



## **CABINET - TUESDAY 15 JULY 2025**

### **ORDER PAPER**

<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>DETAILS</u></b>
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#### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

#### **1. MINUTES (Pages 3-6)**

##### **Proposed motion**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2025 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.

#### **2. URGENT ITEMS**

None.

#### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the Cabinet are asked to declare any interests in the business to be discussed.

#### **4. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE (Pages 7-10 and supplementary report pages 1-14)**

##### **Proposed motion**

- a) That the update on the Spending Review be noted;
- b) That the update on the Fair Funding consultation be noted, and approval be given for the Director of Corporate Resources, following consultation with the Lead Member for Resources, to submit a response to the consultation;
- c) That the ongoing uncertainty be noted around the impact that recommendations a and b above will have on the Council's position and that Leicestershire's Members of Parliament be engaged to lobby on the Council's behalf;
- d) That the commencement of a procurement process to commission a Council-wide savings review be approved, with a report being brought back to the Cabinet prior to any award being made.

#### **5. ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2024/25 (Pages 11-18)**

Proposed motion

That the report be noted.

**6. FUTURE OF BEAUMANOR HALL AND PARK** (Pages 19-22 and supplementary report pages 1-8)

Proposed motion

- a) That the historic, current and future financial performance of Beaumanor Hall and Park be noted;
- b) That the comments from the Scrutiny Commission be noted;
- c) That the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to commence an engagement process with stakeholders to establish options to improve the future financial performance of the site.

**7. LATEST POSITION AND PROPOSED RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON FURTHER MAIN MODIFICATIONS TO THE CHARNWOOD LOCAL PLAN 2021-2037** (Pages 23-34)

Proposed motion

- a) That the latest position in respect of the Local Plan, set out in paragraphs 27-30 of the report, be noted;
- b) That the proposed approach to the County Council's response to the further Main Modifications consultation set out in paragraphs 31-34 be noted;
- c) That the position be noted, including the associated risks and concerns, with respect to the preparation and implementation of the proposed Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and that the further work and next steps set out in paragraphs 35-40 be approved;
- d) That the continued implications for the Local Highway Authority in respect of the planning process and the continued position of the Local Highway Authority in its approach to planning consultations set out in paragraphs 43-45 be noted;
- e) That in line with previous recommendations and delegations, the Chief Executive, the Director of Environment and Transport and the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the appropriate Cabinet Lead Members, be authorised to:
  - i) Participate appropriately in the development and implementation of a CIL charging schedule in line with national guidance and to seek to influence the adoption of a CIL as soon as possible, recognising the potential for work to be undertaken at risk ahead of possible further Local Plan examination processes;

- ii) Respond to formal and informal consultations on the development of CIL with reference to minimising risk for the County Council in its statutory roles as required;
- iii) Seek to mitigate the impacts arising from the potential further delays to the adoption of the Local Plan as far as reasonably possible.

**8. ADDITIONAL HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT FUNDING AWARDS 2025/26**  
(Pages 35-60)

Proposed motion

- a) That the following proposed changes to the 2025/26 Highways and Transportation Capital Programme be approved:
  - i) Reallocation of funding from the advanced design programme to the North and East Melton Mowbray Distributor Road (NEMMDR), as set out in paragraphs 23-31 of the report;
  - ii) Creation of a Market Harborough Programme, in line with the approach set out in paragraphs 10 and 32-35 of the report, making use of the Section 106 monetary contributions collected against the Market Harborough Transport Strategy and Consolidated Active Travel Funding;
  - iii) Proposed delay to delivery of the Parade, Oadby Cycle Optimised Protected Signals (CYCLOPS) scheme, to allow for additional work, including redesign, following public consultation and engagement with Active Travel England (ATE) noting the risks that are associated with this approach, as set out in paragraphs 11 and 36-40 of the report;
- b) That the additional funding awarded to the Local Highway Authority (LHA) be noted, including the Local Transport Grant (LTG), the Active Travel Fund 5 (ATF5) and Consolidated Active Travel Fund (CATF), and the Department for Transport's additional maintenance grant;
- c) That the associated programmes as detailed in paragraphs 41-61 of the report be approved;
- d) That the Director of Environment and Transport be authorised:
  - i) To undertake the necessary work and secure the necessary resources to progress the development and delivery of programmes, as set out in paragraphs 32-61 of the report, in line with the specific funding grant conditions;
  - ii) Following consultation with the Director of Corporate Resources, the Cabinet Lead Member for Highways, Transport and Waste, and the Cabinet Lead Member for Resources, to prepare and submit bids, as appropriate, to secure external funding for the delivery of schemes that are identified in the programmes;
  - iii) Following consultation with the Director of Corporate Resources, the Director of Law and Governance and the Cabinet Lead Member for

Resources, to enter such contracts as are necessary to progress schemes in the approved programmes.

**9. LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO FLOODING** (Pages 61-82)

- *Comments from Mr. A. Innes CC have been received, and are attached to this Order Paper, marked '9'.*

Proposed motion

- a) That the key roles of the County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) and the Local Highway Authority (LHA) with respect to flooding be noted;
- b) That the extent and impacts of flooding events in Leicestershire over the last two years be noted;
- c) That the proposed priorities for further funding towards flood related activities, for consideration and prioritisation as part of the 2026-30 Medium Term Financial Strategy, be approved;
- d) That the Director of Environment and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member and the Director of Corporate Resources, be authorised to maximise opportunities to bid for funding from external sources and funding providers.

**10. PROPOSAL TO REPRIORITISE NET ZERO ACTION PLANS** (Pages 83-90)

- *Comments from Mrs. D. Taylor CC have been received, and are attached to this Order Paper, marked '10'.*

Proposed motion

That the Cabinet considers, if it wishes, to:

- a) Approve the reallocation of £2m from the earmarked reserve for carbon reduction work to flooding mitigation initiatives and to adapting services towards mitigating the impacts of severe weather events;
- b) Support a change of focus in the activities delivered under the Net Zero Action Plan from carbon reduction to:
  - i. Climate adaptation and responding to severe weather events
  - ii. Projects that deliver financial savings
  - iii. Projects that deliver additional social, economic or environmental benefits, in support of the Council's Strategic outcomes.

**11. HOME CARE FOR LEICESTERSHIRE PROCUREMENT** (Pages 91-112)

- *Comments from Mr. A. Innes CC have been received and are attached to this Order Paper, marked '11'.*

Proposed motion

- a) That the report be deferred to allow for further discussions to take place on the procurement process;
- b) That, following consultation with the Lead Member for Adults and Communities and the Leader of the Council, the Director of Adults and Communities be given delegated authority to approve the process.

**12. TRANSITIONING TO A BANDED MODEL FOR EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE PLAN (EHCP) FUNDING (Pages 113-136)**

Proposed motion

- a) That a consultation exercise on moving to a banded model for top-up funding of EHCPs be approved;
- b) That the delegation of authority to the Director of Children and Family Services, following consultation with the Lead Member for Children and Family Services, be approved to implement a banded model for needs assessments and top-up funding for EHCPs subject to no significant issues/concerns having arisen from the consultation.

**13. ITEMS REFERRED FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

None.

**14. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN HAS DECIDED TO TAKE AS URGENT**

None.

**15. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed motion

That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 and 10 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and that, in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information:

*Operation of the School Food Service*

**Officer to contact**

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## **Comments from Mr Andrew Innes CC**

**Cabinet Meeting 15 July 2025**

### **Agenda Item 9 – Leicestershire County Council's Approach to Flooding**

With the additional money being allocated to support flooding protection I would like to inform the cabinet of the following :-

In and around Melton we have several flood risks that would benefit from additional monies being spent on protection.

I had the opportunity to take a trip on the river Eye with Melton and Oakham Waterways Society, and they were showing me the extent of silting and bank vegetation encroachment, fallen trees and branches and various other blockages to the river. They are a voluntary organisation and are not able on their own to keep the river free from blockage. Rivers are our first line of defence against flooding as they ultimately take any excess water away. If we don't look after the rivers then the likelihood of flooding is increased.

There is also a statistic that says every £1 spent on a town river creates £7 for the local economy through greater leisure use.

With the additional monies being available it would be a great opportunity for Melton if some could be diverted to the Melton area.

Cllr Tilbury, I would welcome the opportunity to show you the considerable efforts that are being made on the river Eye that I think would benefit from our support in whatever way we can.

Thanks

Cllr Andrew Innes  
Melton East

**Andrew Innes CC**  
**Councillor for Melton East**  
Scrutiny Commissioner



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DEBORAH TAYLOR CC

Leader of the Opposition

Meeting: Cabinet

Date/Time: Tuesday, 15 July 2025 at 2.00 pm

Comments for Cabinet; Agenda Item 10

The County Council approved the revised Environment Strategy 2018-2030 on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020. The vision of the Strategy is that 'Leicestershire County Council will minimise the environmental impact of its activities and will improve the wider environment through local action. We will play our full part to protect the environment of Leicestershire. We will tackle climate change and embed sustainability into what we do.'

In December 2022, the County Council adopted the 2030 Net Zero Council Action Plan and the 2045 Net Zero Leicestershire Strategy and Action Plan. The vision of the Net Zero Strategy is that 'In 2045, Leicestershire has ended its contribution to global warming and has adapted to the impacts of climate change. The transition to net zero has created a cleaner, greener Leicestershire for people, prosperity, and planet; supporting healthy, resilient communities, enabling sustainable growth, and enhancing biodiversity.'

Since these commitments were made, the Council has been subjected to an increasingly constrained financial position with a significant deficit forecast. In February 2024, considering this and the estimated increased resources required to reach net zero, the Council resolved to extend the net zero targets to 2035 for Council operations and 2050 for Countywide emissions, in line with the national target.

National legislation is in place to support the UK's transition to net zero – the Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019 commits the Government to a 100% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 compared with 1990 levels.

The Council £2m carbon reduction reserve was set aside in 2022 to create a fund to pump prime new carbon reduction initiatives. The Leader of the Council has proposed that this reserve is reallocated from net zero activities to flooding initiatives and adapting services to mitigate the impacts of severe weather events.

The Leader of the Council has requested that the Council repositions the Council's approach to the net zero agenda, focussing on dealing with the impacts of climate change and extreme weather (e.g. flooding and extreme heat), wider projects that deliver financial savings and projects that deliver additional social, economic or environmental benefits, in support of the Council's Strategic rather than carbon reduction activities.

The main primary legislation in the United Kingdom, which aims to tackle climate change, is the Climate Change Act 2008 (the "2008 Act").

Whilst local authorities have used various statutory powers to participate in net zero projects, at present, there is no overarching legal duty on local authorities to contribute towards achieving net zero. However, there is a patchwork of obligations that require local authorities to take climate change into account in the performance of their functions.

Going forward, local authorities may be legally required to take positive action to combat climate change. The Environmental Targets (Public Authorities) Bill is currently before Parliament.

In summary, the proposal under consideration presently appears lawful. However, the Cabinet should have in mind that, in the coming years, Parliament may well expand the Council's legal duties.

I can not see anything in the report that mitigates this risk, and therefore, the Cabinet should think carefully about this proposal and make sure they have a plan in place if this legislation does become statutory.

*D. Taylor*

## Comments from Mr Andrew Innes CC

**Cabinet Meeting 15 July 2025**

**Agenda Item 11 - Home Care for Leicestershire Procurement**

Despite my numerous interventions I see that the proposal is still to issue out the expected rates per hour. This will not allow any movement downwards of prices.

I asked at the Scrutiny committee about the reasons for the rapid increase in costs (taking out the growth in the usage). I suggest that the cabinet are given a detailed breakdown of the cost per hour since 2020 showing the increase per hour over the intervening period. Alongside it would be good to see the reasons for the increase per hour.

My concern is that our suppliers are comfortable with the rates, comfortable with the lack of direct quality control, the lack of monitoring of actual hours attended, and comfortable with the proposed length of the contract... (8 Years but with Breaks)

I have now had 3 meetings to discuss this and yet there appears to be very little movement from the original proposal. Care companies are in a very privileged position, and we need to make sure that they are viable, offer good quality, reliable and honest, but not at any cost. I see many care owners are quite wealthy individuals, and I do not have any objection to this, but I don't want then to become wealthy on the back of local taxpayers. This is not a dig, just an observation.

Many thanks

Andrew

**Andrew Innes CC**  
**Councillor for Melton East**  
Scrutiny Commissioner



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