895.90 for Local Highways Maintenance Funding Allocations. The LCRCA had requested formal grant acceptance for the highway funding in advance of receipt to ensure funding expenditure could start as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the grants for Runcorn Busway and the Local Highway Maintenance Funding 2025/26 are formally accepted;
- 2) delegated powers are provided to the Director Planning and Transport, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Environment and Urban Renewal, to deal with the Grant Funding Agreement(s) described in the report; and
- 3) delegated powers are provided to the Director Planning and Transport, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Environment and Urban Renewal, to deal with any matters relating to procurement and the operation and delivery of these agreements.

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| EXB109 | ROADSIDE MEMORIALS |
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The Board considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment and Regeneration, that sought approval to formally adopt a new Roadside Memorial Policy. It was noted that several local authorities had established policies and protocol relating to the placement and removal of roadside floral tributes and other memorials placed at the scene of fatal road crashes, and other fatalities adjacent to the highway.

The purpose of the policy would be to provide a formal framework which would enable the management of roadside memorials in a way which best served the community. A copy of the policy was attached at Appendix A to the report.

RESOLVED: That the Board adopt the policy contained in Appendix A.

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| EXB113 | PART 2 ITEM: ASTMOOR MASTERPLAN UPDATE |
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The Board considered a report which provided an update on progress in delivering the Astmoor Masterplan.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) authority is delegated to the Director for Economy, Enterprise and Property, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Urban Renewal, to continue the negotiations to enable the disposal of the land identified in the report; and

- 2) Council amends the Capital Programme to include the Astmoor Masterplan capital receipt as set out in paragraph 3.13.

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| EXB114 | PART 2 ITEM: RUNCORN WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT |
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The Board considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment and Regeneration, which sought approval to progress delivery of the Runcorn Waterfront development. Delivery being enabled through entering into a Development Agreement with Halton Housing for the disposal of Council Land to unlock this regeneration and housing renewal project within Runcorn Town Centre.

The Board discussed the recent developments which were ongoing in Runcorn Town Centre and it was agreed that a report would be brought to the next meeting together with all the current and future developments in the area.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) note the progress being made to realise the Runcorn Waterfront development;
- 2) approves delegated authority to Director of Economy, Enterprise and Property in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Urban Renewal, to agree final details of the terms of the Development Agreement with Halton Housing for disposal of Council Land to enable delivery of the Runcorn Waterfront development; and
- 3) authorises the Director of Economy, Enterprise and Property to arrange for all required documentation for the transactions to be completed to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services.