

Blackpool Council

30 November 2021

To: Councillors Burdess, G Coleman, Collett, Galley, Jackson, Kirkland, Walsh and Wilshaw

The above members are requested to attend the:

TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 8 December 2021 at 6.00 pm
in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Blackpool

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

(1) the type of interest concerned either a

- (a) personal interest
- (b) prejudicial interest
- (c) disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI)

and

(2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 6 OCTOBER 2021 (Pages 1 - 8)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 6 October 2021 as a true and correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING

To consider any applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS (Pages 9 - 16)

To consider the Executive and Cabinet Member Decisions within the remit of the Committee, taken since the last meeting.

5 FORWARD PLAN (Pages 17 - 24)

To consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, December 2021 – March 2022, within the remit of the Committee.

6 CLIMATE EMERGENCY UPDATE (Pages 25 - 28)

To consider an update on progress regarding the development and delivery of the Climate Emergency Action Plan and associated activity.

7 HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS ANNUAL REPORT (Pages 29 - 38)

To consider the Housing and Homelessness Annual Report, including details of key pieces of work being undertaken, Service Performance (including potential for the development of a "mystery shopping" exercise), details of funding and budget and an update on work of the Homelessness Support Group.

8 ILLUMINATIONS UPDATE (Pages 39 - 50)

To consider an update on the various recommendations made relating to the Illuminations at the review panel meeting in April 2021.

9 CAR PARKING SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT (Pages 51 - 60)

To consider the annual report from Parking Services, including information on the performance data of Council-owned and managed car parks, and on-street parking, both with regards to patronage and income in the full year ending 2020-21, and in the current year, April to October, with comparisons to the previous year, and an update on the growth of the new PayByPhone system introduced in May 2020.

10 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN (Pages 61 - 70)

To consider the Workplan and to monitor the implementation of Committee recommendations, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review topics.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date and time of the next meeting as Wednesday, 2 February 2022, commencing at 6pm.

Venue information:

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact John Greenbank, Senior Democratic Governance Adviser, Tel: (01253) 477229, e-mail john.greenbank@blackpool.gov.uk

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Agenda Item 2

MINUTES OF TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2021

Present:

Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)

Councillors

Burdess

Collett

Kirkland

Wilshaw

G Coleman

Galley

Walsh

In Attendance:

Councillor Kath Benson, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, Aspirations and Community Assets

Councillor Neal Brookes, Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport

Councillor Jane Hugo, Cabinet Member for Climate Change

Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business Enterprise and Job Creation

Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council

Councillor Mrs Maxine Callow JP, Chair of the Scrutiny Leadership Board

Steve Thompson, Director of Resources

Philip Welsh, Head of Tourism and Communications

Lisa Arnold, Head of Parks Leisure and Catering Services

John Greenbank, Democratic Governance Senior Adviser (Scrutiny)

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Paula Burdess and Councillor Paul Galley declared personal interests in Item 4 Executive and Cabinet Member Decisions. The nature of the interest was that they were both Board members of Blackpool Transport Services Limited and a Cabinet Member decision had been taken in regards to the National Bus Strategy.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2021

The Committee considered the minutes from its 16 June 2021 meeting. The Chair asked that his thanks to the previous Chair of the Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Martin Mitchell, be added to the minutes.

The Committee agreed, subject to the above amendment, that the minutes of the last meeting held on 16 June 2021 were a true and correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no public speakers on this occasion.

**MINUTES OF TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2021**

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

The Committee considered the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions taken within its remit since the last meeting of the Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee on 16 June 2021.

Members discussed PH47/21 'National Bus Strategy' and queried if the strategy would cover all service providers in Blackpool or if it would only focus on Blackpool Transport Services Limited (BTS) as the main provider. In response Councillor Neal Brookes, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport, explained that the adoption of the strategy was a requirement from central government, in order to receive ongoing funding for bus services. He also confirmed that all bus service providers in Blackpool had been consulted as part of the preparation of the strategy, which was aimed at improving frequency, routes and the quality of bus travel. A further report detailing a local Bus Service Improvement Plan would also be submitted to the October 2021 meeting of the Executive.

The Committee expressed concern regarding the decision PH56/21 'Lease for Showtown Museum'. It was noted that the agreed lease would last thirty years and start at £250k a year with increases every five years. Members asked if the agreed rental amount could not have been better spent on building a Council owned property for the museum and queried what safeguards existed to prevent significant rental increases. Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council replied that the lease was important to ensure that the museum project was delivered in a timely manner and that costs would be controlled through the terms of the lease. Mr Steve Thompson, Director of Resources, added that the five-year increases would be linked to inflation and be within an agreed cap.

The cost benefit of the installation of new wind turbines at the Solaris Centre, as outlined in EX33/21 'Solaris Centre: Renewable Energy Project', was discussed by members of the Committee, specifically the timescales envisioned for the Council to recoup the expenditure on the project. Councillor Jane Hugo, Cabinet Member for Climate Change, agreed to share the details of the project with the Committee following the meeting.

Members also noted EX38/21 'Community Renewal Fund', highlighting the tight deadlines for submission, and asked what processes had been undertaken to ensure that the projects selected would be the most beneficial for Blackpool. Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business Enterprise and Job Creation outlined the application process that the Council had undertaken for projects for the fund. The bids submitted had been oversubscribed and had included a broad spectrum of schemes seeking funding. Therefore, the Council had selected a number of schemes for submission to the Fund, which had been chosen to ensure that they were balanced across various parts of Blackpool. The submission had been made on 18 June 2021 and the Council expected to hear which had been approved by the time of the Government's autumn spending review announcement.

Regarding EX36/21 'Blackpool Street Lighting and Traffic Signals Private Finance Initiative', Members queried if the new LED Luminaries could be used to ensure that public spaces were illuminated to assist in the prevention of crime and disorder.

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Councillor Hugo responded that the brightness of the new LEDs could be adjusted and consideration would be given to their placement to address disorder issues, but that this would be balanced with the need to reduce the environmental impact of street lighting, through reduced carbon emissions. It was also recognised that having clear dark times in residential spaces was of benefit to residents' mental wellbeing.

The loss of trees was raised in connection with EX35/21 'Blackpool Tree Strategy 2021 to 2031'. Members highlighted that 3,000 trees had been lost and 600 whips had been recorded as missing, Councillor Hugo responded that an investigation had taken place and a response to the issue was being developed. She also clarified that at a previous meeting the cost of whips had incorrectly been stated as £45 each, when the actual cost was 45p. The Committee also queried the loss of trees that had died after planting in residential areas and asked if these would be replaced. Councillor Kath Benson, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, Aspirations and Community Assets, replied that they were unsure if this would be the case and agreed to confirm the Council's position regarding the replacement of dead trees following the meeting.

Members also noted the disparity in cost for whips and the cost of trees planted in residential areas, 45p for a whip in comparison to £300 for a tree. Councillor Hugo agreed that this needed greater rationalisation and stated that the adoption of a Tree Strategy would assist in standardising tree costs.

Regarding EX42/21 'Replacement of the Core CCTV System', Members queried how it would be ensured that once the wider CCTV network was replaced that cameras would be evenly distributed across Blackpool. Councillor Brookes explained that the wider network would be replaced following a review of the system, where the Police, emergency services, local communities and Councillors would be consulted. The final decision on the placement of cameras would also be subject to a risk assessment of proposed locations. He also confirmed that the Beach Patrol would be involved in the use of CCTV on the beach and promenade.

Members asked if the ongoing increase in material costs across the national economy would affect projects such as that agreed as part of EX43/21 'Investment in the Town Centre – Adelaide Street'. The Committee noted that increasing costs could mean that the cost of a project could become unaffordable for contractors. Councillor Williams explained that projects that had been agreed, had the costs confirmed in their contracts. If subsequently the costs rose for contractors, then conversations would take place with the Council to determine the projects' viability.

The Committee also asked if any consideration had been given to the use of individuals with expertise in delivering projects in difficult economic circumstances, such as in the third world. Councillor Williams replied that this could be taken into consideration going forward.

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In respect of PH69/21 'Design Codes', the Committee queried why design codes had only been applied for Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone (BEZ) and not the town centre. Councillor Williams replied that the short timescales for applying for the national pilot scheme had meant that the scheme at the BEZ was the most appropriate location. As a pilot scheme it would also allow the Council to gain an understanding of how the new design codes could be implemented and the impact on planning policy. Following this it was expected that the scheme would be extended to other parts of Blackpool.

The Committee agreed:

1. To receive further details of the Solaris Centre: Renewable Energy Project' following the meeting.
2. To receive confirmation of the Council's position regarding the replacement of dead trees following the meeting

5 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the contents of the Council's Forward Plan October 2021 to January 2022, relating to the portfolios of the Cabinet Members whose responsibilities fell within its remit.

Members queried what the purpose of the Sex Establishment Licensing Policy would be. Councillor Neal Brookes, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport, responded that the policy would mean that the Council would not renew any sexual establishments licences once it had lapsed. However, it was noted that the policy did not cover massage parlours.

6 TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION UPDATE

The Committee agreed that consideration of the Town Centre Regeneration Update would be deferred to the 8 December 2021 meeting.

7 TOURISM PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Mr Philip Welsh, Head of Tourism and Communications, presented an update on tourism performance and the measures that had been put in place to aid the sectors' recovery following the Covid-19 pandemic. He informed the Committee that compared with the last full tourist season in 2019, the 2021 season had shown strong signs of recovery. Ongoing support for tourism would include the extension of the Illuminations period to January 2022. This would help attract more visitors over the winter period and enhance Blackpool's tourism offer.

The Committee queried if the increased footfall outlined in the report had correlated into an increase in bookings at hotels and bed and breakfasts. Mr Welsh responded that reporting on the level of bookings had taken place through the Tourism Recovery Group and had shown positive feedback and strong bookings for 2022. He added that the level of secondary spend had also been shown to be very good.

**MINUTES OF TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
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Capturing customers through the use of marketing for the 2022 seasons was also discussed. Mr Welsh reported that conversations had been taking place with tourism partners to ensure that this would be possible. Due to the restrictions and challenges faced by Blackpool during the pandemic, the Council had led on the marketing for 2021 but it was intended that partners would lead for 2022 and determine how to “sell” the resort to potential visitors.

The cost of the Illuminations Switch-On was queried by the Committee. In response Mr Welsh explained that the switch on event was organised by MTV with a fee being paid by the Council, details of which could be provided following the meeting. He added that the Council also had input into the event as part of the negotiation with MTV to stage it. The Committee also noted that MTV would be staging two further events to support the switch on at their own cost.

The decision to hold the World Fireworks Championship on a Saturday during the Illuminations was queried, with members noting that it would be a very busy evening as a result. In response Mr Welsh explained that normally the fireworks would be launched from the North Pier, however this was unavailable for the 2021 event. Therefore the beach had to be utilised, which meant a date when the tide was low enough for the event to take place had to be selected. The Saturdays had been chosen as the tides were suitable and it was considered the best day to encourage visitors to also spend in the town centre and other venues. Following the event Mr Welsh confirmed that the staging of the event would be reviewed to determine its success.

Members of the Committee raised the issue of temporary holiday accommodation, such as Air BnBs, in Blackpool. These type of holiday lets were only available for a limited number days in a year and therefore were subject to less regulations than more traditional accommodation such as hotels. Councillor Williams, Leader of the Council informed the Committee that the Council was aware of the issue but that greater understanding was needed of the scale of the industry in Blackpool. It was therefore requested that the issue of temporary holiday accommodation be added to the Committee’s Work Programme. It was suggested to support this that a report be prepared to determine the scale and scope of such accommodation and its impact on Blackpool.

Mr Welsh also informed the Committee that work was being undertaken to consider new ways to deliver the Illuminations. This had included the establishment of a festival style installation on the headlands. A report on this work and the actions undertaken following the Illuminations Scrutiny Review Panel, held on 27 April 2021, would be brought to the 8 December 2021 meeting of the Committee.

Members of the Committee noted the contribution of the Beach Patrol during the Covid-19 pandemic to ensuring public safety and asked that its thanks be recorded and conveyed to the patrol members.

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The Committee agreed:

1. To add the issue of temporary holiday accommodation in Blackpool to the work programme.
2. That the Committee's thanks be recorded and conveyed to the Beach Patrol.

8 LEISURE SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

Ms Lisa Arnold, Head of Parks, Leisure and Catering Services, presented the Leisure Services Annual Report, which outlined the delivery of services and included key performance data. Ms Arnold reported that the overall recovery from Covid-19 had been very good however it remained unclear how the pandemic had effected customer behaviour and their wiliness to attend leisure venues. It had also been noted that there had been a reduction in the number of school swimmers due to the closure of swimming pools, the service was therefore looking at how to encourage their return.

The Committee noted the potential for Blackpool to increase the participation of young girls in football, with a view to helping those who showed promise progress to become professionals and queried how this opportunity could be marketed. Ms Arnold replied that this had been recognised by the service and that a new Leisure Marketing Officer would be appointed with responsibilities that would include the promotion of sports such as women's football.

Encouraging the return of adult swimmers was also discussed with Ms Arnold explaining that the Blackpool Aquatic Society offered sessions to adults who wanted to learn to swim. She added that the Beach Patrol undertook educational sessions in schools to help promote swimming to children.

The marketing of the Holiday Activity Fund was also queried, with Members asking how its reach could be maximised, without causing those who qualified for the fund to be discriminated against. Ms Arnold responded that although children had to be in receipt of school meals to benefit from the fund, the activities undertaken by the fund were open to all children.

9 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

The Committee considered the Scrutiny Workplan report, including an update on the work undertaken by the CCTV Scrutiny Review Panel and the Arts and Culture Scrutiny Review Panel.

It was noted that the Arts and Culture Review Panel had recommended that the Council support the establishment of a Cultural Partnership for Blackpool and the development of a Blackpool Cultural Plan. The report asked that the Committee approve this recommendation for submission to the Executive at its November 2021 meeting.

The Committee agreed that the Work Programme and the outcomes of the CCTV Review Panel be noted and that the recommendation of the Arts and Culture Review Panel be forwarded to the Executive.

**MINUTES OF TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
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10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the Committee was confirmed as Wednesday, 8 December 2021 at 6.00pm.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 7.15 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
John Greenbank, Senior Democratic Governance Adviser
Tel: 01253 477229
E-mail: john.greenbank@blackpool.gov.uk

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Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting:	8 December 2021

EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members taken since the last meeting of the Committee.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Leader of the Council or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to the decisions taken.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that the opportunity is given for all Executive and Cabinet Member decisions to be scrutinised and held to account.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool".

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Attached at the appendix to this report is a summary of the decisions taken, which have been circulated to Members previously.

5.2 This report is presented to ensure Members are provided with a timely update on the decisions taken by the Executive and Cabinet Members. It provides a process where the Committee can raise questions and a response be provided.

5.3 Members are encouraged to seek updates on decisions and will have the opportunity to raise any issues.

5.4 Witnesses/representatives

5.4.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the decisions taken in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council
- Councillor Neal Brookes, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport
- Councillor Jane Hugo, Cabinet Member for Climate Change

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 4(a) Summary of Executive and Cabinet Member decisions taken.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

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APPENDIX 4(a)

DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p>BUS SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PLAN</p> <p>The Executive agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve the draft Bus Service Improvement Plan attached at Appendix 6a to the Executive report. 2. To grant authority to the Director of Communications and Regeneration to make any necessary minor amendments to the Bus Service Improvement Plan before submission to the Department for Transport by end of October 2021. 3. To agree that an Enhanced Partnership Plan and Schemes document be submitted to a subsequent Executive for approval so that the Enhanced Partnership can be established by the deadline of 31 March 2022, liaising closely with local bus operators and Lancashire County Council on cross-boundary issues. 	<p>To approve the draft Bus Service Improvement Plan and agree to an Enhanced Partnership Plan and Schemes document being produced so the Enhanced [Bus] Partnership can be established by 31 March 2022.</p>	<p>EX49/21</p>	<p>11/10/21</p>	<p>Councillor Neal Brookes, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport</p>

<p>PROPOSED APPROPRIATION AND DISPOSAL OF LAND AT BLACKPOOL CENTRAL</p> <p>The Executive agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To delegate authority to Director of Communications and Regeneration, to appropriate for planning purposes the Subject Land under section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 and conditional on the grant of Planning Permission subsequently invoke section 203 and section 204 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 2. To delegate authority to the Director of Communications and Regeneration to negotiate and enter into legal agreements with third parties in order to secure the modification or release of rights or covenants (and the grant of new rights) ("the Rights) which may otherwise be an impediment to Blackpool Central development on the Subject Land. 3. In the absence of legal agreements being entered into to release the Rights to delegate authority to the Director of Communications and Regeneration to deal with the settlement of any claims for compensation made pursuant to section 204 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 that may arise by virtue of the operation of the overriding power contained in Section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016. 4. To authorise the Head of Legal Services to enter into any such documentation as may be necessary to give effect to or flowing from the appropriation for planning purposes of the Subject Land. 	<p>This report supersedes the report submitted to the Executive on 12 July 2021 and decisions flowing from that report in respect of the delegated authority to appropriate for planning purposes a smaller area of land as illustrated on Plan 2 (land shown edged blue and edged green). In addition the earlier report of 12 July 2021 did not seek to invoke section 203 powers to extinguish rights of light.</p>	<p>EX50/21</p>	<p>11/10/21</p>	<p>Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Tourism and Culture</p>
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<p>CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN</p> <p>The Executive agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To recommend to the Council the Blackpool Climate Action Plan attached at Appendix 3a to the Executive report and request the Council and partners to act towards the implementation of its actions. 2. To note the monitoring agreements set out in page 19 of the action plan and summarised at paragraph of 6.6, and where relevant periodic update reports on progress or amendments to the Action Plan will be brought to the Executive. 	<p>To consider the Blackpool Climate Action Plan in line with the Climate Emergency Declaration.</p>	<p>EX55/21</p>	<p>8/10/21</p>	<p>Councillor Jane Hugo, Cabinet member for Climate Change</p>
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<p>PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER - DOG CONTROL</p> <p>The Cabinet Member agreed the recommendations as follows::</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve the Public Space Protection Order Dog Controls 2021 (Appendix 1 of the report) for a period of three years starting from 1st December 2021. 2. Subject to approval of 1, to delegate to the Head of Legal to seal and advertise the Order. 3. In relation to the specific proposals: Consultation PSPO Dog Controls. (Appendix 2 of the report) - To recognise consultation findings and agree to prioritise awareness and education to specific shared open space predominately sports pitches through community engagement and greater signage to encourage responsible dog behaviour on the basis of pick up or this space maybe included in future dog control Public Space Protection Orders. 	<p>To agree the Public Space Protection Order Dog Controls, for a further 3 year period following the imminent expiry of current dog control orders on the 30 November 2021. Recognise the findings of the comprehensive public consultation exercise to consider if the current controls are fit for purpose to control dog behaviour and that of their owners for a further 3 years:</p> <p>To recognise and agree that further controls to specific shared open space(s) predominately sports pitches identified in the public consultation are prioritised through awareness and education over the next 3 years.</p>	<p>PH76/21</p>	<p>26/11/21</p>	<p>Councillor Neal Brookes, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport</p>
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Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting:	8 December 2021

FORWARD PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan December 2021 to March 2022, relating to the portfolios of the Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Leader of the Council and / or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to items contained within the Forward Plan within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

2.2 Members will have the opportunity to consider whether any of the items should be subjected to pre-decision scrutiny. In so doing, account should be taken of any requests or observations made by the relevant Cabinet Member.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To enable the opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny of the Forward Plan items.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Forward Plan is prepared by the Leader of the Council to cover a period of four months and has effect from the first working day of any month. It is updated on a monthly basis and subsequent plans cover a period beginning with the first working day of the second month covered in the preceding plan.

5.2 The Forward Plan contains matters which the Leader has reason to believe will be subject of a key decision to be taken either by the Executive, a Committee of the Executive, individual Cabinet Members, or Officers.

5.3 Attached at Appendix 5(a) is a list of items contained in the current Forward Plan. Further details appertaining to each item is contained in the Forward Plan, which has been forwarded to all members separately.

5.4 Witnesses/representatives

5.4.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the Forward Plan items in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism
- Councillor Kath Benson, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, Aspiration and Community Assets
- Councillor Neal Brookes, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport
- Councillor Gillian Campbell, Cabinet Member for Inclusion Youth and Transience
- Councillor Jane Hugo, Cabinet Member for Climate Change
- Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Job Creation

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 5(a) Summary of items contained within Forward Plan December 2021 to March 2022.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS

(DECEMBER 2021 TO MARCH 2022)

*** Denotes New Item**

Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
December 2021	Town Centre Investment (this item to be considered in private by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	1/2021	Executive	Cllr Williams
December 2021	Applications for Business Loans above £500,000. (this item to be considered in private by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	2/2021	Executive or Shareholder Committee	Cllr Williams
December 2021	To agree strategic acquisitions and investments in or adjoining the Enterprise Zone (this item to be considered in private by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	3/2021	Executive	Cllr Smith

Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
December 2021	Blackpool by everyone, for everyone. Vision and Guidance for participation, co-production and social activism in Blackpool	19/2021	Executive	Cllr Benson
February 2022	Council Plan	20/2021	Council	Cllr Williams
February 2022	Council Tax Reduction Scheme	21/2021	Council	Cllr Brookes
February 2022	To consider the level of rents and service charges to be made in connection with Housing Revenue Account dwellings during 2022/23.	22/2021	Council	Cllr Taylor
*March 2022	To agree the Community Safety Plan and the priorities within the plan to be addressed by the Community Safety Partnership as identified by the Strategic Assessment (Crime and Disorder Audit)	24/2021	Council	Cllr Brookes
*March 2022	To consider and recommend approval of the Council's Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25	25/2021	Council	Cllr Williams
*March 2022	To consider and recommend approval of the Council's Revenue Budget for the financial year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.	26/2021	Council	Cllr Williams
*March 2022	To consider and recommend approval of the level of Council Tax for the financial year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.	27/2021	Council	Cllr Williams

Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
*March 2022	To consider and approve adoption of the Council's Treasury Management and Investment Strategies for the financial year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.	28/2021	Council	Cllr Williams
*March 2022	Capital Strategy 2022/23 to 2024/25 – The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy Prudential Code requires local authorities to produce a capital strategy to demonstrate that capital expenditure and investment decisions are taken in line with service objectives and take account of stewardship, value of money, prudence, sustainability and affordability	29/2021	Council	Cllr Williams

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Report to: **TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES**
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Relevant Officer: Scott Butterfield, Strategy Policy and Research Manager

Date of Meeting 8 December, 2021

CLIMATE EMERGENCY UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To update the Committee on progress regarding the development and delivery of the Climate Emergency Action Plan and associated activity.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 The Committee takes steps to consider the impact of climate change and the environment when reviewing council projects, policies and strategies, and requests similar of the Children and Young People's and Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committees;

2.2 The Committee agrees to receive updates on the Climate Emergency Action Plan every 6 months.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 Full Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019. This committed the Council to work towards carbon neutrality across its services and companies by 2030, and across the town in a similar timescale.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 The Committee could consider alternative monitoring options. This could involve more or less frequent updates, or the use of a different mechanism such as a review panel.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The Climate Emergency cuts across both Council priorities:

- “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”
- “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

6.0 Background information

- 6.1 The meeting of Council on 24 November 2021 unanimously approved the Climate Emergency Action Plan and associated monitoring arrangements, requesting that the “appropriate Scrutiny Committees” act towards the implementation of its actions.
- 6.2 In addition to the need for the Committee to oversee progress against the actions in the plan, the Climate Emergency Declaration included a request that “Council Scrutiny Committees consider the impact of climate change and the environment when reviewing Council policies and strategies”. Given the scope and relevance of its work. The Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee has so far overseen the council’s response to the Climate Emergency. However, the declaration would also require the Children and Young People’s and Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committees to consider items in light of the Declaration where relevant.
- 6.3 Work is underway to review current Council strategies and explore how these relate to the Climate Emergency agenda. Following the withdrawal of a placement student from Lancaster University prior to their internship, this work has been delayed, and is now being undertaken in-house with an expected completion date of February 2022. Once finalised, the Committee will be able to use this work to inform its deliberations.
- 6.4 In addition, all Committee reports now have a dedicated section asking Officers to consider “Sustainability, Climate Change and Environment Considerations”. The Council Leadership Team has previously approved a Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) process, by which officers can ensure that sustainability issues around services and projects have been considered and accounted for in this section. These can be explored as a way of ensuring an appropriate balance has been made between sustainability, cost and other benefits.
- 6.5 The Committee will receive updates on progress against actions in the Climate Emergency Action Plan every 6 months. Given the breadth and depth of the action plan, updates will focus on actions with an imminent deadline or at a crucial stage of their development, as well as exploring actions that have fallen behind schedule. The report will also include a log of completed actions, enabling a long-term overview of progress and the celebration of achievements, and an overview of newly identified actions, in keeping with the dynamic nature of the plan.
- 6.6 To develop members’ understanding of the issues, the Strategy and Climate Team is offering all Carbon Literacy Training to all Councillors. Developed by the Carbon Literacy Project with Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy funding, the training is available to Local Authorities for an accreditation fee of £10 per delegate. Delivered either virtually or face-to-face when possible, the training is tailored in-house to make it relevant to our town and council. It has a

practical focus on building knowledge around actions that departments can take, as well as asking participants to make their own green commitments. Participation on the course so far has been limited by member availability. As a result, the Strategy and Climate Team will tailor future courses to the individual requirements of Councillors to maximise take up.

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 None

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 No immediate considerations, although many of the recommendations in the Action Plan require the identification of funding.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 The UK government has set a legally binding target on itself to deliver net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 No immediate implications.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 No new specific equalities considerations arising from this report. An Equality Analysis was reported to Executive and Council as part of the Climate Emergency Action Plan decision-making process.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 This work is aimed at delivering net zero carbon emissions and changing the culture of the organisation and town in line with this objective.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 Previous engagement has included an open-access survey to seek the views of the public, a climate assembly representative of Blackpool's population, and a formal consultation on the action plan. Further involvement will continue throughout the lifespan of the action plan.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

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Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Vikki Piper, Head of Housing
Date of Meeting	8 December 2021

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS ANNUAL REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To update the Committee, as requested, on:

1. Key pieces of work being undertaken
2. Service Performance, including potential for the development of a “mystery shopping” exercise
3. Details of funding and budget
4. Update on work of the Homelessness Support Group

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the Housing and Homelessness Annual Report and identify any areas for potential additional scrutiny

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that the Committee retains oversight of the housing and homelessness issues

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council’s approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 The Committee could chose not to receive an annual report, however this would mean that monitoring of the housing and homelessness performance and the implementation of the recommendations for the Housing and Homeless Review Panel would not take place.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is

- “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”
- “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

6.0 Background information

6.1 The Committee completed a review of housing and homelessness during 2019/20 and make several recommendations, which were endorsed by the Council’s Executive in March 2021

6.2 One of these recommendations was for the Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee (TEC) to receive an annual report on Housing and Homelessness, informing them of work undertaken, performance and funding received.

6.3 This is the first such report, and at request of scrutiny, will focus on 4 key areas:

1. Key pieces of work being undertake
2. Service Performance, including potential for the development of a “mystery shopping” exercise
3. Details of funding and budget
4. Update on work of the Homelessness Support Group

7.0 1. Key pieces of work being undertaken

7.1 Housing developments:

7.2 Grange Park

This new development will provide 131 new homes for affordable rent, comprised of 2 to 6 bed houses, bungalows and new one bed sheltered housing.

With the support of the European Social Fund, and council investment, these new homes will have a number of energy saving measures and technologies, including 30 air source heat pumps, in order to reduce the carbon footprint.

A number of key milestones have recently been reached in respect of this development, with planning permission now being granted, Homes England funding secured, and a developer appointed. Work started on site with enabling works in October and then groundworks following in November once the site is fully secured. The works will be undertaken in two phases, with 78 units in Phase 1 and a further 53 in Phase 2, with full completion expected in 2024.

7.3 **Troutbeck**

This redevelopment scheme will provide a total of 75 new homes, a mix of one bed flats, two and three bed family homes and two bed accessible houses.

Works on site continue to progress well and the contractors are actively managing supply chain issues with materials (availability and cost) that have arisen from combination of Brexit and Covid19.

So far 28 units have been completed and handed over to Blackpool Coastal Housing Ltd for letting, and the first residents have moved into their new homes.

7.4 **Foxhall Village**

The Foxhall Village scheme covers 7.69 hectares of land at Rigby Road, in the Bloomfield Ward. The scheme is split over two sites of brownfield land, divided by Seaside Way and was divided into four phases.

The scheme to date has delivered 202 new homes across two phases, of which 79 are Great Places affordable units, a further 27 are Heylo shared ownership and 86 are private market sales.

Works to Phase 3 commenced in July 2019 however this was followed by the Developer Partner (Marcus Worthington/ Hollinwood Homes) going into Administration in October 2019.

The Council stepped in to secure the site, in the interest of public safety, but no works could progress whilst in administration.

In late August the Council formally accepted the surrender of the house builder's leases in the site, and now has reclaimed formal ownership and control of the site.

Lots of significant challenges remain, but the Council will be working through these with Great Places (through an exclusivity agreement) to find solutions, which will include more new homes, and community sports facilities.

7.5 **Blackpool Housing Company and Lumen**

The Company has grown from zero to 490 homes adding a further 59 homes in 2020/21, despite the pandemic, and following an increase of 123 in 2019/20.

During this period a new subsidiary registered provider (Lumen Housing) was also approved for operation by the regulator in October 2020.

Lumen Housing has successfully brought forward 16 units to date, with plans to grow to 80 units over three years.

7.6 **Homelessness and Housing Options:**

7.7 **Frontline delivery**

Over 850 households have now being provided with emergency accommodation as a response to the pandemic, over of 700 which have been resettled into longer term accommodation, either in supported housing, their own tenancy or with family.

Temporary accommodation figures remain higher than pre-pandemic levels, but stabilised over the summer with around 65 households being accommodated in temporary accommodation at (reduced from 193 at the summer 2020 peak)

The service remains open, but with covid secure processes in place for both staff and customers.

Although the intense demand from single homeless people and rough sleepers as a result of “Everyone in” has stabilised, pressure is increasing from households in the private rented sector, including families, as a result of the end of the eviction ban. In Blackpool 38% of all households owed a prevention duty in Apr- June were at risk of homelessness due to the end of an AST, compared to 25% nationally. Households in temporary accommodation therefore now stand at around 80.

7.8 **Supported Housing Review**

The MHCLG funded Blackpool as 1 of 5 pilot areas to conduct a review of the supported housing market, with an emphasis on demand, quality of support, and value for money.

The pilots are designed to improve supported housing at a local level, but also create an evidence base for government to inform future policy and regulation

The last 9 months have focused on scrutinising HB claims , inspecting accommodation standards, and reviewing support plans and understanding demand, to establish a baseline.

This pilot is now entering the final phase and this evidence base will allow us to draw together a number of key conclusions and documents, including:

- Quality Standards
- Needs assessment and Market Position Statement
- Provider pathway

Service users and people with lived experience (included a team of Young Inspectors) have been involved throughout the project and all documents will be co-produced and reviewed

by scrutiny committee in November.

7.9 **Multi-disciplinary programmes**

Work continues with Housing Options to establish a multi disciplinary approach to rough sleeping.

Staff are now seconded in , or co-located, from range of services including Mental Health, Substance Misuse, Adult Social Care and DWP.

A hub has been established as part of the rough sleeping initiative work at The Bridge (Salvation Army) to create an additional access point, for rough sleepers with additional support from 3rd sector partners.

Housing are also involved in Project Adder (Home Office funded programme managed by Public Health) which aims to reduce criminality and drug use, and will be part of the new Changing Futures Programme, which is a 3 year funded government programme to facilitate multi-disciplinary working with people with complex needs. Changing Futures will bring together all similar programmes and funding streams to offer more cohesiveness.

8.0 **2. Service Performance, including potential for the development of a “mystery shopping” exercise**

8.1 **Homelessness and Housing Options Performance**

8.2 **Footfall**

In 2019/2020 (pre pandemic), Housing Options were approached by just over 3,400 people in the 12 month period for help with housing issues, which showed a continuing gradual increase over the previous 3 years.

This fell to 2,500 during 2020/21 but with a much greater number of people in acute housing need (i.e. homeless, or imminently homeless)

From April 2021 to October 2021 the service has been approached by 1800 people, which suggests we are on track to see over 3,000 people again in 2021/22.

Rough sleeping numbers pre-pandemic were approximately 14 on any given night (government headcount methodology taken November 2019). In November 2020, mid pandemic, this number was 10. As at November 2021 we are estimating between 12 and 14. Due to lifting of restrictions and the extended season in Blackpool, approximately 50% are from outside of Blackpool.

The official annual headcount took place recently, and is currently being verified.

8.3 National data and comparisons

All local authorities are required to provide quarterly uploads on homelessness data to MHCLG. This data is published for transparency and can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness>

A number of national and regional comparisons can be drawn from this data. Using 2020/21 data we can compare the total people threatened with homeless and actually homeless at a local, regional and national level:

	Threatened with homelessness (per 100,000 people)	Actually homeless (per 100,000 people)
England	5.07	6.34
North West	4.96	7.04
Blackpool	5.52	13.73

This shows the significant additional pressure on Blackpool homeless services compared to other parts of the country, driven by transience, complex needs and poor housing.

However in terms of performance and outcomes these tables show that a number of indicators for Blackpool are more positive than national averages.

For those who are homeless (relief duty) the England average for people securing accommodation for 6 months or more (a positive outcome) is 38%, whereas in Blackpool this is 54%.

Similarly for those at risk of homelessness (prevention duty) the England average for those securing, or retaining existing accommodation, with support from the Council, is 59%, and the Blackpool average 67%.

However for those who retain their existing accommodation (as oppose to securing new accommodation) the England average is 35%, and the Blackpool average 20%, again highlighting the issues with transience and high levels of sofa surfing prevalent in Blackpool.

It is also worth noting that in terms of identified support needs for homeless people, the England average for people with one of more support needs is 51%, whereas in Blackpool this is 73%

8.4 Covid summary and rough sleeping

During the course of 2020/21 and still into summer 2021, the main focus of the service was providing an emergency response to the pandemic.

At the first peak of the pandemic (lockdown of spring/ summer 2020), 193 households were accommodated in temporary accommodation, across a range of provision, including 11 B&B's. At the lockdown in winter 2020/21 numbers peaked at 115.

At time of writing there are currently 80 households in temporary accommodation. This is higher than our pre-pandemic average of approximately 45-50, and reflects both an increase in homelessness as a result of the eviction ban ending, and the services attempts to continue to offer accommodation to rough sleepers in preparation for winter. Higher levels of temporary accommodation are therefore expected throughout the winter period in order to continue to protect those most vulnerable.

Over the course of 2020/21 the Council and its partners supported over 850 households, 110 of which were families. Over 700 of those have gone on to secure longer term accommodation, including their own tenancy, supported housing, back home with family where appropriate, or a reconnection to their home area.

The number of people estimated to be rough sleeping on any one night in Blackpool is currently between 12 and 14. Approximately 50% of which are from outside of Blackpool. However repeat rough sleeping, which is predominantly local people, has gone down in the most recent quarter to 12.5% from 35% in the previous quarter

The service is still under considerable pressure as a result of the pandemic and remains open, but working in a covid secure way with restricted opening hours and reduced on site staffing levels. It has therefore not been possible or appropriate to explore a mystery shopping exercise, however conversations are ongoing with the Blackpool Lived Experience Team, under Empowerment, as to how this could be assessed.

9.0 **3. Details of funding and budget**

Housing development projects are funded through capital programmes, and where these schemes are for new Council housing, are funded through the Councils Housing Revenue account (borrowed against future rents)

In terms of frontline delivery, particularly housing options, there are a range of funding streams. These include:

- Homelessness Reduction grant – ring-fenced government grant calculated annually
- Rough Sleeping Initiative – now on year 3 of funding focused on reducing the number of rough sleepers. The council has to bid for this funding annually.
- Project Adder – Home Office funding, via Public Health, focused on reducing crime and substance misuse - funds 3 posts until March 2023
- Some core funding

The service has been successful over recent years in a number of funding bids and so has been able to strengthen the front line, particularly in supporting rough sleepers and those

with complex needs

However a lot of the funding secured is temporary, and therefore at risk.

10.0 4.Update on work of the Homelessness Support Group

In April this year, partners collectively reviewed the remit of the Homelessness Partnership, and Homelessness Support Group, and made the decision to merge the two groups.

The new group is now titled the Homelessness and Multiple Disadvantage support group and is chaired by Donna Taylor from the Front line Network/ Streetlife.

The new group has a more operational focus, building on the collaborative working of the Homelessness Support Group during covid, and continually engaging with new and grass roots services working with people experiencing homelessness and multiple disadvantage, to increase inclusiveness and reduce duplication

11.0 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

12.0 List of Appendices:

12.1 None

13.0 Financial considerations:

13.1 Details of the services funding and budget are outlined at section 9.0 of the report.

14.0 Legal considerations:

14.1 None.

15.0 Risk management considerations:

15.1 None

16.0 Equalities considerations:

16.1 The Council relevant strategies have been through equalities impact assessments.

17.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

17.1 See section 7.2 on Grange Park development

18.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

18.1 Please note comments regarding input from Lived Experience Team

19.0 Background papers:

19.1 None.

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Report to: **TOURISM ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Relevant Officer: Philip Welsh, Head of Tourism and Communications

Date of Meeting : 8 December 2021

ILLUMINATIONS UPDATE REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To provide an update on the various recommendations made relating to the Illuminations at the review panel meeting in April 2021.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the update , the recommendations made and identify any further work to be undertaken on the Illuminations

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure the Committee has an overview of ongoing work.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 None

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is

- "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"

6.0 Background information

6.1 On 27 April 2021, Members of the Tourism, Economy and Communities (TEC) Scrutiny Committee held a Review Panel meeting to consider the delivery and future of the

Illuminations in Blackpool. Following discussions with officers the Panel agreed:

“To recommend that an update on the Illuminations be provide to the December 2021 meeting of the TEC Scrutiny Committee. In this report Members asked that the following information be provided:

- *Details on the local community engagement work, including with young people and those with disabilities;*
- *Emerging commercial opportunities, including heritage tours and paid for events;*
- *None traditional light events (such as the Moon exhibition at the Winter Gardens);*
- *The environmental improvements that had been made or were planned;*
- *Details of how Town Deal money would be spent locally to improve education and skills;*
- *The cost effectiveness of a “switch-on” event, in light of the extended Illuminations period;*
- *Work to address the negative perception of Blackpool town centre at night; and*
- *The progress on the Town Deal bid.”*

6.2 The requested report has been attached at Appendix 8(a) and outlines actions on each of the recommendations made by the Review Panel.

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 Appendix 8(a) – Illuminations Update

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 Update on Town Deal funding for Illuminations included within attached Appendix 8(a).

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 Included within Appendix 8(a)

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 None

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None

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ILLUMINATIONS UPDATE

December 2021

The 2021 Display



This year's Illuminations display was launched on Friday 2 September at the end of a live concert in The Blackpool Tower Ballroom which was streamed to a global audience.

The free-to-access show saw Shirley Ballas, head judge of BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing*, pull the switch to trigger four months of Illuminations in the resort, only the second time in history the lights season has been extended into the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The Switch-On celebration was watched by a worldwide audience with more than 160,000 views from as far afield as Australia, Canada and the United States.

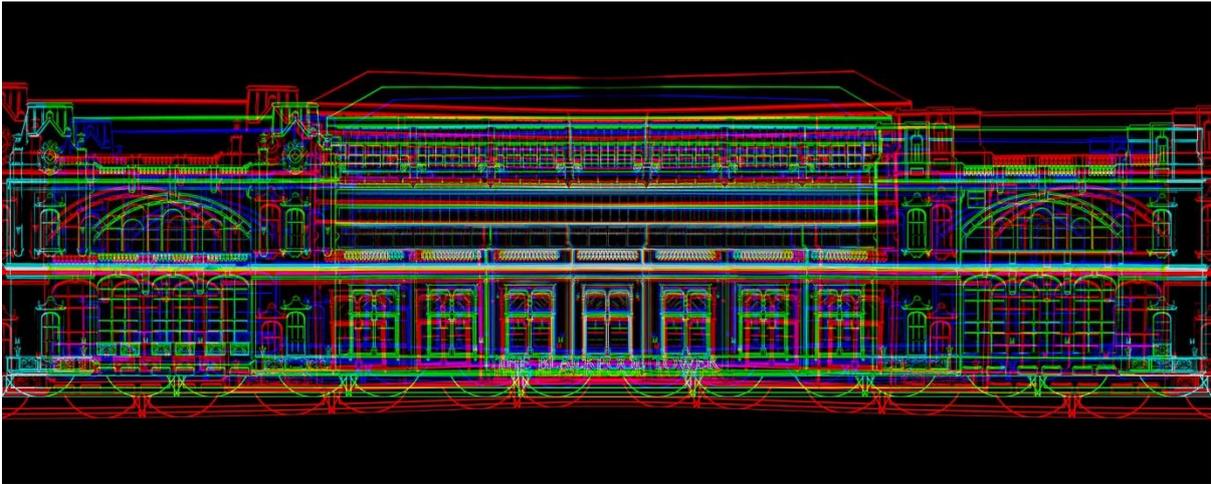


On the promenade headland outside the ballroom, tens of thousands of people gathered to watch the lights come on along with a celebratory burst of fireworks at the top of The Tower.

Our partners, MTV also produced two more shows from the Switch-On celebrations: An individual artist special, *MTV Live: KSI* and a compilation show, *MTV Live From Blackpool Switch-On: The Best Bits*. Both shows were broadcast on MTV MUSIC in October and repeated in November.

This year's display, saw two of Britain's leading designers bring a unique twist to the display.

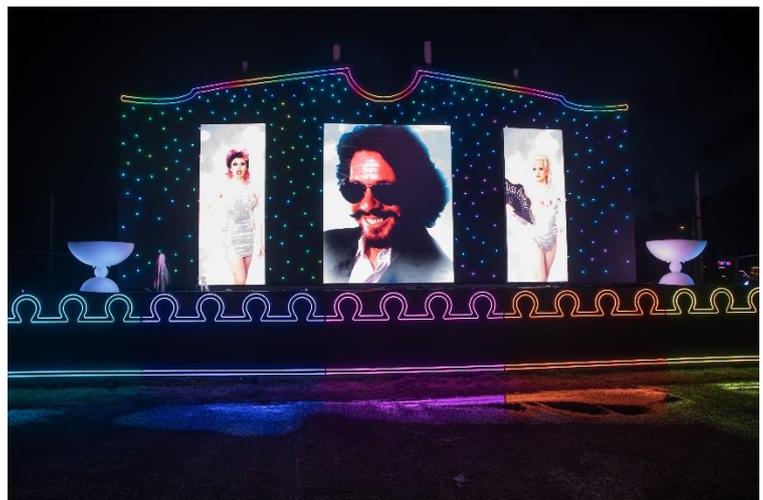
Blackpool-born Jack Irving, best known for creating wildly-theatrical outfits for Lady Gaga, created *Astral Dreams*, a laser-mapped show that is being projected nightly on to the front of The Blackpool Tower building.



The Astral Dreams laser show (above) utilises five high-powered lasers beamed on to the historic frontage. The light show is accompanied by a new soundtrack composed by local music composer and producer, George Cornes.

Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, the Illuminations' creative curator and star of Channel 4's new remake of Changing Rooms, has re-imagined a spectacular water feature at South Beach, turning it into a drag-themed sound and light show, Venus Remixed.

The Venus Reborn tableau at South Beach was originally created by Laurence in 2008 with Greek gods, a gigantic water tank and LED lighting. For 2021, it has been given a glamorous makeover as Venus Remixed, drawing inspiration from local drag talent and featuring three giant digital screens. It incorporates a brand new sound and light show, which is played every 10 minutes.



These are just two of the features in the 2021 display that are aimed at encouraging visitors to view the Illuminations on foot. Other light-based installations on the Tower Festival Headland include:

Spiro Light Tunnel: An immersive walk-through tunnel of light spanning more than 25 metres created with individually-mapped LEDs that create an extraordinary lighting effect. First unveiled at the resort's Lightpool Festival two years ago, it returns to the seafront for the full Illuminations season.

Sandcastle and Beach Balls: Two giant pixelated beach balls were located on the headland alongside an illuminated sandcastle and giant deckchair for the main Illuminations season. For the Christmas season they have been transformed into giant baubles, one remaining on the headland, the other sited at Houndshell Shopping Centre.



I Heart BPL Installation: A specially-commissioned installation deliberated designed to create social media photo opportunities. It stands eight feet tall and was manufactured at Lightworks using traditional manufacturing methods and lamps.



Other new and reimagined features in the 2021 display include:

Princess Parade: The closest to our modern-day Illumination displays first appeared in May 1912 to commemorate Blackpool's first royal visit as Princess Louise opened the new section of promenade named after her - Princess Parade. Nearly 110 years later, Princess Parade still holds its original place in the Illuminations. The revamped section has been completely relit using traditional tungsten lamps to show it looked during that special royal visit all those decades ago.

Spitfire Island: Back by public demand, a replica Spitfire has returned to Gynn roundabout courtesy of Blackpool's aviation museum, Hangar 42. For this year's display, the fighter plane has once again be tastefully illuminated with sweeping search lights.

The Extended Illuminations Season

The two-month extension to the Illuminations season is part of our post-pandemic recovery plan to kick-start tourism and hospitality across the resort.

The plan also includes a significant investment in marketing and events over the four-month period to help drive footfall and additional business.

On the back of the announcement of our plans, a number of accommodation businesses and attractions have extended their season into December.

By using the Illuminations as a backdrop, we have been able to create three new events, Christmas By The Sea (covered in more detail within this report), Ride The Christmas Lights (Sunday 5 December), and New Year's Eve Family Fireworks.

That all means Blackpool has an exceptionally strong tourism product at a time when many resorts have closed down for the year.

Lightpool Festival

October half-term saw the staging of our biggest ever Lightpool Festival. Spanning 15 nights, it included an illuminated art trail, live performance and community-based events.

The art trail, which was free to access and staged across a range of indoor and outdoor venues, showcased 16 new illuminated artworks including nine world premieres.



The most spectacular installation was the House Of Cards (above), which has previously appeared in Amsterdam, Milan and Berlin, but was showing in the UK for the first time.

Situated on the seafront close to The Blackpool Tower, it was made up of 128 light boxes in the form of playing cards. It has been created through a collaboration of 35 internationally-acclaimed street and visual artists from all over the world.

Other festival highlights included:

Aqualux, Tower Festival Headland
(pictured right)

An eco-friendly light feature to highlight the importance of water. On selected days, an impressive illuminated Peterbilt truck toured the streets of Blackpool with Aqualux on-board.



The Nature Take Over 3D projection

show which saw the outside of St John's Church reclaimed by nature as large vines, flowers, fruit, fungus and creatures took over the church exterior.

Close by on Abingdon Street and new for 2021 was **Big Bird**, a 3.5 metre high pigeon sculpture made out of the parts of 10 London taxis and illuminated by the Blackpool Illuminations team.

100 Local Lanterns, created in a series of workshops and put on display in The Old Electric on Springfield Road, forming an immersive community exhibition.

A series of installations and events at the Winter Gardens included **Luma**, an eight-metre long, robotic inflatable snail; **And Then I Slipped**, a unique installation creating the effect of a waterfall; **500**, a specially-commissioned film showcasing four of the resort's entertainment venues that have each been entertaining visitors for 125 years; and, for one night only, **Symphony of Light**, a live experience with music, lasers, artwork and immersive lighting effects within Olympia.

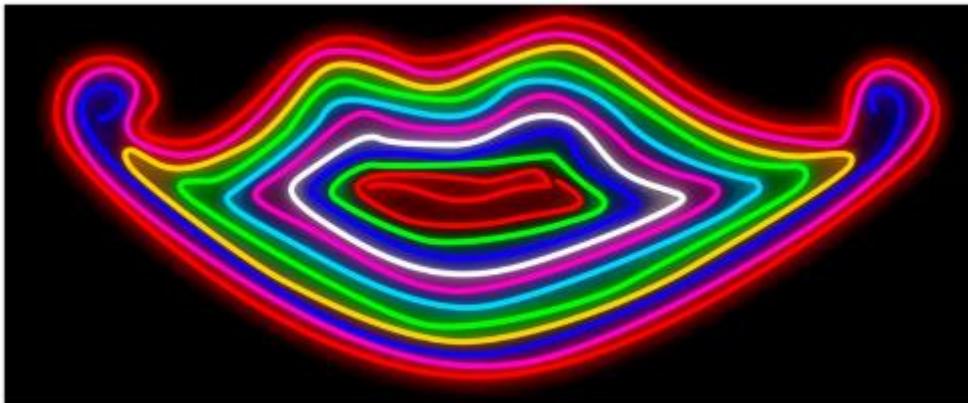
Across the road at the Houndshell Shopping Centre, the light trail included in a vacant shop unit the **White Tiger** (pictured right), courtesy of internationally-renowned artist, Chila Kumari Singh Burman.

The car was originally created to celebrate the launch of the critically-acclaimed film *The White Tiger*, which is based on the New York Times bestseller and 2008 Man Booker Prize-winning novel of the same name. Netflix partnered with Burman to bring the car to life.



Chila was also commissioned to produce a new light installation on the exterior of the Grundy Art Gallery (see picture below).

Brought together under the title, **Blackpool Light Of My Life**, the exhibition is the artist's love letter to the town which she visited regularly as a child, with Blackpool Illuminations being an abiding memory. It is on display until January 3. It has been co-commissioned by the Grundy, Blackpool Illuminations and Lightpool Festival, made possible by funding from an Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grant.



Although the highly-popular Illuminated Tram Parade was cancelled due to bad weather, the festival staged a number of other live shows including the **Global Grooves Carnival** in The Blackpool Tower Ballroom and a **Silent Disco** in The Blackpool Tower Fifth Floor venue.

Community Engagement

Although the Lightpool Festival is an integral part of our tourism events programme, it also creates significant potential to engage with the local community. These are some of the community-based activities in the 2021 festival:

Aqualux Tour: Three nights of artwork tours with local company, Fox Brothers, and their unique illuminated Peterbilt vehicle, visiting/stopping at Mereside, Marton, Layton, Grange Park, Revoe, Anchorsholme Park. Engagement with approximately 1500 local families who came out to see Aqualux.

Lumidogs: Twelve community workshops across Blackpool with more than 80 local participants creating illuminated designs for their dogs. Also created 16 days of work for local artists.

Lantern Making: Nine community workshops across Blackpool, with 212 local participants. Delivered in partnership with Electric Sunshine project

Fit2Glow Children's Football Tournament: One heat at Blackpool Sports Centre with 12 schools and 94 participants; a second heat at Blackpool Sports Centre with nine community football groups and 80 participants delivered in association with Blackpool Football Club Community Trust.

Primary Futures: Schools engagement programme on careers and further education involving 2,500 schoolchildren

Illuminate: 32 children took part in a community engagement project, in partnership with Grand Theatre

The extension of the Illuminations display into the winter season also created some community activities. Via schools and libraries, around 120 schoolchildren created drawings for inclusion in the new Frost Fairies light projection show which is part of our Christmas By The Sea event on the Tower Festival Headland.

Children from the Magic Club at Claremont also created Christmas card designs which are being displayed on the digital screens within the Illuminations display.

Commercial Opportunities

The 2021 display has attracted a number of new sponsors in addition to existing ones. The full list of sponsors includes Access Fylde Coast; Affinity Lancashire; Barclaycard; Beaverbrooks; Better Start; City Fibre; Comedy Station; Coral Island; Fox Brothers; Fylde Coast Women's Aid; Hangar 42 Visitor Centre; Hikvision; Houndshill Shopping Centre; Nickelodeon; Northern Rail; Partington's Holiday Parks; Sooty; White Ribbon.

We are also focusing on hiring our services and features to other towns. So far this year, we have achieved the following:

- ❖ Delivery of a new light festival in Crewe
- ❖ Hire of light art to Knowsley Council
- ❖ Working with the Duchy of Lancaster to light the Christmas tree in Lancaster Castle
- ❖ Delivery of Christmas displays for Chorley, Lytham, Lancaster and Morecambe
- ❖ Hire of equipment to other light festivals

The Illuminations team is continuing to explore the potential for introducing behind-the-scenes tours of Lightworks.

Environmental Improvements

The Illuminations service continues to invest in LED lighting and other low-power consumption technology.

Town Deal funding has been allocated to improve electrical infrastructure on the promenade and in the town centre to help reduce generator hire.

We continue to investigate new manufacturing techniques and that will increase the lifespan of features and help minimise maintenance.

Town Deal (including education and skills)

The Illuminations has been allocated a total of £4.5m to revitalise the display and attract additional visitors through new features and installations. The business case has been approved at local level and we are now awaiting the go-ahead to start spending the funds.

As part of the business plan, we are looking to introduce an apprenticeship scheme and have already created new, more specialised positions within the Illuminations team, which are currently advertised

We are also in discussions with Lancaster University regarding the development of new technology.

The Illuminations business case is among seven project plans submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and a response is anticipated in December. Towns have until the end of the 2025/26 financial year to spend the money.

Improvements To Town Centre/Night-Time Economy

As referenced earlier in the report, we are using the extension of the Illuminations as the backdrop to our biggest ever Christmas campaign. The campaign, which launched in mid-November, is intended to drive footfall to the town centre and Promenade over several weeks.

The centrepiece of the campaign is our Christmas By The Sea village on the Tower Festival Headland. It is supported by a substantial marketing campaign including TV, radio, digital and out-of-home advertising across the region.

The promenade village, supported by Northern, officially opened on November 19 and will remain in place until Monday 3 January to complement the two-month extension to the Illuminations season.

It includes a skating rink, simulated snowfalls, log cabins, a forest of Christmas trees, larger-than-life light installations, and festive light projection shows including the specially-commissioned Frost Fairies show, based on a children's book.



Standing in the shadow of The Blackpool Tower, the synthetic skating rink is free to use and includes skate hire. There are 40-minute sessions from Thursday to Sunday from November 19 until December 17, and then daily until January 3. No advance bookings are required, people can simply turn up to book a session.

Blackpool Transport has added to the festive feel with Magical Express Tours on a Christmas-themed heritage tram.

All tours will depart from the North Pole, a specially renamed tram stop located next to the Tourist Information Centre and otherwise known as the North Pier and Tower Heritage Tram Stop!



The Winter Gardens is complementing the Christmas By The Sea village with its own indoor and outdoor Wonderland which features traditional stalls, funfair rides and virtual reality experiences.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Whilst we have no formal research on visitor numbers due to our traditional household research being suspended during pandemic restrictions, key indicators such as car parking, inbound rail, and mobile phone monitoring data indicate that Blackpool's tourism industry has enjoyed a remarkably strong recovery to date.

Businesses across most tourism and hospitality sectors in the resort are reporting exceptional results compared to 2019 (the last full year of tourism activity pre-pandemic) and strong bookings over the remainder of this year and into next.

Over the first two weeks of November (when the Illuminations would normally be switched off), parking patronage was almost double the level seen in the same period in 2019.

The anecdotal evidence from accommodation businesses (both in the self-catering and serviced sectors) is that the high level of bookings over the remainder of this year has been fuelled by the extension of the Illuminations and greatly-enhanced Christmas offer.

During those first two weeks of the extended Illuminations season, there was a significant increase in public donations at the collection points at the southern and northern gateways on the promenade. As a result, by mid-November, the total public donations had reached more than £105k, ahead of the previous four years.

We are still awaiting updated figures on footfall (which is now based on mobile phone data) but, as of the start of November, Centre For Cities research revealed that year-to-date, Blackpool is showing the highest level of recovery in the UK at 114% of pre-pandemic levels.

Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Philip Welsh, Head of Tourism and Communications
Date of Decision/ Meeting	8 December 2021

CAR PARKING SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To provide information on the performance data of Council-owned and managed car parks, and on-street parking, both with regards to patronage and income in the full year ending 2020-21, and in the current year, April to October, with comparisons to the previous year.
- 1.2 The report also provides an update on the growth of the new PayByPhone system introduced in May 2020. Detailed performance figures are shown in the appendix to this report.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To consider the performance of parking services and to identify any further areas for scrutiny as appropriate.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure constructive and robust scrutiny of the report, which had been requested by the Committee.
- 3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No
- 3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

- 4.1 None

5.0 Council priority:

- 5.1 The relevant Council priority is
 - "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"

6.0 Background information

6.1 Introduction

There are two types of car parking: On Street, which relates to the parking bays along a street and Off Street, which relates to parking within a car park. There are approximately 900 pay and display On Street bays, mainly within the town centre and along the Promenade. There are 20 Council-owned car parks, plus two car parks which are managed by the Council although privately owned, with a combined total of more than 5,000 parking spaces. Note that during this past year we have lost both Tower Street and Wimbourne Place, the former is being developed as part of the Houndshill extension, the latter has been acquired to create an extension to the Hampton By Hilton Hotel at South Beach.

6.2 Performance (see also Appendix 9(a))

Patronage can be affected by a number of different factors. Over the past 18 months, the COVID-19 pandemic with repeated lockdowns and restrictions has clearly impacted on car park usage at certain times.

As we moved into this new financial year at the start of April large parts of the tourism and hospitality sector remained in lockdown, which meant a significant downturn in visitor numbers at Easter and the early May Bank Holiday.

However, as the Government roadmap out of lockdown unfolded there was a dramatic recovery in visitor numbers from late May onwards, illustrated by high levels of footfall and parking usage during the summer and autumn season.

In the 24 weeks between May 17 (when most of the tourism and hospitality industry was allowed to reopen) and the end of October, patronage on our car parks was higher than the 2019 figure on all but four weeks.

That strong performance appears to be continuing into the winter months on the back of an extended Illuminations season and very strong Christmas offer.

6.3 PayByPhone

At the end of May 2020, we launched our new PayByPhone parking app that allows customers to pay for their parking via their mobile phone either by using the downloadable app or by calling a designated number.

This allows the payment to be made without queuing, handling cash or touching payment machines. It also enables users to top up their parking session from a remote location.

Extensive signage has been installed around the car parks and along the Promenade to encourage people to download the app. The attached report illustrates the dramatic growth since its launch with more than 150,000 transactions April to October this year compared to 63,000 last year.

Given the extremely high usage of our car parks at certain times over the past few months the app has been particularly useful in giving people an alternative method of payment rather than queuing at pay machines.

It has also provided a “COVID-safe” method of payment in that transactions can be made without any contact with pay machines and from the comfort of your own vehicle.

We are actively exploring ways in which we can utilize the technology to offer discounted offers for specific times as well as conferences and events. For example, this year’s Christmas offer of £1 to park for a three-hour period is only accessible via the app.

We have also introduced a “pay as you go” offer on the app for Council staff who have not yet returned to office working on a full-time basis and therefore do not require a permanent pass.

The year-to-date performance and comparison against last year is shown in the attached report.

6.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 Appendix 9(a): Parking Performance Data

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 The car parking service has made a surplus of income over expenditure every year as far back as records goes. However, the overall performance for 2020-21 was clearly affected significantly by COVID restrictions and lockdowns, some of which fell in peak trading periods including Easter and October half-term.

Those restrictions continued into the start of this new financial year which meant that from a tourism perspective we again lost Easter and the early May Bank Holiday.

However, as stated earlier in this report, there has been an exceptionally strong recovery from mid-May onwards this year enabling us to recoup losses incurred over the first few weeks.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 None

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None

PARKING SERVICES PERFORMANCE 2020-21 v 2019-20 v 2018-19

Off Street Parking

Year on Year Comparison						
Sorted By Patronage 20-21	18-19	-	19-20	20-21	Variance 20-21 v 19-20	%
Banks Street	10,438		8,997	4,585	-4,412	-49
Bethesda Square	6,648		6,510	3,886	-2,624	-40
Bloomfield Road	16,881		15,591	5,646	-9,945	-64
Bolton Street	4,360		3,732	2,799	-933	-25
Bonny Street	55,529		56,030	37,145	-18,885	-34
Central	338,952		316,933	206,623	-110,310	-35
Chapel Street Surface	31,147		25,352	17,527	-7,825	-31
Cocker Square	5,848		4,556	2,730	-1,826	-40
Cocker Street	6,082		5,165	2,462	-2,703	-52
East Topping Street	104,682		99,755	38,832	-60,923	-61
Filey Place	9,852		9,281	6,303	-2,978	-32
Foxhall Village	18,657		15,925	9,577	-6,348	-40
Gynn Square	5,060		4,662	2,225	-2,437	-52
Lonsdale Road	23,484		21,243	11,354	-9,889	-47
Lytham Road	4,337		4,418	2,488	-1,930	-44
Queen Street	10,951		8,607	4,306	-4,301	-50
Seasiders Way	3,514		2,423	887	-1,536	-63
South Beach	55,478		55,981	33,676	-22,305	-40
South Car Park	37,807		32,585	17,960	-14,625	-45
South King Street	11,618		11,294	4,265	-7,029	-62
Talbot Rd Multi-Storey	22,115		21,629	3,873	-17,756	-82
Tower Street (Now Closed)	157,701		161,003	82,598	-78,405	-49
West Street Multi-Storey	81,025		85,325	32,398	-52,927	-62
Wimbourne Place (Now Closed)	6,319		5,705	2,319	-3,386	-59
	1,028,485		982,702	536,464	-446,238	-45

East Topping Street	Large amount of additional permit holders put on this site. Jan to late Aug. South end of ETS reserved for CV19 clinic users.
Seasiders Way	Site closed for extended periods.
Foxhall Village	Site closed for extended periods.
Talbot Rd Multi-Storey	Site closed for extended periods.

Year on Year Comparison						
<u>Sorted By Income 20-21</u>	<u>18-19</u>	-	<u>19-20</u>	<u>20-21</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>%</u>
Central	£1,908,489		£1,793,057	£1,097,163	-£695,894	-39
South Beach	£392,642		£397,897	£230,185	-£167,713	-42
Bonny Street	£283,718		£285,277	£181,946	-£103,331	-36
Tower Street	£341,307		£348,718	£170,178	-£178,541	-51
East Topping Street	£451,171		£433,285	£163,770	-£269,515	-62
West Street Multi-Storey	£423,029		£417,255	£155,855	-£261,400	-63
South Car Park	£248,996		£215,328	£114,554	-£100,774	-47
Chapel Street Surface	£174,250		£138,586	£95,859	-£42,727	-31
Lonsdale Road	£150,727		£137,831	£69,079	-£68,752	-50
Foxhall Village	£117,243		£99,870	£54,684	-£45,186	-45
South King Street	£107,191		£108,890	£44,375	-£64,515	-59
Filey Place	£71,594		£67,420	£42,493	-£24,927	-37
Banks Street	£75,806		£67,458	£34,312	-£33,146	-49
Bloomfield Road	£101,023		£91,297	£33,432	-£57,866	-63
Queen Street	£56,222		£50,260	£27,673	-£22,587	-45
Talbot Rd Multi-Storey	£117,242		£113,375	£20,736	-£92,639	-82
Cocker Street	£44,606		£39,570	£17,287	-£22,283	-56
Cocker Square	£40,299		£31,311	£16,853	-£14,458	-46
Bethesda Square	£30,495		£29,549	£16,637	-£12,912	-44
Lytham Road	£28,901		£31,249	£16,459	-£14,790	-47
Bolton Street	£25,202		£21,899	£15,750	-£6,148	-28
Wimbourne Place	£45,647		£47,577	£15,602	-£31,975	-67
Gynn Square	£30,803		£28,342	£10,432	-£17,910	-63
Seasiders Way	£27,209		£20,201	£6,538	-£13,663	-69
	£5,293,812		£5,015,500	£2,651,849	£2,363,651	-47

On-Street

Sorted By Patronage 20-21						
On Street	18-19		19-20	20-21	Variance	%
Town Centre P&D	289,382		256,427	152,944	-103,483	-40
Promenade	99,155		96,579	89,847	-6,732	-7
Princes Way	8,319		8,561	23,834	15,273	178
Bond St/Watson Rd	22,095		25,342	17,705	-7,637	-30
	418,951		386,909	284,330	-102,579	-27

Sorted By Income 20-21						
On Street	18-19		19-20	20-21	Variance	%
Promenade	£358,983		£348,333	£289,347	-£58,986	-17
Town Centre P&D	£401,265		£359,778	£223,035	£136,743	-38
Bond St/Watson Rd	£95,117		£111,480	£73,090	-£38,390	-34
Princes Way	£16,009		£15,976	£42,153	£26,177	164
	£871,374		£835,567	£627,625	£207,942	-25

APRIL TO SEPTEMBER PERFORMANCE 2021 v 2020 v 2019

April to October Comparison. Off Street						
	2019		2020	2021	Variance	%
Sorted By Patronage 21	-	-	-	-		
Central	196,743		148,005	250,874	102,869	70
South Beach	38,796		26,097	51,797	25,700	98
Bonny Street	34,757		27,718	50,099	22,381	81
East Topping Street	51,582		22,772	45,526	22,754	100
West Street Multi-Storey	41,737		19,318	45,462	26,144	135
South Car Park	23,835		15,763	33,026	17,263	110
Chapel Street Surface	17,594		13,741	23,682	9,941	72
Lonsdale Road	12,939		9,437	21,305	11,868	126
Tower Street	85,453		50,265	18,916	-31,349	-62
Foxhall Village	11,582		8,239	17,521	9,282	113
Bloomfield Road	8,788		5,154	16,626	11,472	223
Filey Place	6,152		5,119	10,049	4,930	96
Banks Street	5,427		3,493	9,567	6,074	174
South King Street	7,076		3,282	7,678	4,396	134
Queen Street	5,126		2,490	7,073	4,583	184
Bethesda Square	4,179		3,092	6,706	3,614	117
Gynn Square	3,081		1,738	4,976	3,238	186
Lytham Road	3,335		2,181	4,833	2,652	122
Cocker Street	3,211		1,882	4,189	2,307	123
Bolton Street	2,830		2,303	4,164	1,861	81
Cocker Square	2,946		2,225	3,935	1,710	77
Seasiders Way	1,539		786	2,032	1,246	159
Wimbourne Place	3,969		2,184	1,686	-498	-23
Talbot Rd Multi-Storey						
	572,677		377,284	641,722	264,438	70

East Topping Street	Also affected by large amount of additional permit holders put on this site.
Seasiders Way	Site closed for extended period.
Foxhall Village	Site closed for extended period.
Talbot Rd Multi-Storey	No remote access to S&B system since lockdown began. No PayByPhone facility on this car park

April to October Comparison. Off Street						
	2019		2020	2021		
Sorted By Income 2021	-	-	-	-	Variance	%
Central	£1,415,545		£1,011,153	£1,506,103	£494,951	49
South Beach	£329,254		£222,100	£366,133	£144,033	65
Bonny Street	£216,812		£172,252	£268,039	£95,787	56
West Street Multi-Storey	£264,026		£123,521	£250,225	£126,703	103
East Topping Street	£288,254		£126,817	£226,447	£99,631	79
South Car Park	£205,247		£112,939	£217,641	£104,702	93
Lonsdale Road	£113,847		£67,082	£149,198	£82,117	122
Chapel Street Surface	£121,589		£92,119	£142,108	£49,988	54
Bloomfield Road	£78,804		£33,034	£104,982	£71,949	218
Foxhall Village	£92,898		£52,546	£98,851	£46,305	88
South King Street	£83,889		£41,549	£87,923	£46,374	112
Banks Street	£51,663		£32,123	£86,169	£54,046	168
Filey Place	£53,761		£40,505	£77,032	£36,528	90
Queen Street	£35,159		£22,218	£57,197	£34,979	157
Tower Street	£220,878		£133,012	£42,886	£-90,126	-68
Lytham Road	£28,446		£16,083	£35,856	£19,773	123
Cocker Street	£28,970		£15,981	£33,993	£18,012	113
Bethesda Square	£23,083		£15,691	£33,468	£17,778	113
Gynn Square	£22,397		£9,994	£30,980	£20,986	210
Cocker Square	£25,172		£16,392	£28,736	£12,345	75
Bolton Street	£19,604		£15,691	£27,081	£11,390	73
Seasiders Way	£14,841		£6,500	£16,324	£9,825	151
Wimbourne Place	£41,214		£15,508	£10,205	£-5,303	-34
Talbot Rd Multi-Storey	82,546					
	£3,857,899		£2,394,807	£3,897,577	£1,502,771	63

On Street April to October						
Sorted by patronage, 2021 against 2020						
On Street	2018	2019	2020	2021	Variance	%
Town Centre P&D	173,215	162,768	85,338	130,872	45,534	53
Promenade	79,853	78,051	76,686	103,513	26,827	35
Bond St/Watson Rd	16,948	20,402	12,190	21,306	9,116	75
Princes Way	5,724	6,103	15,819	17,912	2,093	13
	275,740	267,324	190,033	273,603	83,570	44

On Street April to October						
Sorted by income, 2021 against 2020						
On Street	2018	2019	2020	2021	Variance	%
Promenade	£305,708	£292,075	£263,052	£399,927	£136,875	52
Town Centre P&D	£241,288	£229,385	£126,619	£212,405	£85,786	68
Bond St/Watson Rd	£76,237	£93,781	£62,327	£96,975	£34,649	56
Princes Way	£12,088	£11,974	£29,585	£33,887	£4,302	15
	£635,320	£627,215	£481,583	£743,195	£261,612	54

PAYBYPHONE USAGE

April to October PayByPhone Patronage & Income						
Sorted By Most Popular 21	2020		2021		Variance	
	Patronage	Income	Patronage	Income	Patronage	Income
Central	23,987	£136,413	39,730	£241,232	15,743	£104,819
Tower Street	6,272	£14,883	18,916	£42,886	12,644	£28,003
South Beach	6,109	£44,102	13,836	£99,455	7,727	£55,353
Bloomfield Road	1,008	£5,812	13,563	£85,116	12,555	£79,304
South Car Park	2,533	£16,083	10,536	£68,533	8,003	£52,450
Chapel Street Surface	4,933	£29,357	10,341	£67,651	5,408	£38,294
East Topping Street	2,019	£10,476	7,867	£42,136	5,848	£31,660
West Street Multi-Storey	2,955	£16,212	7,577	£45,291	4,622	£29,079
Bonny Street	4,016	£20,442	7,003	£37,651	2,987	£17,209
Lonsdale Road	1,737	£11,206	5,412	£38,292	3,675	£27,086
Foxhall Village	2,342	£14,028	4,481	£27,588	2,139	£13,560
Banks Street	438	£3,350	2,086	£18,737	1,648	£15,387
Wimbourne Place	598	£3,859	1,682	£10,186	1,084	£6,328
Queen Street	644	£4,306	1,562	£12,823	918	£8,517
Filey Place	688	£5,208	1,182	£9,445	494	£4,236
Bethesda Square	656	£4,098	1,079	£5,521	423	£1,423
South King Street	819	£9,209	1,035	£10,187	216	£977
Cocker Square	203	£1,443	740	£6,061	537	£4,618
Bolton Street	405	£2,655	727	£5,103	322	£2,448
Seasiders Way	422	£3,413	688	£5,898	266	£2,485
Lytham Road	348	£2,475	626	£4,482	278	£2,007
Gynn Square	325	£2,161	604	£4,211	279	£2,050
Cocker Street	351	£2,781	579	£4,848	228	£2,067
Talbot Rd Multi-Storey						
	63,808	£363,971	151,852	£893,331	88,044	£529,360

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Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting:	8 December 2021

SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the Workplan and to monitor the implementation of Committee recommendations, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review topics.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the Committee Workplan 2020-2021, taking into account any suggestions for amendment or addition.

2.2 To monitor the implementation of the Committee's recommendations/action.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that recommendations/actions are being monitored, the Workplan is up to date and is an accurate representation of the Committee's work.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Scrutiny Workplan 2020/2021

- 5.1.1 The Workplan is a flexible document that sets out the work that the Committee will undertake over the course of the year.
- 5.1.2 The Committee is scheduled to meet on 9 June 2021 to review the Workplan for the 2021/2022 municipal year. A copy of the updated document will be circulated in advance of the meeting.
- 5.1.3 Committee Members are invited, either now or in the future, to suggest topics that might be suitable for scrutiny in order that they be added to the Workplan.

5.2 Monitoring Implementation of Recommendations

- 5.2.1 The table attached at Appendix 10(c) has been developed to assist the Committee in effectively ensuring that the recommendations made by the Committee are acted upon. The table will be regularly updated and submitted to each Committee meeting.
- 5.2.2 Members are requested to consider the updates provided in the table and ask follow up questions as appropriate to ensure that all recommendations are implemented

5.3 Scrutiny Review Checklist

- 5.3.1 The Scrutiny Review Checklist is attached at Appendix 10(b). The checklist forms part of the mandatory scrutiny procedure for establishing review panels and must therefore be completed and submitted for consideration by the Committee, prior to a topic being approved for scrutiny.
- 5.3.2 The Committee is recommended to place an emphasis on the priorities and performance of the Council when considering requests for scrutiny reviews.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.6 List of Appendices:

Appendix 10(a) - Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee Workplan

Appendix 10(b) - Scrutiny Review Checklist

Appendix 10(c) – Tourism, Economy and Communities Committee Action Tracker

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

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Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee - Work Plan 2021-2022	
8 December 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Car Parking Annual Report – To consider the annual report on Car Parking performance. 2. Climate Emergency Update – To consider an update on working being undertaken in response to the Council’s Climate Emergency Declaration. 3. Housing and Homelessness Update – To include information on the implementation of the recommendations of the Housing and Homelessness Scrutiny Review Panel. 4. Illuminations Report – To consider an update on the work undertaken following the 27 April 2021 Illuminations Review Panel
2 February 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Waste Services Annual Report 2. Flood Risk Annual Report 3. Bathing Water Quality Annual Report 4. Road Maintenance Report – To include details of ongoing and upcoming maintenance plan and details of funding for road maintenance. 5. Town Centre Regeneration Update - To include information on the progress, the long term impact of lockdown on economic development and forecast for current and planned regeneration projects and how these will support job creation in the town. 6. Community Safety Partnership Review Panel – To consider a report on the outcomes of the Community Safety Partnership Review Panel. 7. Public Rights of Way Review Panel – To consider a report on the outcomes of the PROWS Review Panel
30 March 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parks and Green Environment Annual Report 2. Tourism Performance Update 3. Customer Feedback Annual Report. 4. Art Installation On the Promenade – To consider arrangements for the maintenance of art installation on the Promenade.

Scrutiny Review Work	
27 July 2021	CCTV Scrutiny - Details of work being undertaken in relation to CCTV in Blackpool.
27 September 2021	Economic Development - Details of the impact of Covid-19 on Economic Development within Blackpool, including details of the Town Deal
1 December 2021	Public Rights of Way – Details of work to maintain and improve rights of way in Blackpool, including a possible site-visit.
January 2022	Community Safety Partnership – To consider the CSP Annual Report and details of the draft Community Safety Plan.
Next Meeting January 2022	Arts and Culture Scrutiny review Panel – An ongoing review of the recovery of the arts and culture sector in Blackpool following Covid-19.
TBC	Temporary Holiday Accommodation in Blackpool – To consider the scope and scale of temporary holiday accommodation in Blackpool and its impact on communities and tourism.
TBC	Sustainability Strategy Policy development scrutiny of the draft strategy.
TBC	Lancashire Waste Strategy Policy development scrutiny of the draft strategy.
TBC	Air Quality Strategy policy development scrutiny of the draft strategy.

SCRUTINY SELECTION CHECKLIST

Title of proposed Scrutiny:

The list is intended to assist the relevant scrutiny committee in deciding whether or not to approve a topic that has been suggested for scrutiny.

Whilst no minimum or maximum number of ‘yes’ answers are formally required, the relevant scrutiny committee is recommended to place higher priority on topics related to the performance and priorities of the Council.

Please expand on how the proposal will meet each criteria you have answered ‘yes’ to.

	Yes/No
The review will add value to the Council and/or its partners overall performance:	
The review is in relation to one or more of the Council’s priorities:	
The Council or its partners are not performing well in this area:	
It is an area where a number of complaints (or bad press) have been received:	
The issue is strategic and significant:	
There is evidence of public interest in the topic:	
The issue has potential impact for one or more sections of the community:	
Service or policy changes are planned and scrutiny could have a positive input:	
Adequate resources (both members and officers) are available to carry out the scrutiny:	

Please give any further details on the proposed review:

Completed by:

Date:

MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

.	DATE OF REC.	RECOMMENDATION	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	UPDATE	RAG Rating
2	23 January 2019	That bi-annual updates on the progress of Town Centre Regeneration Projects be included on future agendas	Ongoing	Nick Gerard/John Greenbank	Items for monitoring the progress of Town Centre Regeneration Project have been scheduled for every six-months. Next Update 2 February 2022.	Ongoing
10	14 April 2021	That details of the source of the announced additional £40k in funding for Public Rights of Way be provided	December 2021	Ian Large	Details of the funding are planned to be circulated as part of the agreed Public Rights of Way Scrutiny Review Panel to be held 1 December 2021.	Ongoing
11	27 July 2021	That the Committee be involved in the consultation for phase 2 of the upgrade of Blackpool's CCTV infrastructure.	Ongoing	John Blackledge/John Greenbank	The Committee will be invited to input into plans for the upgrade of Blackpool's wider CCTV infrastructure following the agreement of the upgrade to the core system in September 2021	Ongoing
12	6 October 2021	That the issue of temporary holiday accommodation in Blackpool to the work programme.	Ongoing	John Greenbank	It is envisioned that this will be a scrutiny review panel and an update on progress to undertake this work will be provided to the 2 February 2022 meeting of the Committee.	Ongoing

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