

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY, FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HELD AT CIVIC SUITE 2, BROCKS HILL COUNCIL OFFICES, WASHBROOK LANE, OADBY,
LEICESTER, LE2 5JJ ON TUESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM**

PRESENT

I K Ridley
S S Athwal

Chair
Vice-Chair



Meeting ID: 2912

COUNCILLORS

N Alam
L A Bentley
G A Boulter
J K Chohan
M L Darr
F S Ghattoraya
C S Gore
S Z Haq
J Kaufman
K J Loydall

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S J Ball	Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Monitoring Officer (Solicitor)
D M Gill	Legal Consultant
C Warren	Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer
S Wheeliker	Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer
B Wilson	Head of Neighbourhood Services

90. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors J K Ford, D A Gamble and G G Hunt.

91. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES

Councillors J K Chohan and F S Ghattoraya substituted for Councillors D A Gamble and J K Ford respectively.

92. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

93. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 June 2025 be taken as read, confirmed and approved.

94. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There was no action list.

95. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

96. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT (2024/25)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 8 – 22 of the agenda reports pack), which detailed the performance and activities of the authority's treasury management function for the financial year 2024/25.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The content of the report and appendices be noted.

97. BUDGET MONITORING (Q1 2025/26)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 23 – 39 of the agenda reports pack), which provided the Committee with the forecast Outturn position for the Council for the financial year 2025/26, at the end Quarter 1.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor S Z Haq, and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The content of the report and appendices be noted; and**
- ii) The carry forward of slippage as shown in the Capital projects be approved.**

98. BUDGET SETTING APPROACH FOR 2026/27 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN UPDATE (URGENT ITEM)

The Committee gave consideration to the report (as set out at pages 3 – 6 of the agenda update), which sought approval of the approach to set the annual budget for 2026/27 and provided an update on the MTFP budget gaps and progress on the Sustainability Programme.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor K J Loydall and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The Budget Approach for 2026/27 be agreed and recommended to Council; and**
- ii) The updated MTFP budget gaps be noted.**

99. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The press and public be excluded from the meeting for items 11 and 16 in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (Exempt Information) during consideration of the aforementioned items on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exempt items outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

100. APPLICATION TO EXERCISE PENSION DISCRETION (EXEMPT)

The Committee gave consideration to the exempt report and appendix (as set out at pages 40 – 47 of the agenda reports pack), which sought Members approval to exercise a pension discretion.

It was moved by Councillor G A Boulter, seconded by Councillor L A Bentley and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The recommendation be approved.

101. ASSET REVIEW UPDATE (EXEMPT)

In accordance with Rule 6.3 of Section 1 of Part 4 of the Constitution, the Chair moved for the order of business to be altered and taken in the order as reflected in the minutes.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The order of business be altered accordingly.

The Committee gave consideration to the exempt report and appendix (as set out at pages 74 – 79 of the agenda update), which provided an update on the current status of the Asset Review.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor K J Loydall and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) Recommendation A be noted;**
- ii) Recommendation B be approved; and**
- iii) Recommendation E be noted.**

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor G A Boulter and

REJECTED THAT:

- iv) Recommendation C be approved; and**
- v) Recommendation D be approved.**

For 9
Against 3
Abstentions 0

102. STANDARDS & ETHICAL INDICATORS (Q1 2025/26)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 48 – 58 of the agenda reports pack), which presented the figures for local determination of complaints and ethical indicators for Q1 2025-26.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The content of the report and appendix be noted.

103. CEMETERY AND BURIAL STRATEGY (2026 - 2036)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 7 – 52 of the agenda update) which sought approval for a public consultation on the proposed Cemetery and Burial Strategy.

Members requested involvement in the creation of the consultation questions via a working group to include Councillors N Alam, G A Boulter, J Kaufman and I K Ridley.

It was proposed that the wording of recommendation B be amended to "The Committee approves the 8-week consultation on the Cemetery & Burial Strategy (2026 – 2036) (at Appendix 1)."

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor S Z Haq and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The content of the report and appendices be noted; and**
- ii) The 8-week consultation on the Cemetery & Burial Strategy (2026 – 2036) (at Appendix 1) be approved.**

104. GREEN SPACES STRATEGY (2025 - 2035)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 53 – 73 of the agenda update) which sought Members approval to consult on the Green Spaces Strategy (2025 - 2035).

It was moved by Councillor S Z Haq, seconded by Councillor K J Loydall and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

That the Green Space Strategy (2025 – 2035) (at Appendix 1) be approved for a 6-week public consultation.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.43 pm