

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE EXECUTIVE
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL
ON 24th SEPTEMBER 2026**

PRESENT –

Councillor A. Mahmood (in the Chair)

Councillors

*Z. Ali
M. Ammer
M. Hanif
D. Lord
B. Newman
L. Whipp*

Also in attendance:

Councillors D. Cockburn-Price, S. Cockburn-Price and A. Sutcliffe

Officers in attendance

<i>Phillip Spurr</i>	<i>Director of Place</i>
<i>Karen Spencer</i>	<i>Director of Resources</i>
<i>David Walker</i>	<i>Assistant Director Operational Services</i>
<i>Howard Culshaw</i>	<i>Head of Legal and Democratic Services</i>
<i>Neil Watson</i>	<i>Assistant Director Planning, Licensing and Regulatory Services</i>
<i>Sarah Whitwell</i>	<i>Head of Housing and Environmental Health</i>
<i>Joanne Eccles</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>



68. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

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

The following persons declared an Other Registerable Interest in the item indicated for the reasons stated: -

Councillor Z. Ali	Asset Transfers to Town and Parish Councils	Member of Nelson Town Council	Minute No. 71
Councillor D. Cockburn-Price	Asset Transfers to Town and Parish Councils	Member of Colne Town Council	Minute No. 71
Councillor S. Cockburn-Price	Asset Transfers to Town and Parish Councils	Member of Colne Town Council	Minute No. 71

Councillor M. Hanif	Asset Transfers to Town and Parish Councils	Member of Brierfield Town Council	Minute No. 71
Councillor L. Whipp	Asset Transfers to Town and Parish Councils	Member of Barnoldswick Town Council	Minute No. 71

69. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

70. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 27th August 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**71. PROPOSED ASSET TRANSFERS TO TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS
WAVE 3 – INCORPORATING POSITION UPDATE ON WAVE 1 AND 2**

A report was submitted which provided an update on progress of Wave 1 and 2 asset transfers and sought approval to progress Wave 3 within the Council's Asset Transfer Programme.

A large proportion of transfer documents for Waves 1 and 2 had been drafted in readiness for issuing to legal representatives of the relevant Town and Parish Councils. It was noted that the programme continued to be affected by evolving positions from individual town and parish councils and that requests for asset-specific financial information were being dealt with subject to available resources and data.

Work was now progressing on Wave 3 assets, which were listed at Appendix A, comprising 17 assets in total. They included 4 red category assets (those requiring a greater degree of investigation due to complexity), the remaining 13 assets were rated green. These assets generated annual income of approximately £11,794.

It was suggested that, prior to consideration of any further wave of transfers, the Asset Transfer Programme be reviewed in the light of the current pause with Local Government Reorganisation.

RESOLVED

- (1) That progress made following approval of Wave 1, comprising 78 assets, and Wave 2, comprising 79 assets, be noted.
- (2) That the proposed progression of Wave 3, as outlined in the report, with the exception of the pavilion in Victoria Park, be agreed.
- (3) That Wave 3 assets be transferred in existing use, as categorised in the currently held Asset Register with a covenant to protect the use for future benefit of residents and stakeholders. Alternative use for community benefit would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- (4) That only assets approved through the agreed governance process progress to legal completion.

REASON

Transfer was considered appropriate subject to covenants that protect existing use or alternative community use.

72. REGULATION OF FIREWORKS

Following discussion at the last meeting, the Executive received a report proposing a response to the Government's consultation on new restrictions involving fireworks.

The recommendations involved moving some types of fireworks from type F3, which could be obtained and used by the public to type F4 which were restricted to sale to and use by professionals and a reduction in noise levels for type F2 and type F3 fireworks from 120 decibels to 90 decibels. However, Members agreed that neither of the proposals would significantly impact the effect on residents in Pendle at night or in public places when fireworks were being used unlawfully.

It was proposed that the response to Government should go further in seeking to restrict the sale of fireworks outside the unlicensed sale periods to individuals authorised by Trading Standards to use them for public displays and celebrations only.

RESOLVED

- (1) That section 3 of the report, by way of background and context to a Pendle Borough Council response to the Government's consultation on Fireworks and Pyrotechnics in the UK, be noted.
- (2) That Pendle Borough Council submit a response to the Government's consultation on Fireworks and Pyrotechnics in the UK, including the suggested text at 3.12 in the report, before the deadline of 7th October 2026.

REASON

To address the concerns caused by the antisocial use of fireworks.

73. ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

A report on enforcement activities in response to environmental crimes such as littering, failure to clear dog fouling and breaches of Public Space Protection Orders prior to and following withdrawal of proactive education and enforcement patrols in 2023 was submitted for consideration.

The report had been requested at the June meeting following a referral from Colne and District Committee about their concern over the lack of Fixed Penalty Notices issued in Quarter 4. The report provided details of enforcement when the Council made use of a third-party provider to educate and enforce against lower levels of environmental crime in parks and cemetery spaces. Following the withdrawal of the third-party provider the enforcement role for littering, dog fouling and breaches of PSPOs had been delivered by Operational Services.

With support from Nelson Town Council, Operational Services had recruited an Environmental Warden to deliver education and behaviour change activities solely within the Nelson area. The officer would support enforcement should proactive interventions be unsuccessful. It was recommended that, should the Executive be mindful to support the introduction of a presence within Colne for educational and potential enforcement purposes, that the Nelson Town Council model be put forward to Colne and District Committee members for consideration. However, some Members suggested that this was more a role for Colne Town Council.

RESOLVED

- (1) That Colne and District Committee and Colne Town Council be provided with the financial implications as set out in the report allowing them to consider the financial viability of reintroducing proactive education and enforcement patrols within Colne town centre, car parks and public retail areas.
- (2) That income generated from Fixed Penalty Notices issued for littering and dog fouling offences by funded officers within the Area Committee's or Town Council's area be ringfenced enabling them, with support of Operational Services, to deploy additional frontline resources into areas of need and deliver ongoing communication campaigns which encourage responsible disposal of waste items.

REASON

To support the improvements made to the town centre, retail and commercial areas of Colne and surrounding villages.

74. BRE INTEGRATED DWELLING LEVEL HOUSING STOCK MODELLING AND HOUSING STOCK CONDITION DATABASE

The Executive received a report presenting the findings of the borough-wide BRE Integrated Dwelling Level Housing Stock Modelling exercise commissioned by the Council and seeking endorsement of the proposed actions arising from the study.

The resulting Housing Stock Condition Database covered 41,984 dwellings and provided dwelling-level intelligence to support targeted housing intervention, enforcement, empty homes work, energy efficiency programmes and external funding bids.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the findings of the BRE Integrated Dwelling Level Housing Stock Modelling Report and Housing Stock Condition Database be noted.
- (2) That the use of the Housing Stock Condition Database to target housing interventions and enforcement and energy efficiency activity across the borough be supported.
- (3) That the development of proposals for a targeted housing improvement programme focused on areas with the highest concentrations of Category 1 hazards, excess cold, disrepair, fuel poverty and long-term empty properties be approved.

- (4) That officers be supported in using the findings to maximise external funding opportunities and inform future housing strategy, energy efficiency programmes and delivery of the Empty Homes Strategy.

REASON

To provide better-quality, safer and more energy-efficient homes and enable investment to be focused on areas of greatest need.

**75. FOREST OF BOWLAND NATIONAL LANDSCAPE
DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026/2031 CONSULTATION**

The Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was recognised as a nationally important area for its scenic beauty and ecological value with its ornithological value meriting international status as a Special Area of Conservation.

The ecological value of the area had seen reductions over recent years. There were challenges to stop that decline and manage the area for it to continue its important role in nature and to seek to improve it. The draft Management Plan was a replacement of the 2019-2024 Management Plan and was approved by the Executive in February 2026.

The Plan pulled together the complex array of issues facing the National Landscape. It set out the main important features that should be retained and augmented and set out objectives to see the area improve over the lifetime of the Management Plan.

RESOLVED

That the management plan be endorsed as published.

REASON

To help with biodiversity and climate change and encourage better and more accessible access, growing the economy in a beneficial way to the environment and climate.

76. FORWARD PLAN

The Executive's Work Programme and Forward Plan of key decisions for the four-month period commencing 1st September 2026 was submitted for information.

77. EXCLUSION OF 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 items 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 which was likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

78. ITEMS REFERRED FROM AREA COMMITTEES

(a) Land to the rear of Red Lane, Colne

At a meeting of the Colne and District Committee on 10th September 2026 members considered a report from the Director of Resources on the land to the rear of Red Lane, Colne. At that meeting it was resolved:

“That the Executive be advised that this Committee endorses the overall recommendations detailed in the report.”

Further information was provided at the meeting concerning the current situation.

RESOLVED

That the recommendations detailed in the report concerning land to the rear of Red Lane, Colne be endorsed.

REASON

The action proposed in the recommendations is deemed the most appropriate.

Chair _____