

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL
ON 25TH AUGUST 2026**

PRESENT –

Councillor D. Cockburn-Price – Vice Chair (in the Chair)

Councillors

C. Church (absent for the start of the meeting)

S. Cockburn-Price

M. Iqbal

S. Land

Officers in attendance

Lynne Rowland

Committee Administrator

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M. Sakib and Y. Tennant.)

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6. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests and that whipping declarations were also required.

Members' attention was also drawn to the requirements of the Council's Code of Conduct relating to the disclosure of Other Registrable Interests and Non-Registrable Interests.

7. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

8. PERFORMANCE DATA

Councillor C. Church – Chair (In the Chair)

Since the last meeting of this Committee, Members had been provided with the 2025/26 Quarter 4 performance data, as presented to the Executive in May, to identify any areas that may need to be explored further.

In addition, the 2026/27 Quarter 1 performance data, to be considered by the Executive on 27th August, had been circulated prior to the meeting for Members to consider if any areas required scrutiny.

Each report brought together performance information on the progress made with the delivery of the corporate priority actions in the Council Plan, the Council's key performance indicators (KPIs), financial plans, and risk management arrangements for the respective periods.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (25.08.2026)

A basket of 25 KPIs had been devised to provide the Council with a gauge of performance representing a range of services delivered by and on behalf of the Council. These included some Liberata and Pendle Leisure Trust (PLT) performance indicators.

During discussion, a number of additional potential KPIs were suggested, along with a proposal that those that were consistently recorded as completed, and not a high risk to the Council, could be removed.

RESOLVED

That a meeting be requested with appropriate officers and the relevant Executive member(s) to discuss the key performance indicators in further detail.

9. WORK PROGRAMME

(a) Work Programme 2026/27

The current Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2026/27 was submitted for information.

Members were asked to prioritise the order in which the topics were to be considered by the Committee.

RESOLVED

- (1) That progress reports/updates be requested for consideration at the October 2026 meeting in relation to the following -
 - what is being done in developing behaviour change campaigns to encourage responsibility and pride in local communities, including picking up litter and taking care of our parks, as detailed in Priority 2 of the Council Plan;
 - the operation of the YES Hub.
- (2) That the regeneration policies and strategies of neighbouring Burnley, Hyndburn and Rossendale Councils be requested and once received, circulated to members of the Committee for preliminary consideration and comparison, prior to the topic being considered at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting to be held on 12th January 2027.

(b) NHS Corridor Care

At its meeting on 16th July 2026, Council considered the following Motion –

“Council notes the continuing poor service being provided to Pendle residents at Royal Blackburn Hospital by East Lancashire NHS Trust with many people forced to wait in corridors for 24 hours.

Council notes the promise by the Labour Government to invest in our NHS which is yet to be seen.”

Following discussion, it was resolved to ask the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to urgently undertake a review of NHS East Lancashire Trust and invite the Chief Executive Martin Hodgson, his Board Members and Pendle’s MP’s Jonathan Hinder and Oliver Ryan to appear in person to face questions.

The Committee was invited to consider this request.

In referencing the criteria on how to select a topic for inclusion it was agreed that this was not an issue where something could be done and a review by this Committee could make a difference.

It was felt that Lancashire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee, whose purpose was to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area, was better placed to carry out such a review.

RESOLVED

That Lancashire County Council (LCC) be asked to consider undertaking a scrutiny review of NHS East Lancashire Trust in relation to the continuing poor service being provided to Pendle residents at Royal Blackburn Hospital. As part of the review, LCC be asked to invite the Chief Executive Martin Hodgson, his Board Members and Pendle's MP's Jonathan Hinder and Oliver Ryan to appear in person to face questions.

10. EXECUTIVE WORK PROGRAMME/FORWARD PLAN

The Executive Work Programme/Forward Plan, published on 14th August 2026 was submitted for information.

11. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED

That in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the next item of business when it was likely, in view of the nature of the proceedings or the business to be transacted that there would be disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

12. PERFORMANCE DATA

The Committee was presented with the 2025/26 Quarter 4, and 2026/27 Quarter 1 performance data of the Pendle Council and Liberata UK Joint Partnership to consider if any areas required scrutiny.

RESOLVED

That further information be requested on what is being done to support digitally deprived residents/customers.

CHAIR _____