

Report of Cabinet

1. Any Cabinet recommendations on the reports that require a decision by full Council appear as separate items on the agenda.
2. Please note that the report may not reflect the wording used in the minutes, as they have yet to be formally agreed.
3. All decisions taken by Cabinet on 5 July 2023 can be found on the published Decision Notice.

Meeting held on 5 July 2023

Key Contracts and Partnerships Update 2023

4. I presented a report that provided an update on the performance of the council's key contracts and partnership arrangements.
5. Overall performance is progressing well and the Council's standing with key partners is strong.

Adoption of the Biodiversity Action Plan

6. The Cabinet Member (Neighbourhoods and Waste) presented the Biodiversity Action Plan and sought approval for the plan to be presented at full Council.
7. We noted the council's statutory duty to publish a biodiversity report and to provide updates on its actions. Following the interim action plan in 2022 extensive consultation had been undertaken with staff, community groups, partners and other government bodies. This feedback had been considered and incorporated into the action plan.
8. We endorsed the action plan and thanked the Lead Member for Climate Change and Officers for their work. We also acknowledged that South Ribble was leading the way in the North West for the work undertaken on climate change and actions to help us achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.
9. We also expressed concern at recent reports that central government were considering abolishing the International Climate Finance Pledge and were not taking climate change seriously. We asked the Cabinet Member (Neighbourhoods and Waste) to write to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change to express our concern.

Content Management System

10. The Cabinet Member (Customer and Digital) presented a report that sought to agree the future for the Council's Content Management System (CMS)
11. We noted that officers would be trying to seek a contract with favourable commercial terms for a five year term, if this could not be achieved a full procurement exercise would be undertaken.
12. The Cabinet Member (Customer and Digital) explained that both value for money and quality of service would be considered when procuring new contracts.

Scrutiny Review of Building Better Homes and Neighbourhoods, Enhancing Housing Standards in South Ribble – Response to recommendations

13. The Cabinet Member (Planning, Business Support and Economic Development) presented a report that provided the Cabinet's response to the final report from the Scrutiny Committee's review of Building Better Homes and Neighbourhoods.
14. Although we accepted the majority of the recommendations we were unable to accept recommendations four and five as it was important to retain flexibility on Section 106 and CIL monies.

Property and Assets Management System – Contract Award

15. The Cabinet Member (Customer and Digital) presented a confidential report that updated members on the requirement for a property and assets management system, including aims, objectives and benefits of the system.

I would like to recommend that Council note the report.

Councillor Paul Foster
Leader of the Council