

# Agenda

## Community Focus Scrutiny Committee

Date:	Thursday, 18 January 2024 at 6:30 pm
Venue:	Reception Room, Town Hall, St Annes, FY8 1LW
Committee members:	<p>Councillor Vince Settle (Chairman)          Councillor Frank Andrews (Vice-Chairman)</p> <p>Councillors Peter Anthony, Julie Brickles, Damian Buckley, Edward Collins, Martin Evans, Gail Goodman JP, Gavin Harrison, Paul Hodgson, John Kirkham, Michael Withers.</p>

	<b>PROCEDURAL ITEMS:</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> Declarations of interest, and the responsibility for declaring the same, are matters for elected members. Members are able to obtain advice, in writing, in advance of meetings. This should only be sought via the Council's Monitoring Officer. However, it should be noted that no advice on interests sought less than one working day prior to any meeting will be provided.	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Substitute Members:</b> Details of any substitute members notified in accordance with council procedure rule 23(c).	<b>1</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Confirmation of Minutes:</b> To confirm the minutes, as previously circulated, of the meeting held on <a href="#">12 October 2023</a> as a correct record.	<b>1</b>
	<b>SCRUTINY ITEMS:</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>St Annes Bathing Waters 2023</b>	<b>To follow</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Flood &amp; Surface Water Management Annual Report 2023</b>	<b>3-14</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Swimming Provision</b>	<b>15-46</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Reports of Various Outside Bodies</b>	<b>47-54</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Ongoing Scrutiny Workplans 2024</b>	<b>55-57</b>

Contact: Scrutiny Team - Telephone: (01253) 658504 – Email: [scrutiny@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@fylde.gov.uk)

The code of conduct for members can be found in the council's constitution at  
<http://fylde.cmis.uk.com/fylde/DocumentsandInformation/PublicDocumentsandInformation.aspx>

**© Fylde Council copyright 2024**

You may re-use this document/publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium. You must re-use it accurately and not in a misleading context.

The material must be acknowledged as Fylde Council copyright and you must give the title of the source document/publication.

Where we have identified any third party copyright material you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

This document/publication is also available on our website at [www.fylde.gov.uk](http://www.fylde.gov.uk)

Any enquiries regarding this document/publication should be sent to us at the Town Hall, St Annes Road West, St Annes FY8 1LW, or to [listening@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:listening@fylde.gov.uk).

## SCRUTINY ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
HEAD OF TECHNICAL SERVICES	COMMUNITY FOCUS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	18 JANUARY 2024	5
<b>FLOOD &amp; SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2023</b>			

### PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to comply with the resolution of the Environment Health and Housing Committee at its meeting on 14 October 2021 which was to produce an annual report to monitor progress with implementation and delivery of the flood risk and surface water management action plan.

### SOURCE OF REFERRAL

Scrutiny workplan 2023/24

### FURTHER INFORMATION

[A review of flood risk and surface water management in Fylde Borough, 14 October 2021.](#)

Darren Bell Head of Technical Services Tel 01253 658465 ([Darren.bell@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:Darren.bell@fylde.gov.uk))

Adam Sugden Principal Engineer Tel 01253 658489 ([adam.sugden@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:adam.sugden@fylde.gov.uk))

### SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

To consider and scrutinise the Flood Risk and Surface Water Management Annual Report for 2023.

## REPORT

### BACKGROUND

1. The Environment Health and Housing Committee at its meeting in November 2020 agreed that a member working group be established to review flood risk and surface water management. The Committee then subsequently agreed the terms of reference, methodology and work plan for the review at its meeting in January 2021. An information report was brought to Committee in June 2021 on progress to date. A final flooding review report was presented to the Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 outlining 30 recommendations. The Committee adopted the findings and recommendations of the flood risk and surface water management working group report.
2. Responsibility for surface water management and its impact rests with several bodies and organisations the review was carried out to better understand the interface between the different stakeholders and establish what the council can do to directly deliver outcomes or facilitate delivery through the responsible partner organisations.

3. The working group proposed additional staffing resource at Fylde to:
  - Act as community leader addressing flooding and surface water management issues in Fylde
  - Investigate, inspect, and survey local flooding problems
  - Facilitate projects, submit funding bids, and manage schemes to alleviate flooding and improve surface water management
  - Assist with enforcement of surface water matters to ensure correct implementation of planning conditions
  - Advise local landowners on flooding and surface water management issues
  - Liaise with other risk management authorities over local issues

#### PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

4. During the year significant progress has been made on the recommendations in the Flooding Review Report (Appendix 1 to this report).
5. From the 1 April 2022 the funding provided by the Council has enabled the Council's Principal Civil Engineer to focus on drainage issues with a Civil Engineering Apprentice post commencing 3 January 2023.
6. In partnership with Lancashire County Council's highways team and United Utilities (UU), work has been undertaken to unblock existing drains, install new gullies, remove misconnections of stormwater to the combined public sewer, and to improve the drainage system in historically problematic locations.
7. Flood 'hotspots' are being logged with evidence obtained during flood events, which is an ongoing activity that relies on close working with commercial and community partners. The condition of, and issues with, main watercourses such as Pool Stream, Liggard Brook and Main Drain have been inspected with actions for the relevant agencies identified. Several septic tanks that discharge into ordinary and main river water courses have been addressed in partnership with the Environment Agency (EA) and the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA).
8. Engagement and discussion with Housing Developers, Planning Enforcement, residents, and statutory agencies has led to surface water and drainage improvement in several locations including, Wesham, Freckleton, Warton East, Shepherd Rd, St Annes, the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone, Clifton and Newton. This is again an ongoing activity. In addition the Council has adopted a Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)<sup>1</sup> for all developers to comply with.
9. Networking and engagement with partners on flooding, stormwater and climate issues include the following partnerships and initiatives:
  - UU Drainage Water Management Plan (DWMP) for the Rivers Ribble & Wyre and, UU Water Resilience Management Plan (WRMP),
  - EA Bathing Water Quality (Wave 1) Group,
  - Biodiversity Net Gain & Nature Recovery for LPA's,
  - Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Natural Flood Management (NFM),
  - Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Call for Evidence,
  - EA Sub-Cell 11b Action Plan,
  - Lancashire Strategic Flood Risk Partnership,
  - EA Catchment Consultation Planning,
  - Changing Tides,

---

<sup>1</sup> [Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems \(SuDS\) Supplementary Planning Document Adopted November 2023.](#)

- Fylde Making Space for Water and more.

These provide the opportunity to champion the issues and concerns at Fylde, to be 'round the table' with a dedicated resource. The council is also represented on the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) Sustainable Drainage Strategy (SuDS) Task Group which developed the NW SuDS Pro Forma for developers.

10. Working with Northwest Coastal Group, funding was secured to create /restore elements of the salt marsh near Dock Bridge, Lytham and coupled with a managed re-alignment of the part of the existing coastal defences would have contributed to improve Biodiversity carbon net gain whilst restoring part of the coastline. Unfortunately, the land has since been sold for equine use. This was a coastal flood innovation project and the experience gained will be shared with other Risk Management Authorities across the Country.
11. Collaboration with landowners, Ribble Rivers Trust, Lancashire Wildlife Trust and Natural England a project is in development to help protect 30 properties including an industrial estate by improving flooding and water management infrastructure resilience (sewer network), by providing a managed wetland to alleviate and contribute toward flood mitigation. The project will ensure farmers and land managers are responsible for ongoing maintenance whilst supporting and realizing the commercial benefits of NFM and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).
12. One of the actions being progressed is the mapping of riparian watercourse land ownership. This has the major benefit for the recent collaboration with the Ribble Rivers Trust, where engagement with riparian landowners is essential to identify accessibility options to watercourses for potential watercourse management and flood mitigation projects to the sub catchments of the Ribble in the Fylde Council area, focusing primarily on Liggard Brook. Initially this is supported by the EA Water Framework Directive.
13. A number of environmental projects are being supported by United Utilities through the Ribble and Wyre Rivers Trusts. Each have been given £1m to improve how catchments operate to realise water quality, water quantity (including flooding) and biodiversity benefits. Around one third of the funding will support an initiative called 'Room for Rivers' that will restore natural river process's, such as de-culverting streams to improve how flood plains operate. Main drain and Liggard Brook have been allocated £200k to create wetland sites that will address issues such as freshwater quality, bathing water quality flooding, low flows and biodiversity. This project will work with farmers, communities and Fylde Council to develop and deliver wetlands of varying sizes over a 2 year period. The Environment Agency are currently undertaking silt sampling to look at the feasibility of partial desilting in Liggard Brook. Historically the EA have made a large investment in the pumping station at Dock Bridge, Lytham.
14. In addition, the team lead on drainage schemes delivered by the council which have included the Crematorium – a further phase of drainage works is being developed to improve water quality and flood management at the site. Measures to alleviate to surface water flooding at Blackpool Playing Fields and Park View Playing Fields have proved successful. Further plans to alleviate flooding on other Fylde Council assets and land are being drafted. Technical assistance has also been given to the Staining Flood Action Group, Lytham Hall, Green Drive Golf Club and St Annes Old Links.
15. Officers continue to work with LCC Highways, Lancashire Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), United Utilities, Parish Councils and Fylde Council Planners and Planning Enforcement, to identify drainage issues, contribute to provide solutions to mitigate flood risk throughout the Borough, where possible employing sustainable drainage systems, and as appropriate by removing surface water discharge connections into the combined public sewers. More recently some successes have been achieved post domestic development in the Borough.

BACKGROUND PAPERS REVELANT TO THIS ITEM		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
A REVIEW OF FLOOD RISK AND SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT IN FYLDE BOROUGH	14 October 2021	<a href="#">CMIS &gt; Meetings Calendar</a>

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
Darren Bell	darren.bell@fylde.gov.uk & Tel 01253 658465	22/12/2023

Attached Documents

Appendix 1 – Flood and Surface Water Management Annual Report 2023



# **REVIEW OF FLOOD RISK AND SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT 2023**

**COMMUNITY FOCUS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

## Recommendations of the Flood Risk & Water Management Working Group

Recommendations of the working group	Progress	Timeline
<p>Fylde Council to strengthen partnership working with Environment Agency (EA), United Utilities (UU), Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), Blackpool Council, Wyre Council and the Ribble and Wyre River Trusts (RRT &amp; WRT) to create climate resilient places, today's growth and infrastructure in tomorrow's climate and communities ready to respond and adapt to flooding and coastal change.</p>	<p>The partnerships are more effective with a dedicated Fylde Officer and improved structure for the MSfW. Meetings are scheduled quarterly but if the need arises interim meetings are arranged. Detailed action minutes are taken and circulated.</p> <p>New List of Personnel for the EA following recent recruitment drive – still some shifting of EA personnel</p> <p>The Head of Technical Services has Joint Working meetings with Wyre and Blackpool Council – synergy at the sub-regional level.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>The Fylde Peninsula Water Management Group should give priority and focus on flooding and surface water management.</p>	<p>The Fylde Peninsula Water Management Group have agreed to focus on Flooding and Surface Water Management. Still some issues with Governance and focus. Fylde are looking to set up a Fylde Coast infrastructure Board to enable the larger infrastructure projects to be coordinated with all partner organisations.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Fylde Council to consider increasing resources to be able to better investigate and resolve incidents of flooding concern, develop projects for addressing surface water management in the longer term and provide support to the Development Management service to help monitor and enforce compliance.</p>	<p>Appointments have been made and the roles and responsibilities include projects, engagement, liaison, monitoring etc.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>All Risk Management Authorities to explore further joint working opportunities, to improve sharing of resources, staff skills, and software, etc.</p>	<p>Partnership work with LCC LLFA at Staining and Freckleton have alleviated local flooding issues. Collaborative work with LCC Highways and UU for investigations has greatly improved, as has working with Parish Councils to determine issues and solutions to aid riparian responsibilities.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Fylde Council to monitor performance of the LLFA in the publication of Section 19 investigation reports.</p>	<p>Reporting of Section 19 Flood Investigation reports of significant flooding where internal flooding of properties occurs currently available to January 2022. Report for the June</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>



Recommendations of the working group	Progress	Timeline
	<p>2023 flood event affecting Kirkham, Wrea Green and periphery expected soon.</p> <p><a href="https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/performance-inspections-reviews/environmental/flood-investigation-report/">https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/performance-inspections-reviews/environmental/flood-investigation-report/</a></p>	
<p>Fylde Council to consider preparation and adoption of a Fylde flood risk management strategy and action plan which sits under the <u>Lancashire and Blackpool Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2021-27</u>.</p>	<p>FBC have been engaged in the production and it is now published at the link below</p> <p><a href="#">Lancashire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2021 ...</a></p> <p>In support of the above, Fylde, Blackpool and Wyre Authorities are currently working with the consultant JBA to produce a Fylde Coast Authorities Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Level 1. Currently there is a Lancashire wide SFRA, however, it was felt the Fylde Peninsula would be better served with a more localised Level 1 SFRA.</p>	<p>Adopted</p> <p>Due for publication early 2024</p>
<p>Fylde Council, the LLFA and the Environment Agency to work together with riparian owners to proactively regulate the water course network in Fylde and develop and implement future flood attenuation measures.</p>	<p>The LLFA/ EA contact Riparian owners about the responsibility for watercourses running through their property land. Fylde officers are aware of riparian owner contact by the lead agencies and offer advice and support where possible.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Fylde Peninsula Water Management Group to work with partners, to deliver practical and innovative actions and schemes like the Innovative Flood Resilience Fund (IFRF) in conjunction with more traditional flood defences.</p>	<p>The dedicated resource represents Fylde Council on the Group to ensure that known local priorities are actioned. Fund streams are the primary challenge, and they are often only available for a very short time. Understanding of the Gov.uk requirements of the Environment Act for Biodiversity Net gain (BNG) and Carbon credits, funding and investment is improving.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

Recommendations of the working group	Progress	Timeline
Fylde Council to ensure that localised flood alleviation schemes are developed and delivered through the EA's FCERM Investment Programme via Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding.	The council is in the process of seeking guidance on fund streams from the FCERMS NW Tactical Group.	Slow but ongoing.
The Fylde Peninsula Water Management Group to work with DEFRA to ensure Farmers and landowners in river catchments are diversifying and taking advantage of DEFRA'S Natural Flood Management (NFM) methods under the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS).	Recent advancement in partnership with NFU, Rivers Trusts, Natural England, Lancashire Wildlife Trust. Engagement is in place and Fylde is represented.	Ongoing
Fylde Council to consider establishment of a Fylde Flood Forum to bring together Flood Action Groups (FIAG's), Landowners, National Farmers Union (NFU), UU, EA, LCC Highways & LLFA.	A forum has been in place in Wyre that FBC officers have attended to understand governance and the added value / viability with the existing number of forums, groups, networks that the same partners attend – this is undergoing review.  Much of what is proposed by a forum is already being achieved by other 'groups'	NO ACTION – REMOVE
The Environment Agency to work with other RMA's to publicise its consent regime process to enable landowners to apply for a multi consent permit over several years.	Changes are proposed to enable Landowners to apply for multi-consent permit however, some Landowners remain reluctant to undertake works – this is still unclear regarding multiple activities and costs.	Ongoing
Fylde Council to undertake a survey of existing watercourses to map, survey and record key ownership and management responsibilities.	The Apprentice Civil Engineer working with the GiS Officer to undertake data mapping exercise in consultation with Environment Agency, United Utilities, and the Councils Legal Team to integrate into Fylde Councils GiS system.  Good progress has been made.	Ongoing
Fylde Making Space for Water Group to identify a schedule of locations known to flood because of previous blocked road gully assets and implement an action plan to address each.	Public reporting is being used to map flood hotspots by LCC and UU, Fylde pass on all reports made at any point across the council and champion the LCC reporting process particularly during heavy rain.	Ongoing

Recommendations of the working group	Progress	Timeline
	There is now greater public awareness of the reporting method, and FBC website promotes LCC & Gov.uk Flood Info	
All RMA's to work together to develop and implement projects to help separate foul from surface water	United Utilities have the Green Fund to separate foul from surface water. Fylde will identify their own assets where this can be achieved and input into developer proposals at the planning application stage – this is an ongoing longer-term activity.	Ongoing
Fylde Council, the LLFA and the EA to work together to secure increased modelling of watercourse catchments in Fylde to identify potential issues and capacity restrictions.	FBC do not have specialist watercourse modelling software, however progress has been made with identifying potential issues and capacity restrictions with thanks to UU. In addition, Fylde are working with the LLFA and RRT on ordinary water courses.	Ongoing
Fylde Council to monitor performance of the LLFA in responding to planning applications.	Regular discussion and engagement with the planning team is continues. LLFA response times to planning consultations have improved following their allocation of additional resources. Concerns over responses excluding proposed levels, pre and post development exceedance surface flow plans in and around the development site, and perimeter drainage to mitigate flooding of existing properties. Raise at MSfW meeting with LLFA and continue to monitor.	Ongoing
Fylde Council Development Management team with the assistance of the LLFA, EA, Highway Authority and UU to ensure development complies with any planning conditions agreed and current guidance.	The planning team will continue to monitor and secure compliance with planning conditions with the support of Technical Services. Enforcement priorities are to be reviewed as part of the Planning Advisory Service Peer Review Action Plan, additional support from Technical Service has yielded positive outcomes.	Ongoing

Recommendations of the working group	Progress	Timeline
Fylde Council to work with partners to encourage National Government to ensure proper future access to all water courses.	Lancashire LLFA have provided development guidance and offer a predevelopment service which encourages access to all water courses. The FBC SPG (below) supports this principle.  Local Government Association (LGA) and Association of SuDS Authorities (ASA) working to establish this with Gov.uk	Ongoing
Fylde Council to draft and adopt Surface Water and Flood Management Supplementary Planning Guidance to include the principles of Biodiversity Net Gain and the four pillars of SuDS.	Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) Supplementary Planning Guidance has been adopted Nov 2023 and now available to the public  <a href="https://new.fylde.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Web-Publication-Version-.pdf">https://new.fylde.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Web-Publication-Version-.pdf</a>	COMPLETE
Fylde Council to work with partners to encourage National Government to adopt schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2023 Gov.uk published, <i>“a review into the implementation of schedule 3 to The Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The review recommends implementation subject to final decisions on scope, threshold, and process once a full regulatory impact assessment has been completed... The government has accepted this recommendation.”</i>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainable-drainage-systems-review">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainable-drainage-systems-review</a>  <b>LGA and ASA are working with Gov.uk to establish SuDS Approval Bodies (SAB’s) for 2024/25</b>	Nationally Ongoing – Locally COMPLETE
The Fylde Peninsula Water Management Group to promote awareness of The Flood Hub and Property Flood Resilience grants to local communities and businesses when and where available.	Awaiting guidance from FCERMS NW Tactical Group to progress this.	Ongoing
Fylde Council to monitor performance of LCC in the maintenance of highway drainage assets in Fylde.	Fylde cannot monitor LCC Highways / LLFA information however, regular liaison between officers, improved reporting process and the identification of priority ‘hot spots’ along with	Ongoing

Recommendations of the working group	Progress	Timeline
	<p>some proactive Fylde sweeper support will lead to improved response.</p> <p>A new term contract has been put in place by LCC, schedule focusing on main routes, other areas require 'reactive' reporting through LCC reporting system on line <a href="https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/flooding-and-drainage/">https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/flooding-and-drainage/</a> or through the 'Love Clean Streets' app <a href="https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/report-it-on-the-go/">https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/report-it-on-the-go/</a></p>	
<p>The Fylde Peninsula Water Management Group should take account of the UU's development plans in its consideration and development of flooding and surface water management initiatives.</p>	<p>UU have shared plans with the Fylde Peninsula Water Management Group and are engaged with the group.</p> <p>FBC, as one of many authorities have since 2021 been engaged in series of workshops to input further into the development of UU's Drainage Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) which has been recently published.</p> <p><a href="https://www.unitedutilities.com/corporate/about-us/our-future-plans/Our-long-term-plans/">https://www.unitedutilities.com/corporate/about-us/our-future-plans/Our-long-term-plans/</a></p>	<p>COMPLETE</p>
<p>Fylde Council to investigate the establishment of more Flood Action Groups in Fylde to address areas of local concern.</p>	<p>Flood action groups will be established where there is the need and ability to create them – this is an ongoing activity.</p> <p>Remediation works for the only two FIAG's have been completed in Staining and (by UU) are almost complete in Freckleton.</p>	<p>COMPLETE (for now)</p>
<p>The LLFA to review the structure and format of Making Space for Water meetings to identify, resolve and track local flooding occurrences to ensure they are effectively resolved.</p>	<p>New format has been introduced and is working much better.</p>	<p>COMPLETE</p>

Recommendations of the working group	Progress	Timeline
Fylde Council to consider providing and appointing a dedicated and qualified/experienced Emergency Planning Officer with experience and knowledge of responding to flooding emergencies.	New posts are appointed and in place.	COMPLETE
Fylde Council to review its approach to aiding residents and businesses before, during and after flood events.	The provision of direct resource and support to flood related incidents has been included as a strategic risk / opportunity. Information from the mapping exercises and lead agencies will be used to inform a review of the direct aid Fylde can provide.	Ongoing
Fylde Council to provide and deliver appropriate training for officers who would be expected to respond/attend flooding emergencies.	Officers responsible for responding / supporting will receive the necessary briefing and support – the current resource includes the new posts responsible for providing advice and guidance.	Ongoing
Fylde Council to provide training and support for flood wardens based in local communities in conjunction with other RMA's	Where flood wardens are identified advice, support and training will be provided or sign posted where available from the lead flood agencies. Fylde will actively encourage community flood wardens to come forward – this is a volunteer role.	Ongoing

# SCRUTINY ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES/ INTERIM SCRUTINY MANAGER	COMMUNITY FOCUS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	18 JANUARY 2024	6
<b>SWIMMING PROVISION</b>			

## PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the practicable options identified to date to support public swimming provision and to set out the role that the Community Focus Scrutiny Committee could play in delivering the resolution approved at Council on 2 October 2023.

### SOURCE OF REFERRAL

At [Council on 2 October 2023](#) the following resolution was approved:

*“In the corporate and local plan this Council seeks to maintain or encourage public swim provision. I propose that this Council as a matter of urgency, supports that position and in light of the recent announcement by the YMCA to permanently close Kirkham Baths looks at all practicable options to work with partners and stakeholders to support that provision, and such options to be considered by the external Scrutiny Committee.”*

### SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The committee;

1. considers the resolution approved at Council on 2 October 2023 in relation to public swimming provision.
2. notes the work undertaken and commissioned to date and agrees to the approach for addressing the resolution as set out in the report.
3. agrees to receiving a further report to consider the options to support public swimming provision.

## REPORT

### BACKGROUND

1. Since 2009 Kirkham Pool had been operated by the YMCA under agreement with the council to both operate the facility and obtain the freehold ownership. The agreement was initially for a lease of the asset to YMCA to operate the pool with the freehold of the premises transferred to YMCA in 2011 as part of the arrangement to ensure the continued operation of the pool.
2. In accordance with the 2009 agreement the YMCA announced a Closure Event on 10 August 2023, and submitted a Disposal Plan to Fylde Council within the required 3 months (10 November 2023). The Closure

Event notification stated that YMCA was unable to continue operating the pool and has no use for the asset in delivering the objects of the trust.

3. Council on 2 October considered a Motion on public swimming provision submitted on notice under council procedure rule 11. After amendment the following resolution was approved:

*“In the corporate and local plan this Council seeks to maintain or encourage public swim provision. I propose that this Council as a matter of urgency, supports that position and in light of the recent announcement by the YMCA to permanently close Kirkham Baths looks at all practicable options to work with partners and stakeholders to support that provision, and such options to be considered by the external Scrutiny Committee.”*

4. A report was presented to the Executive Committee on 5 December 2023 seeking consideration and approval of a response to the YMCA disposal plan for Kirkham pool and requesting approval of expenditure to commission work to address the council resolution.
5. After consideration the Executive Committee resolved; that the council did not approve the Disposal Plan for Kirkham pool submitted by YMCA, as they are dissatisfied with the length of time allowed to express and work up expressions of interest and the provision made for the involvement of the council in deciding whether an expression of interest is acceptable.
6. The Executive Committee also resolved to approve expenditure for Active Lancashire to consult with key local stakeholders and existing swimming providers in Fylde to understand the existing position, potential challenges and opportunities for the short, medium and long term, and delegated authority to the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Leader and Lead Member for Tourism, Leisure and Culture to commission further work and draft and submit to the YMCA suggested changes to the Disposal Plan that would satisfy the council.
7. Suggested changes have been proposed to the YMCA in relation to the disposal plan for Kirkham pool and a response is awaited at the time of this report being published.
8. This report provides a summary of the work undertaken and commissioned to date and to set out the role that the Community Focus Scrutiny Committee could play in delivering on the resolution.

#### ADDRESSING THE RESOLUTION

9. The key parts of the resolution are to look at all practicable options to work with partners and stakeholders to support public swimming provision.
10. In order to look at all practicable options it is considered essential to understand:
  - a. The need and demand for swimming facilities in Fylde
  - b. The estimated:
    - i. capital cost of making the existing Kirkham pool fit for purpose,
    - ii. capital cost of building of a new fit for purpose swimming pool on another site,
    - iii. revenue cost of operating a fit for purpose swimming pool.
  - c. What partnership opportunities there are for operating a fit for purpose swimming pool.
11. The above information would then help establish and inform whether there was sufficient need and demand for swimming provision that could be met either by a refurbished existing swimming pool, the construction of a new swimming pool, or partnership(s) with existing operators to provide public swimming. This bearing in mind the cost effectiveness and affordability of each option and a realistic assessment of the likelihood of funding becoming available including any potential requirement for ongoing subsidy support from the council.

#### ACTIONS BEING EXPLORED/PROGRESSED

12. Following the resolution, the Leader and Lead Member of Tourism, Leisure and Culture along with key Officers have held discussions with a variety of stakeholders to explore and identify swimming provision opportunities.



13. In October 2023, Fylde Council commissioned Active Lancashire to produce an indicative report (see Appendix 1) in relation to swimming pools in the Borough based on quality, quantity, and accessibility.
14. The data provided was limited due to the scope of the remit, however the pertinent issues to come from the work include a better understanding of accessible swimming pools within the borough and local demand for those services. The report concludes that there is the potential within the borough to meet the needs of residents for swimming pools and proposes that further work be commissioned.
15. Following the report to the Executive Committee in December 2023, Active Lancashire have been commissioned at an estimated cost of £25,900 to carry out more extensive, in-depth research, to be completed by 1 April 2024, and to include:
  - Undertaking a survey to help the council better understand local need, demand, and experiences regarding swimming provision in Fylde. The survey will reach out to a range of stakeholders including schools, health, local residents across Fylde, local businesses, local leaders, existing YMCA members, and community groups including grassroots sport groups.
  - Upon completion of the initial survey, if there is interest shown from schools, health, and community groups, Active Lancashire will undertake focus groups with them to further understand their views and experiences.
  - Undertaking interviews with swimming providers across Fylde to understand potential challenges, opportunities, and existing position in relation to swimming within Fylde.
  - Producing a report that highlights the views and experiences of local stakeholders in Fylde in relation to swimming and Kirkham pool prior to its closure and to also consider the views of swimming providers across Fylde on challenges, opportunities, and existing provisions.
16. The council has also engaged with Sport England to seek guidance on the process, challenges, and implications of building a new pool or replacing an existing one in the current climate. A summary of the Sport England guidance documentation is included below:
  - [Future of Public Leisure](#) – a Sport England report outlining the current position within the public leisure industry nationally. The report provides an overview of the current leisure landscape and outlines a model that will enable the sector to create a more sustainable future.
  - [Strategic Outcome Planning Guidance / Leisure Services Delivery Guidance](#). - This guidance explores the key principles and important aspects of delivering strategic plans for leisure provisions and services, from the all-important early vision through to design, procurement and sustainable operation.
  - [Active Environments Framework](#) – a Sports England framework accessed by local authorities containing specialist consultants who can provide support on the development of strategic plans and interventions, using the report/guidance above and applying this locally within a local authority/Place.
  - [Design & Cost Guidance](#) – Used by many local authorities in the development of new/refurbished facilities, the guidance is to help give a greater understanding of overall design concepts, an appreciation of the technical issues involved, and the critical factors that need to be considered to find the right solution for your project.
17. In addition, Officers contacted two Lancashire based district councils that are in the process of replacing existing leisure facilities / new builds to obtain an idea of the process, time frames and costs. Key take aways include:
  - Once land and planning permission is secured a new build project will take circa 4 to 5 years to design and develop.
  - New builds have a significant dry side and commercial offer alongside the pool.
  - The cost is determined by design – and the offer however a minimum of £13 million should be budgeted for.
18. The information and data collated from the two district councils is available to be shared should a task and finish group from the committee be appointed to consider the matter.

19. Lead Members and key Officers attended a meeting hosted by Kirkham Town Council aimed at exploring ideas and options for swimming provision in Kirkham. A copy of the Active Lancashire report has been shared with this group however, to date, there has been no proposals tabled for alternative swim provision in Kirkham.
20. A community group in Kirkham, 'Friends of Kirkham Baths' has been established to explore the potential to refurbish and re-open the existing pool in Kirkham. The group has been made aware of community-based grant funding and the details of the YMCA Disposal Plan for the pool.
21. Local consultants (surveyors/architects) have been approached to advise on the potential and costs for refurbishment/remodelling of the existing Kirkham pool and the construction of a new public swimming facility, along with the likely operating costs for these.
22. This report focuses on the issues arising as a result of the closure of Kirkham pool. St Annes pool is owned by Fylde Council and currently managed by the YMCA under a contract with the council until August 2025. St Annes pool has been awarded £59,185 from the Swimming Pool Support Fund and a Phase 2 application for £665,000 is awaiting consideration. There will be subsequent reports to the Executive Committee in relation to the ongoing management of St Annes pool, including decisions in relation to the retendering of the management contract.

**THE ROLE THAT SCRUTINY COULD PLAY IN DELIVERING THE RESOLUTION**

23. The resolution asks that Scrutiny considers the options which will be emerging from the work being undertaken. Key aspects to this are the completion and consideration of the work being undertaken by Active Lancashire and the costings for refurbished/new facilities. These are anticipated being completed by April. When they are a further report will be prepared for members to consider.
24. The most urgent element to this project is establishing whether it is appropriate and realistic to refurbish the existing Kirkham pool. An early decision will need to be taken to allow the YMCA to dispose of the site in accordance with their agreement with the council.
25. Given the timings of the work underway and the imperatives involved it may be necessary to arrange an additional meeting of this committee to consider these options than already scheduled.

BACKGROUND PAPERS REVELANT TO THIS ITEM		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Council report and minutes – Notice of Motion rural swim provision	2 October 2023	<a href="#">CMIS &gt; Meetings Calendar</a>
Executive Committee report and minutes - YMCA Disposal Plan & Notice of Motion – Kirkham Pool	5 December 2023	<a href="#">CMIS &gt; Meetings Calendar</a>

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
Gemma Broadley/ Paul Walker	gemma.broadley@fylde.gov.uk paul.walker@fylde.gov.uk	5 January 2024

**Attached documents**

Appendix 1 - Swimming Pool Facilities in Fylde – An indicative report of swimming facilities quality, quantity and accessibility across Fylde. Active Lancashire.

# Swimming Pool Facilities in Fylde – An indicative report of swimming facilities quality, quantity and accessibility across Fylde

Author: David Redmond – Research & Insight Lead

October 2023

## Executive Summary

The aim of this report is to provide Fylde Borough Council with an understanding of accessible swimming facilities within the borough and local demand for those services, in light of the recent announcement by YMCA to permanently close Kirkham Rural Splash swimming pool. The report takes into account the demographic, geographical, economic and health picture of Fylde, with this report identifying the importance of swimming facilities. This report highlights the potential challenges faced by local communities to access the remaining sites given their access models and geographical locations in relation to rural and coastal Fylde. This report is not designed to provide conclusive evidence for the need for replacement facilities but instead provide an understanding of the local environment and should be used alongside additional evidence and research.

This report identifies that there is the potential within the borough to meet the needs of local residents to access water space. Fylde Borough Council should consider the following recommendations:

- Explore, plan and undertake consultation with key local stakeholders including but not limited to: schools, local businesses, health and wellbeing services and providers, existing members, and community groups.
- Engage with existing local facilities to make swimming more accessible to local communities through partnership and collaboration both within and beyond Fylde.
- Undertake a more in-depth, holistic facility review across Fylde to consider if facilities are meeting the local population needs. This could present opportunities to identify how Kirkham Rural Splash could be replaced with a wet or mixed-use site to ensure those within rural Fylde are able to continue to access swimming. Sport England support may be required here to identify a suitable consultant.

These recommendations are designed with the intention to provide the council further opportunities to understand their sport and physical activity provision within Fylde and to ensure a long-term viability to swimming within the borough. At each stage, a strong, cross party/ stakeholder collaboration approach should be taken which Active Lancashire is well positioned to support if required.

## Contents

Report Purpose ..... 3

Fylde Demographics and Geography ..... 3

Physical Activity and Swimming Levels ..... 5

Swimming Pool Facilities across Fylde ..... 9

    Current state of existing facilities that are open and accessible via day passes or membership (non-residential)..... 13

    Travelling to facilities and accessibility..... 18

    Facilities against population comparison ..... 22

    Comparing facilities on offer ..... 24

    Average swimming pool size and lanes ..... 24

Summary ..... 25

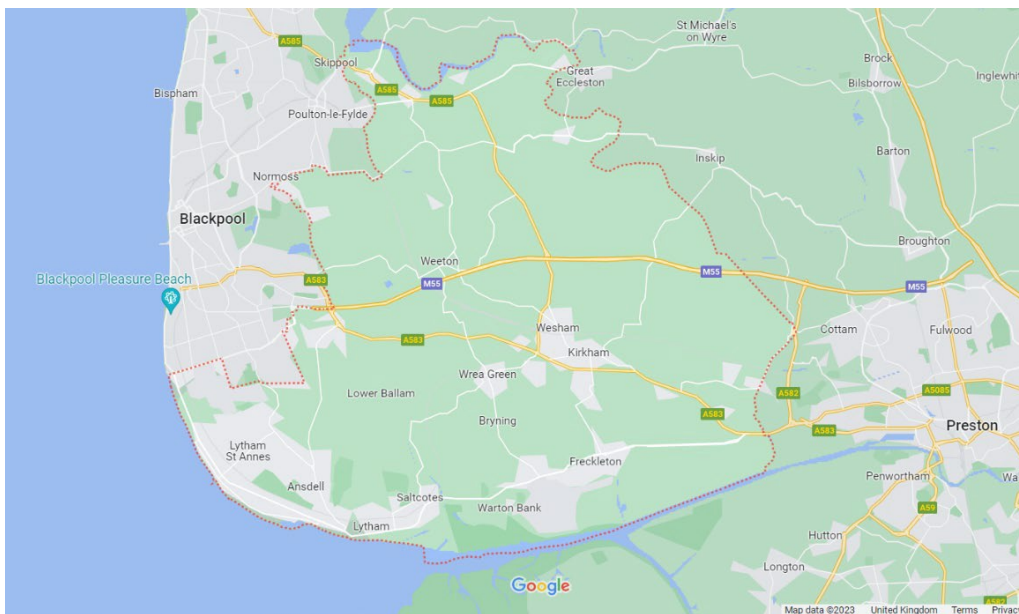
References..... 27

## Report Purpose

This report was commissioned in late August 2023 following the announcement by YMCA Fylde Coast to close the Kirkham Rural Splash (Locally known as Kirkham Swimming Pool). The facility was popular with the local population and local schools, offering swimming opportunities to young people and families. Whilst initially closed in December 2021 following significant structural damage caused by Storm Arwen, it has since been confirmed by YMCA for the pool to be permanently closed due to significant costs associated with repairing an aging facility. According to YMCA themselves, it is estimated the total investment required to repair the structural damage and to replace aging facilities is between £961,559 and £1,066,220 (1). This is in addition to the rising costs of operating swimming facilities. This report seeks to develop an understanding of the current swimming pool facilities on offer within the Fylde district, their current conditions, current swimming uptake within the district, wider Lancashire region and nationally, and how accessible the remaining facilities are to the local population.

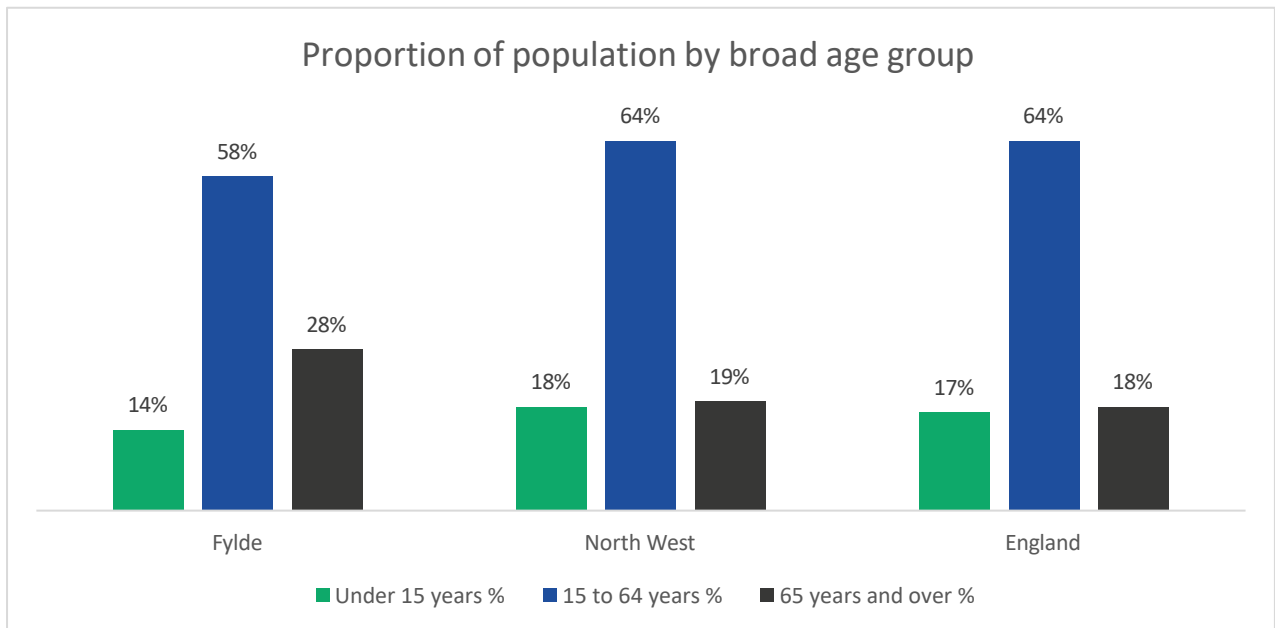
## Fylde Demographics and Geography

Fylde is one of 14 local authorities within the Active Lancashire ‘footprint’ and is one of the 12 local authorities that fall within the Lancashire County Council administration region. Situated in the west of the region with Preston to its East, Wyre to its North, Blackpool to its West, the River Ribble to its South and its flow into the Irish Sea along its South West Coast (Figure 1). It is a borough that is both heavily rural with the majority of its population either living to the south of the borough, along or near its coasts, or within Kirkham and Wesham in the rural centre of the borough. The borough is the 3<sup>rd</sup> least deprived within the Lancashire-14 region (including Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen) and 80% of the working age population are engaged in some type of employment (2, 3).



**Figure 1 – Map of Fylde**

The 2021 census revealed there are 81,375 people who usually live within the borough. This is an increase of 5,618 or 7.4% since 2011 (4). This population is expected to continue to rise with ongoing new housing developments across Fylde to meet the growing demand. There are slightly more females (41,517) compared to males in the borough (39,858) with a larger than average older population (4). Figure 2 below further explores the proportion of the populations by broad age groups comparing Fylde to the North West and England. In addition to a larger than average over 65s population, the borough also has a smaller than average working age population of 58% compared to 64% and a smaller than average under 15 population at 14% compared to 18% (4).



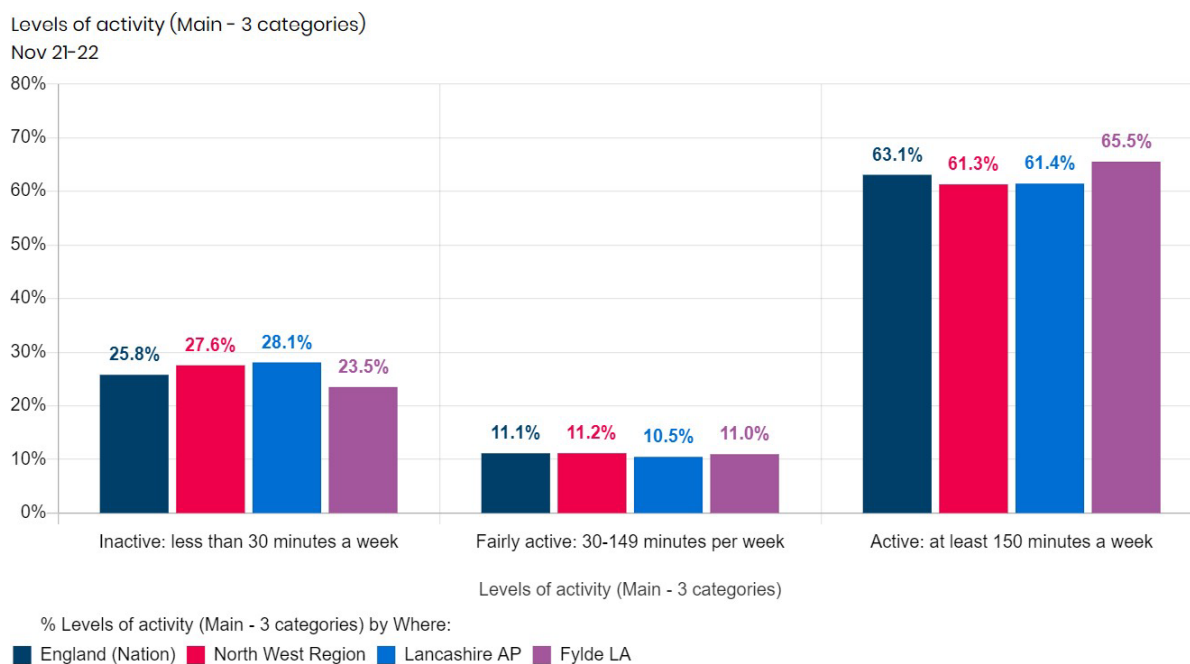
**Figure 2 – Fylde, North West and England population groups by broad age profiles**

From a health perspective, Fylde has similar life expectancy to England with male life expectancy at 79.9 years vs 79.4 years for England and female life expectancy at 82.9 years vs 83.1 years for England (5). Looking at under 75 mortality rates tells a similar story. Under 75-mortality rate per 100,000 from cardiovascular diseases is 61.1 with England experiencing 76 deaths per 100,000 (5). In addition, under 75-mortality rate per 100,000 from cancer is 109.4 with England experiencing 121.5 per 100,000 (5). Fylde has similar levels of adults classified as overweight or obese (63%) compared to England (66%) (6). Finally, looking at suicide rates reveals a very similar picture comparing Fylde to England with 10.7 deaths per 100,000 compared to 10.4 deaths per 100,000 (5).

In summary, Fylde has a slightly older population which is not experiencing high levels of health inequalities or significant economic pressures.

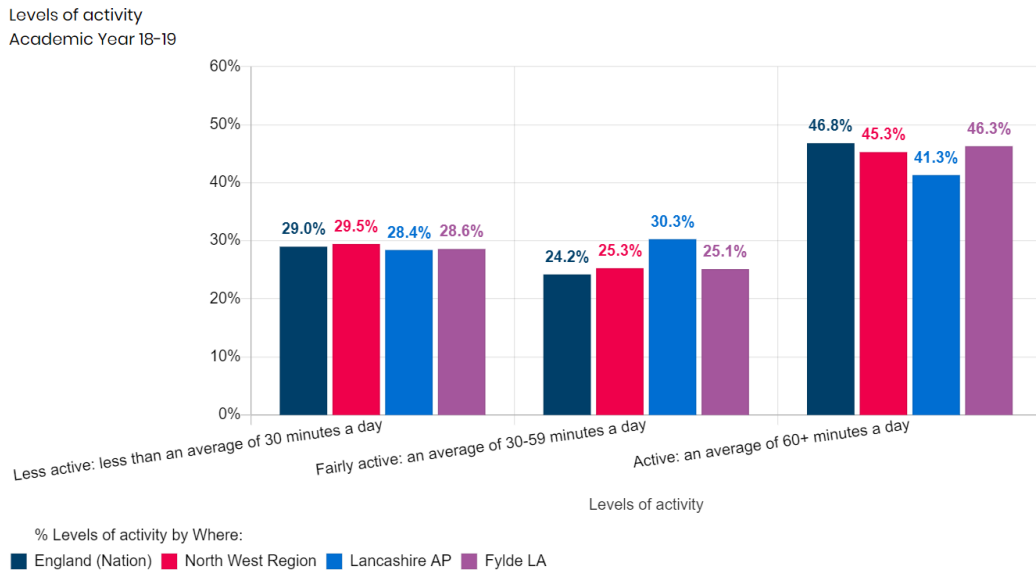
## Physical Activity and Swimming Levels

Physical activity levels across England vary from region to region with a broad range of influencing factors including costs, access to facilities, lack of time, confidence levels and appropriate opportunities (7). Sport England announced in December 2022 that children and young people activity levels had recovered to pre-Coronavirus (Covid-19) levels with an additional announcement in April 2023 confirming the same for adults (8, 9). Figure 3 below shows the current adult activity levels regardless of sport or activity between November 2021 and November 2022 (10). It highlights how Fylde is slightly above average for the proportion of their population who are engaging in at least 150 minutes of physical activity each week at a Lancashire, regional and national level.



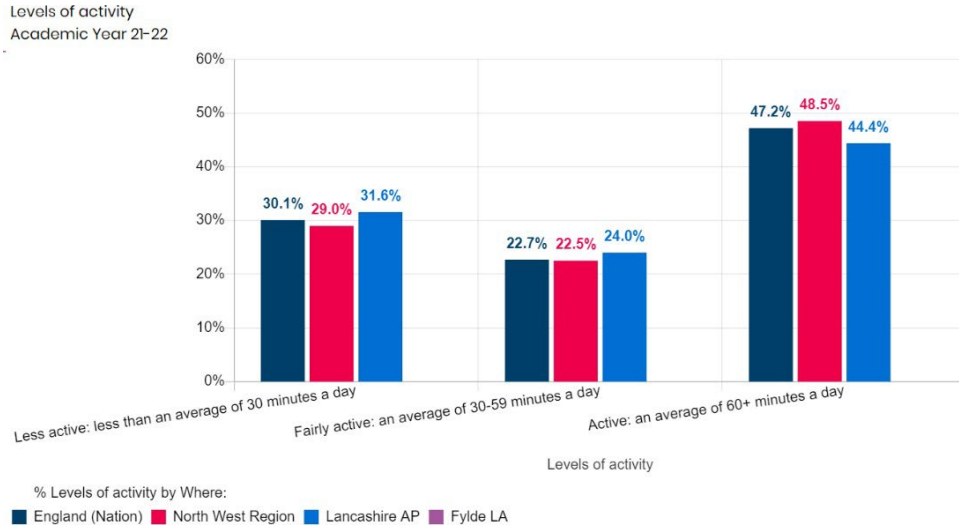
**Figure 3 – Adult Physical Activity Levels November 2021-2022 (9)**

Given the UK Chief Medical Officers' physical activity guidelines state adults should do at least 150 minutes of moderate activity each week or 75 minutes of vigorous activity each week, this is positive news (11). Concerning children and young people, the UK Chief Medical Officers' physical activity guidelines state children should "aim for an average of at least 60 minutes of moderate or vigorous intensity physical activity a day across the week" (12). In addition, children and young people should "take part in a variety of types and intensities of physical activity across the week to development movement skills, muscles and bones" (12). Within Fylde, activity levels across children and young people reveals a mixed picture with the 2017-2018 academic year highlighting a higher than average 'less active: less than an average of 30 minutes a day' at 40.6% compared to 32.9% nationally (10). However, the final full year prior to the Covid-19 pandemic highlights recovery has taken place with Fylde 'less active: less than an average of 30 minutes a day' being very similar to national levels at 28.6% (Fylde) vs 29% (National). Across this academic year, it appears more children and young people had improved their activity levels to either 'fairly active: an average of 30-59 minutes a day' or 'active: an average of 60+ minutes a day' as shown in figure 4 below (10).



**Figure 4 – Children and Young People Physical Activity Levels 2018-2019**

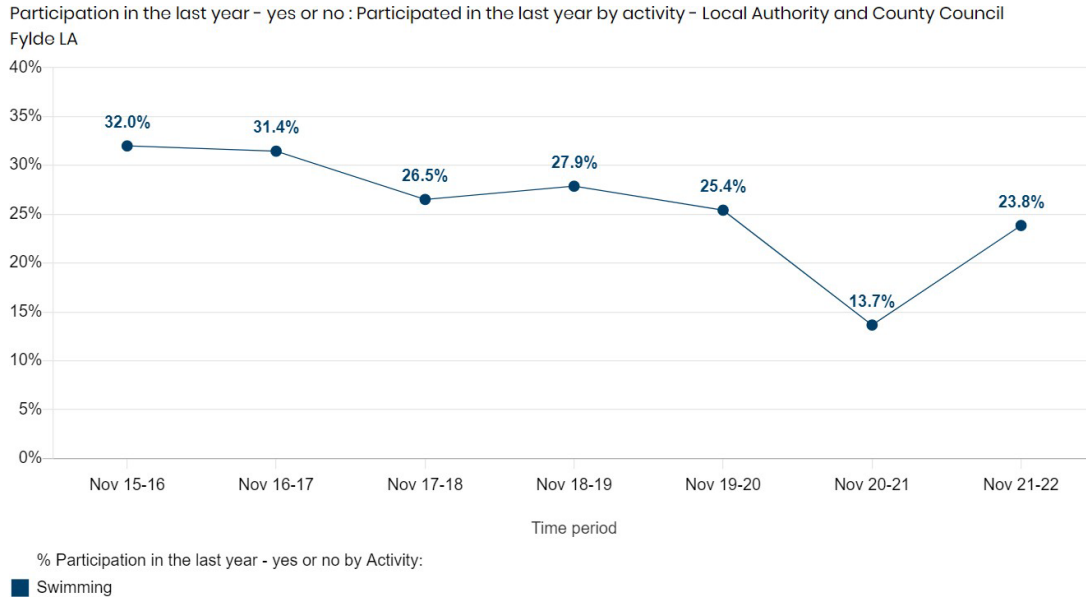
Unfortunately, it is not possible to clearly state Fylde children and young people activity levels post pandemic due to a lack of data. However, we can make some assumptions based on wider geographical trends. If Fylde continues to follow wider geographical trends, we can potentially expect around 45% of Fylde children and young people to be ‘active’ and around 30% of to be ‘less active’ (Figure 5) (10). This is very similar findings shown in figure 4 above.



**Figure 5 – Children and Young People Physical Activity Levels 2021-2022**

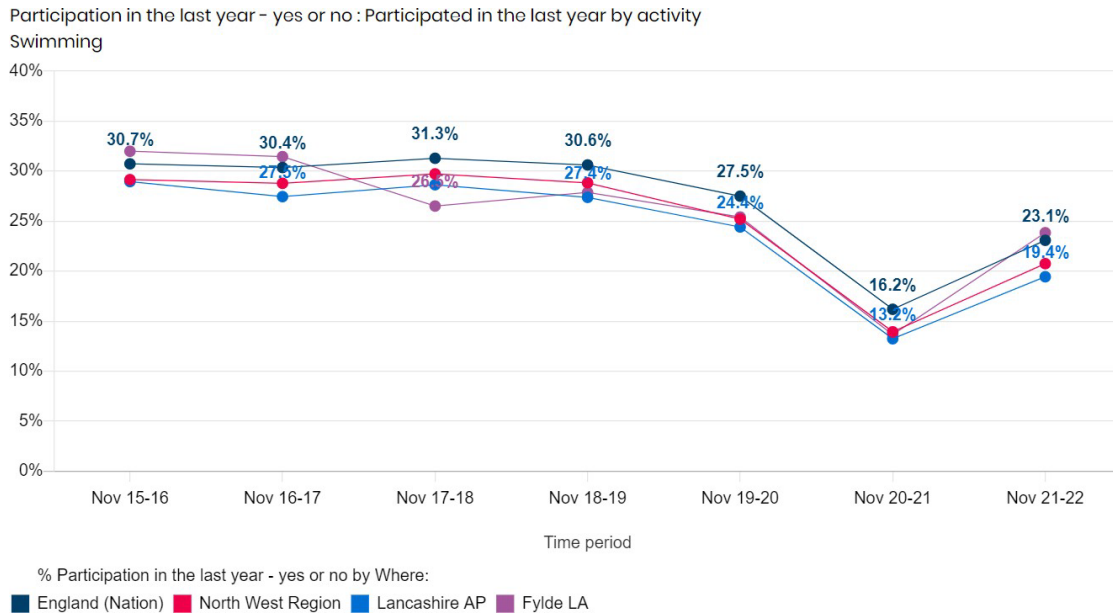


Considering Fylde geography being a coastal community, it is expected swimming levels to be potentially higher than other landlocked boroughs. With an adult participation rate of 23.8% compared to Lancashire 19.4% this does appear to be the case. When comparing the figures to national levels we find it is similar at 23.1%. However this is lower than pre-pandemic as shown in figure 6 below when swimming participation was at 32% in November 2015-2016 (10).



**Figure 6 – Fylde Adult Swimming Participation Levels**

This is not an isolated case exclusive to Fylde with the negative trend being experienced across the nation as shown in figure 7 below.



**Figure 7 – Adult Swimming Participation Levels Comparing Regions**

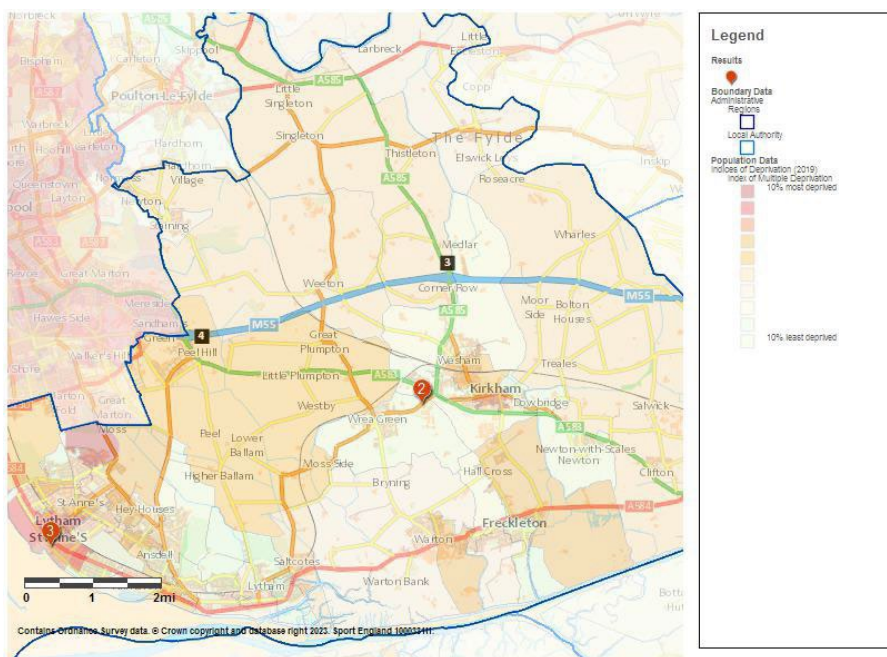
Children and young people are also experiencing the negative swimming trend being experienced within the adult population. Unfortunately, there is limited data from the previous two academic years covering Fylde however swimming levels across Lancashire for the 2021 – 2022 academic year is at 23.4% which is very similar to national levels at 23.6% (10). It should be noted the rate of decline does appear to be slower compared to the adult population. This may be because swimming is a key part of the Physical Education curriculum for Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2 to provide opportunities to swim at least 25 metres (13).

The cause of this negative trend is complex with a range of factors influencing swimming participation levels. Research specifically looking at barriers to swimming is scarce however a broad range of reasons are possible including increased costs, location of existing facilities and aging facilities being closed without replacements being offered (7, 14). Swim England published a report in 2021 titled 'A Decade of Decline: The Future of Swimming Pools in England' which outlines how 2,000 pools could be closed by the end of the decade with a decrease of 40% (15). The primary reasons include increased costs, reduced local authority budgets and aging facilities. This translates to 3.86 million people being excluded from the sport that offers a broad range of health and social benefits (15).

Despite this negative trend of participation levels and the projected decline in facilities to engage in swimming, the sport is still very popular with 4.7 million people across England swimming twice or more a month (16). The next section will outline in more detail the current facility levels across the borough and comparing against other regions in Lancashire to develop a clearer understanding of facility levels.

## Swimming Pool Facilities across Fylde

There are currently 5 open sites across the Fylde borough area providing 5 swimming facilities (e.g. full sized pool, teaching pool, lido). These facilities are located: 2 near Kirkham and 4 within Lytham St Anne’s (Figure 8) (17). This is down from 6 sites and 9 swimming facilities based on historic data. The below table provides further detail about these facilities that are currently open (17). It should be noted that all facilities in figure 9 offer at least some pay and play/ membership access. This is dependent on pool availability if the site is situated within a hotel or Holiday Park and current levels of residences onsite. Further work is needed to understand facility awareness and perception within the local community and barriers to engagement. It should be noted not all sites are identified in Figure 8 below due to 1 facility missing from the Active Places Power system. The missing facility is within the ‘3’ cluster pointer in figure 8.



Sport England assumes no responsibility for the completeness, accuracy and currency of the information contained on this map/report. This information is taken from the Active Places Power website and its terms and conditions apply. 26/9/2023 15:28

Figure 8 – Map of current swimming facilities across Fylde



Site Name	Post Code	Facility Sub Type	Lanes	Length (meters)	Maximum depth (meters)	Minimum depth (meters)	Changing Rooms	Disability Details	Access Type	Ownership Group	Year Built	Year Refurbished
DALMENY HOTEL AND LEISURE	FY8 1LX	Main/General	0	20	2.4	1.2	Yes	Parking	Registered Membership use & Pay and Play on request subject to availability	Commercial	1995	2005
SPORT AND LEISURE (RIBBY HALL VILLAGE)	PR4 2PR	Main/General	3	25	1.3	0	Yes	Parking, Finding and reaching the entrance, Reception area, Doorways, Changing facilities, Activity areas, Toilets, Social areas, Emergency exits	Registered Membership use & Pay and Play on request subject to availability	Commercial	2003	n/a
ST ANNES YMCA POOL & GYM	FY8 1SW	Main/General	6	25	2.1	0.9	Yes	Parking, Finding and reaching the entrance, Reception area, Doorways, Changing facilities, Activity areas, Toilets, Social areas, Spectator areas, Emergency exits	Pay and Play	Local Authority/ managed by Community Organisation	1987	2010
ST IVES HOTEL	FY8 1LS	Main/ General	0	11.7	1.2	0.9	Yes	Parking	Registered Membership use & Pay and Play on request subject to availability	Commercial	1970	n/a
THE GRAND HOTEL	FY8 1NB	Main/ General	0	17	1.5	1.2	Yes	Parking	Registered Membership use – facility advised pre-book only via membership pass	Commercial	2002	n/a

**Figure 9 – Breakdown of current open swimming facilities across Fylde**

Figure 9 on the previous page, shows 5 sites where swimming pools exist. 3 of these are situated within hotels, 1 site is situated within a holiday village and 1 site is a designated leisure site managed by YMCA. The oldest facilities within Fylde is the St Ives Hotel with an estimated opening date of 1970 followed by St Annes YMCA Pool and Gym. Despite being refurbished in 2010, the site itself is 36 years old and Active Lancashire have been advised certain aspects of the site is reaching the end of its lifespan. Therefore, it is expected a replacement site or additional refurbishment may be required in the near future to maintain 'public' swimming opportunities beyond the commercial operators.

Figure 10 below outlines facilities that exist within the Fylde borough but are only accessible by residences of the site such as hotel guests or tourists staying onsite. These facilities have been segregated from facilities identified in figure 9 to highlight swimming facility capacity that is not accessible via membership or day passes. These facilities have not been included in any further calculations within this report due to their limited access.

Site Name	Post Code	Facility Sub Type	Lanes	Length (meters)	Maximum depth (meters)	Minimum depth (meters)	Changing Rooms	Disability Details	Access Type	Ownership Group	Year Built	Year Refurbished
BLACKPOOL NEWTON HALL INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	FY3 0AX	Main/General	0	17	1	1	Yes	Parking, Finding and reaching the entrance, Reception area, Doorways, Changing facilities, Activity areas, Toilets, Social areas, Spectator areas, Emergency exits	Residential only	Commercial	1900	2010
NIVENS HEALTH CLUB	FY8 1LU	Learner/Teaching/Training	0	11	2	1.1	Yes	Parking, Finding and reaching the entrance, Reception area, Doorways, Emergency exits	Residential only	Commercial	1994	n/a
SPORT AND LEISURE (RIBBY HALL VILLAGE)	PR4 2PR	Main/General	5	25	1.5	1.2	Yes	Parking, Finding and reaching the entrance, Reception area, Doorways, Changing facilities, Activity areas, Toilets, Social areas, Emergency exits	Residential only	Commercial	1994	2017

**Figure 10 – Swimming facilities only accessibly by residences of the site**

The table below (figure 11) shows the facilities and sites that have closed. 3 of the facilities closed were managed by the local authority and had a pay and play access model. The most recent closure is the Kirkham Rural Splash YMCA site where the learner pool was closed in 2009 and the full site considered too costly to repair and manage. Therefore, due the closures outlined below, Fylde only has one learner pool based at Nivens Health Club in Lytham St Annes, which is only accessible to residences of the hotel only. This potentially presents challenges for young families to engage in swimming who do not wish to use larger/ more general pools.

Site Name	Post Code	Facility Sub Type	Lanes	Length (meters)	Maximum depth (meters)	Minimum depth (meters)	Access Type	Ownership Group	Year Built	Year Refurbished	Closed Date	Closure Reason
GLENDOWER HOTEL	FY8 2NQ	Main/General	0	15	1.6	0.6	Registered Membership use	Commercial	1991	2003	01-Sep-09	Refurbishment led to loss of facility
RURAL SPLASH YMCA KIRKHAM (CLOSED)	PR4 2HA	Main/General	4	22.8	1.75	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	1914	n/a	13-Jul-22	Strategic Review – Financially unviable following structural damage
RURAL SPLASH YMCA KIRKHAM (CLOSED)	PR4 2HA	Learner/Teaching/Training	0	12	0.7	0.7	Pay and Play	Local Authority	1984	n/a	01-Jul-09	Unknown reason
ST ANNES YMCA POOL & GYM	FY8 1SW	Learner/Teaching/Training	0	14	0.75	0.75	Pay and Play	Local Authority	1987	2007	07-Jan-15	Strategic Review - facility not being replaced

**Figure 11 – Swimming facilities closed in Fylde**

### Current state of existing facilities that are open and accessible via day passes or membership (non-residential)

Below are publically sourced images of the existing facilities to provide an indication of current conditions. Further research/ consultation is required to understand facility conditions and expected lifespan.

**Dalmeny Hotel and Leisure** – The picture shows a pool that is in good condition that is again practical for a range of uses (18).

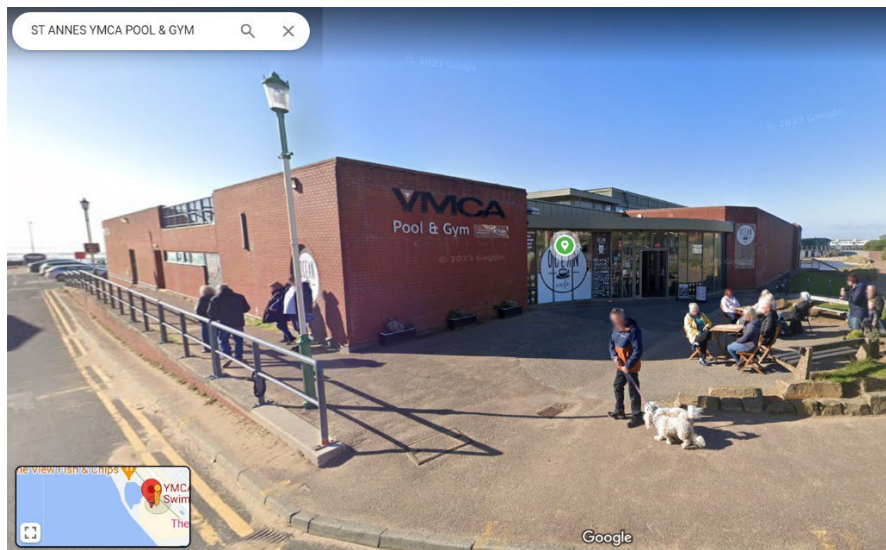


**Sport and Leisure (Ribby Hall Village)** – The site has 1 swimming pool that is accessible to the public via day passes. The image below the family pool offering slides and informal swimming opportunities (19). The pool appears to be in good condition.





**St Annes YMCA Pool and Gym** – The facility was built in 1987 with refurbishments in 2010. The current facility appears to be in good condition based on public photos. However Active Lancashire has been made aware of the aging infrastructure and increasing risk of at least temporary closure should certain aspects of the facility fail. This risk should not be ignored over the long term given the potential to unfold in a similar manner to Kirkham Rural Splash. This is the non-commercial managed facility covering Fylde allowing members of the community to access the site without membership requirements. Its standard pool size provides flexible opportunities (20, 21).



**St Ives Hotel** – The hotel has advised they estimate the facility to have opened in 1970. The current facility appears to be in good condition with access to a sauna to the side of the pool (22).

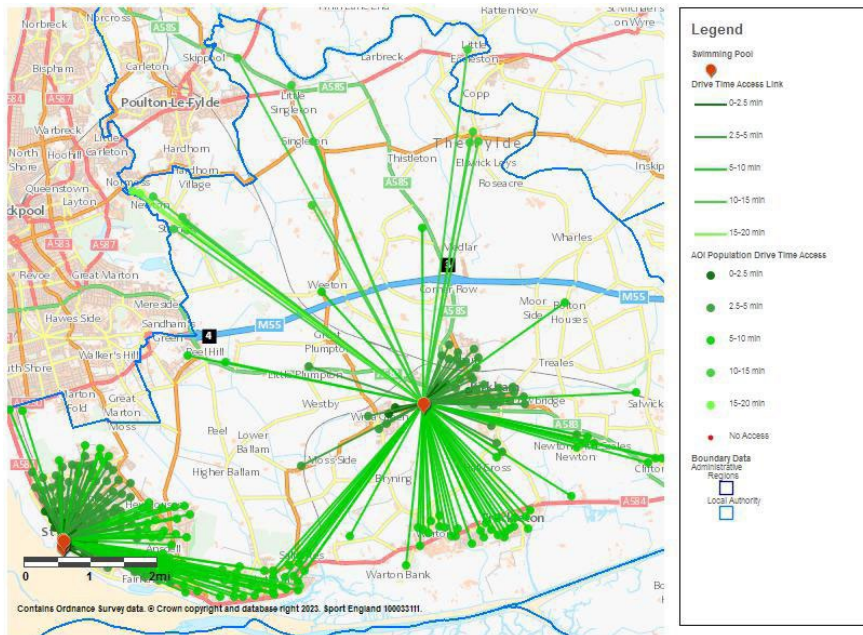


**The Grand Hotel** – The facility opened in 2002 and forms part of a wider ‘luxury’ leisure opportunity for hotel residences and members including day pass members. The pool has the option of lanes however; these are not permanent and therefore have not been included in any lane calculations or facility analysis. The facility appears to be in good condition based on publically accessible images (23).



### Travelling to facilities and accessibility

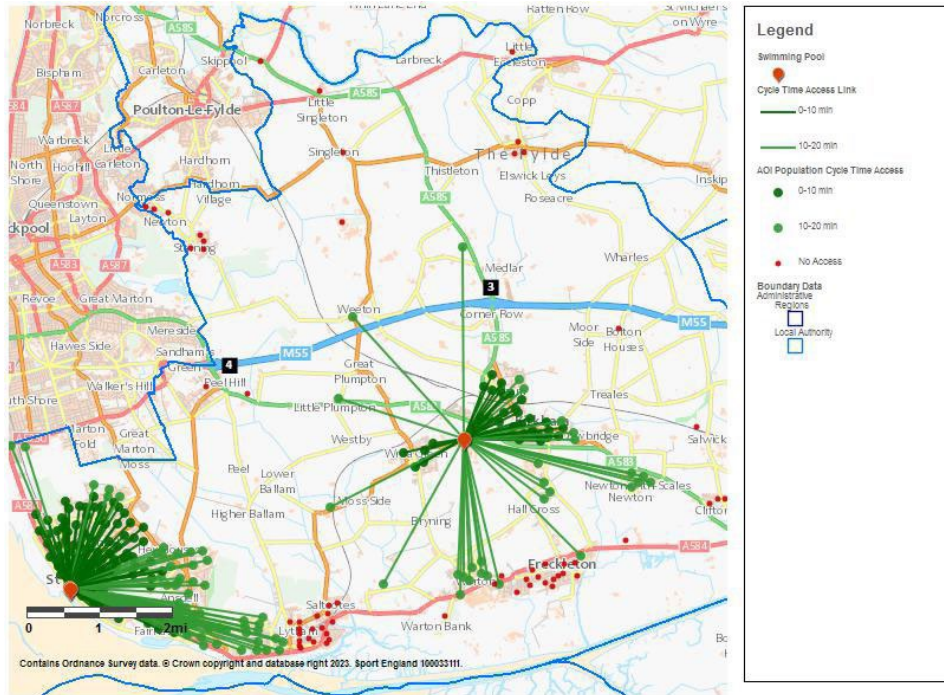
Using Active Places Power, we are able to visually illustrate where the current population will potentially go to access swimming facilities that are currently open (17). The model takes into account average traffic and journey times within the region. The results show how accessible facilities are in their current geographical locations. Figure 12 illustrates where individuals may travel to base on a 20-minute maximum car journey. It shows how important a facility at Kirkham is, given its central geographical location. Those based in the Lytham and surrounding area are likely to use those facilities.



Sport England assumes no responsibility for the completeness, accuracy and currency of the information contained on this map/report. This information is taken from the Active Places Power website and its terms and conditions apply. 28/9/2023 12:25

Figure 12 – Fylde swimming pool accessibility by 20-minute car journey

Figure 13 below shows the same model with members of the public using a bike instead of a car. Whilst the majority of the region can still access a swimming pool facility regardless of access type, those based in the Freckleton and Lytham area may not be able to access a swimming pool within a 20-minute bike journey. This is indicated by the red dots across the map. Those based in the northeast may find it easier to access facilities outside of the borough.

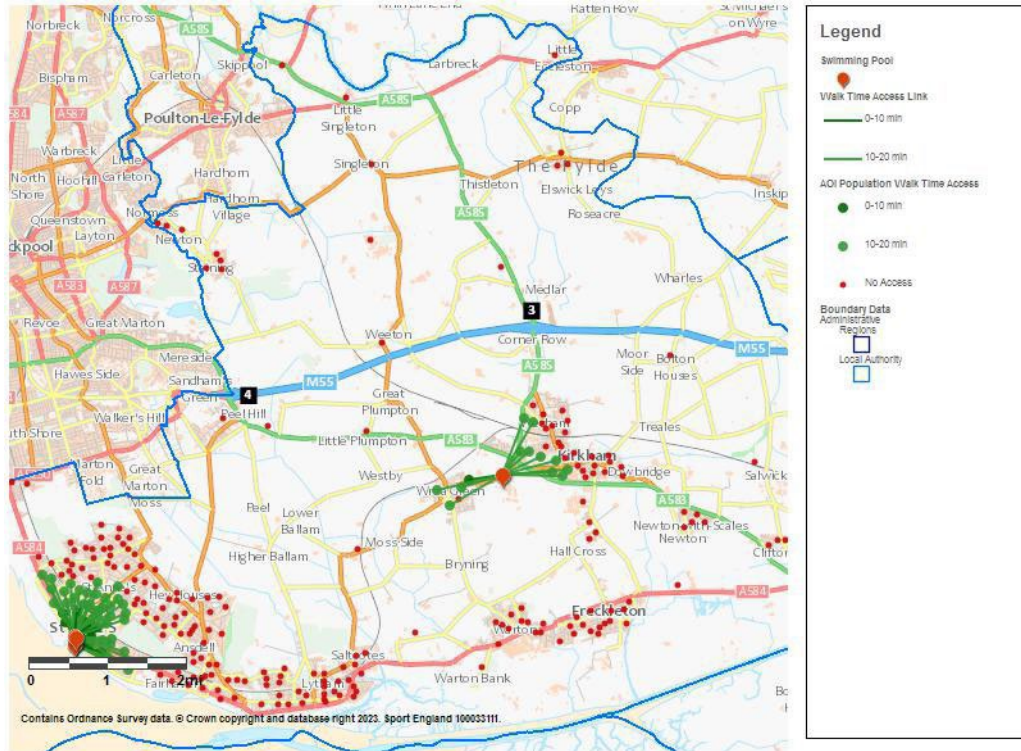


Sport England assumes no responsibility for the completeness, accuracy and currency of the information contained on this map/report. This information is taken from the Active Places Power website and its terms and conditions apply. 28/9/2023 13:05

Figure 13 - Fylde swimming pool accessibility by 20-minute bike journey



Figure 14 below shows the same model with members of the public walking to the swimming pools rather than by bus or car. Unsurprisingly it shows that those near the facilities are able to access by walking. However, it does highlight the need for facilities to be located in locations that enable maximum accessibility by all modes of transport.



Sport England assumes no responsibility for the completeness, accuracy and currency of the information contained on this map/report. This information is taken from the Active Places Power website and its terms and conditions apply.  
26/9/2023 13:00

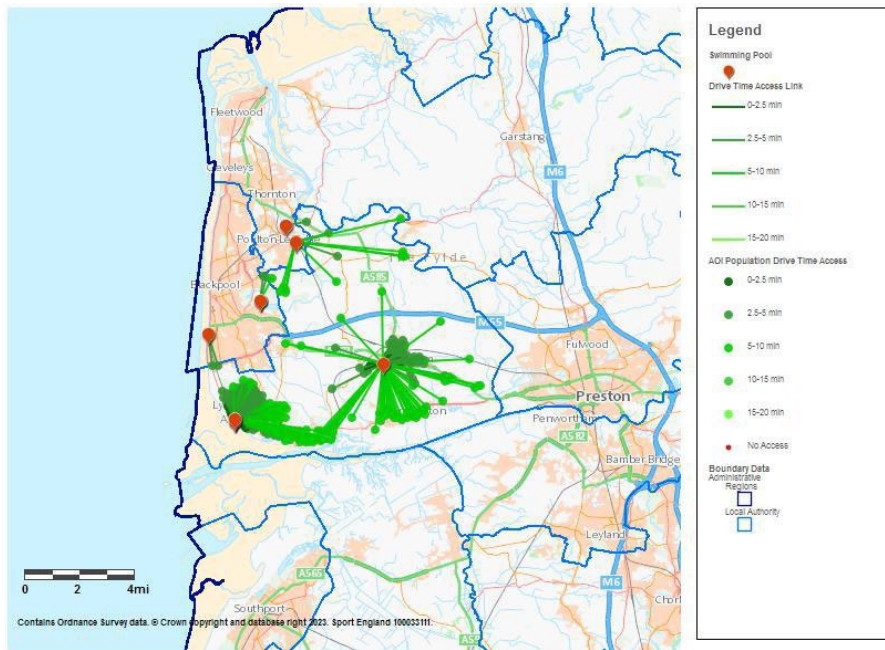
Figure 14 - Fylde swimming pool accessibility by 20-minute walk

Based on these 3 models, it is very clear that there is a need for facilities in that allow the local population to engage with swimming opportunities across Lancashire. It is also important to recognise that there will be a crossover of users from surrounding boroughs and the Fylde population crossing over to neighbouring boroughs. Figure 15 below shows this when looking at how far those who live in Fylde could travel within 20 minutes regardless of site location (i.e. site could be based in Blackpool). It shows a small proportion of Fylde population visiting 2 sites in Blackpool and 2 in Wyre. Active Lancashire recognises there are potential sites within 20 minutes in Preston and Blackpool that the model has

not recognised such as Total Fitness in Preston and Palatine Leisure in Blackpool. Active Lancashire understands that the model works based on the nearest or quickest site to reach (based on distance, road speed limits and average traffic) in relation to the Fylde population. Facilities outside of Fylde identified to be within a 20-minute car journey have not been included within the analysis of this report due to:

- The report focuses on facilities within Fylde
- Including additional facilities outside of Fylde would have a detrimental impact on comparing Fylde to other geographical regions
- Facilities outside of Fylde may not be expected to compensate for any lack of facilities within Fylde

Despite this, there is a clear need to recognise the importance of working with neighbouring authorities to maximise swimming accessibility and provide multiple opportunities to local residences when existing facilities close down.



Sport England assumes no responsibility for the completeness, accuracy and currency of the information contained on this map/report. This information is taken from the Active Places Power website and its terms and conditions apply. 26/9/2023 13:28

Figure 15 - Fylde swimming pool accessibility by 20-minute car journey

## Facilities against population comparison

Whilst it is not currently possible to determine the amount of sites and facilities to ensure there is enough swimming facilities for the Fylde population, it is possible to determine the current number of people per site and people per facility. This is based on current data including the latest 2021 census (24). Using this approach, it is possible to understand how Fylde compares to other boroughs within Lancashire and the wider geographical North West and England. Figure 16 below sets out those findings in more detail.

**Figure 16 – Number of people per site and facilities comparison\***

Area	Number of Sites	Population (2021 Census)	Number of people per site	Number of facilities	Number of people per facility
Lancaster	11	142,931	12,993	12	11,910
Ribble Valley	4	61,561	15,390	5	12,312
Blackpool	9	141,036	15,671	12	11,753
Fylde	5	81,375	16,275	5	16,275
West Lancashire	7	117,429	16,776	9	13,047
Hyndburn	3	82,234	20,559	3	27,411
South Ribble	5	111,946	22,389	7	15,992
Burnley	4	94,646	23,662	5	18,929
Pendle	4	95,757	23,939	6	15,959
Wyre	4	111,946	27,986	5	22,389
Chorley	4	117,732	29,433	7	16,818
Preston	5	147,835	29,567	9	16,426
Blackburn with Darwen	4	154,739	38,684	7	22,105
Rosendale	1	70,871	70,871	2	35,435
Lancashire-14	69	1,531,127	22,190	94	16,288
North West	326	7,417,397	22,752	455	16,301
England	2397	56,490,048	23,566	3438	16,431
Fylde*	6	81,375	13,562	7	11,625



*\*Analysis takes into account facilities that are free to the public, pay and play, registered membership use or not known. It does not include private or residential only facilities.*

*\*This takes into account that should the Kirkham Rural Splash facility was to re-open or a new site developed with 2 facilities. Active Lancashire has been made aware of a vision to utilise Fairhaven Lake for open swimming. This has not been taken into account as the report focuses on permanent all season indoor wet facilities. Active Lancashire is unable to comment on the potential impact this additional open water swimming facility may have on provision.*

Figure 16 shows that Fylde is currently 4<sup>th</sup> in terms of number of people per site with 16,275. If the Kirkham Rural Splash facility was to re-open or development of a new site, that would boost Fylde to be 2<sup>nd</sup> in terms of number of people per site with 13,562. Lancaster, Ribble Valley, and Blackpool offering more swimming sites based on population levels. Blackpool, Wyre and Preston all border Fylde borough boundaries either in the west, north or east. Only Blackpool provides a stronger offering with 15,671 per site across 9 sites. Wyre has 4 sites containing 5 facilities and Preston has 5 sites containing 9 facilities. Both areas have a greater number of people per site and per facility compared to Fylde.

Looking exclusively at population size, Hyndburn is similar with 82,234 individuals living in the borough. With just 3 sites across the borough, it potentially adds greater pressure to existing sites with 20,559 per site. This shows the increased pressure existing sites and facilities face should further sites close. Across those 3 sites, there are 3 facilities to accommodate the local population resulting in the area being 6<sup>th</sup> from the perspective of number of people per site but 13<sup>th</sup> from the perspective of number of people per facility. By looking at wider geographical areas, it is possible to build an understanding of the boroughs offering compared to Lancashire, North West and England. Currently Fylde provide a stronger offering based on number of people per site and a similar offering based on the number of people per facility when compared to the Lancashire-14, the North West and England. Should Fylde increase their sites back to 7, the area will continue to be able to provide a stronger offer compared to England and the vast majority of Lancashire-14. This is important considering the coastal communities that exist within the borough along the south and south-west.

## Comparing facilities on offer

In addition to understanding the number of sites and facilities on offer, it is also important to understand the types of facilities on offer, site access and management types. In addition to Fylde, its neighbouring boroughs Blackpool, Wyre and Preston were included to develop an understanding of the entire coastal and central Lancashire region. The data reveals that facilities, site access and management type vary across the region. There are many possible reasons for this including political, commercial interests and policies in place. Figures 17, 18 and 19 below present these findings in more detail. Please note findings may not match numbers presented earlier within this report. This is due to sites having multiple facilities on each site.

Facility Type	Fylde	Blackpool	Preston	Wyre
Main/General	5	7	4	6
Learner/Teaching/Training	0	4	4	0
Leisure Pool	0	1	1	0
Lido	0	1	0	0

**Figure 17 – Facility type across Fylde and neighbouring geographical areas**

Access Type	Fylde	Blackpool	Preston	Wyre
Sports Club / Community Association	0	0	0	1
Registered Membership use	4	7	3	2
Pay and Play	5	3	2	2

**Figure 18 – Access type across Fylde and neighbouring geographical areas** - Please note findings may not match numbers presented earlier within this report. This is due to some sites having multiple access routes.

Management Type	Fylde	Blackpool	Preston	Wyre
Commercial Management	4	8	3	1
Community Organisation	1	0	0	1
Local Authority (in house)	0	2	0	0
Trust	0	0	2	2
School/College/University (in house)	0	0	0	1

**Figure 19 – Management type across Fylde and neighbouring geographical areas** – Please note findings are calculated by number of sites not by wet facilities on offer.

## Average swimming pool size and lanes

Active Lancashire understands that previous reports and discussions included an understanding of swimming lanes provision. There is no statutory guidance that Active Lancashire is aware of regarding the minimum number of swimming lanes that should be provided to the local population. The only guidance that has been identified relates to wider site development and requirements for 25 and 50-meter pools. These are accessible on the Swim England Facilities page: <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/the-swim-england-facilities-team/>. Therefore, the findings within this sub-section should only be considered alongside other information set out in this report and not in isolation. The following table on the next page (Figure 20) sets out the findings based on current data available from Active Places Power (17).

Area	Average Number of Lanes	Average Area Meters <sup>2</sup>
Fylde	3*	193*
Lancashire-14	2.5	199
North West	2.4	192
England	2.4	206

**Figure 20 – Average number of swimming lanes and average pool area**

\*Not including The Grand Hotel as data is unavailable and excluding Ribby Hall Village Adult Swimming Pool

Based on the data above, Fylde has above average number of lanes available to the public and above average pool area (meters<sup>2</sup>) for the North West but lower than average pool area (meters<sup>2</sup>) for Lancashire-14 and England. It should be noted not all wet facilities provide lanes depending on the type of facility (e.g. lidos, learner/ teaching pools, or pools that are not big enough). Looking at the data more closely across England, it is typically pools of at least 15 meters or more in length that can offer swimming lanes. Once a pool is 25 meters or more in length, lane-swimming opportunities increase significantly as per the facility guidance set out by Swim England.

## Summary

The aim of this report is to provide Fylde Borough Council with an understanding of swimming facilities within the borough in light of recent announcement by YMCA to permanently close Kirkham Rural Splash swimming pool. This closure was a result of structural damage caused by Storm Arwen in December 2021 and ongoing aging facility. Taking into account the demographic, geographical, economic and health picture of Fylde, this report establishes the importance of swimming facilities. In addition, it is becoming increasingly vital to maintain existing and invest in new facilities following the report by Swim England (published in 2021) predicting a decline in swimming facilities across England by 40% by the end of the decade. This report highlights the current facilities on offer with 5 sites offering at least some form of pay and play offer depending on membership and/ or residential usage of the facilities. In addition, only 1 site is non-commercial with the remaining 4 being commercially operated across hotels and tourism sites. This may present barriers to engaging with swimming if costs or perceived access is restrictive. 2 additional sites and 1 facility within a 3<sup>rd</sup> site were identified and have been excluded from analysis due to their restrictive access to residences of the wider site only (e.g. tourists staying in hotels or holiday parks).

The closure of Kirkham Rural Splash will have a negative impact for those living across the rural areas of Fylde away from the coastal towns and villages. Whilst there are potentially enough existing facilities, their accessibility to local communities is of potential concern and further work is required to understand this in more detail. In addition, further facility assessments and facility review is required to fully understand the quality and suitability to meeting local needs. This review should not be Kirkham or indeed swimming restrictive, instead it should consider Fylde and a broad spectrum of sport facilities to create a holistic understanding.

Therefore, this report provides the following recommendations for Fylde Borough Council to consider:

- Explore, plan and undertake consultation with key local stakeholders including but not limited to: schools, local businesses, health and wellbeing services and providers, existing members, and community groups.
- Engage with existing local facilities to make swimming more accessible to local communities through partnership and collaboration both within and beyond Fylde.
- Undertake a more in-depth, holistic facility review across Fylde to consider if facilities are meeting the local population needs. This could present opportunities to identify how Kirkham Rural Splash could be replaced with a wet or mixed-use site to ensure those within rural Fylde are able to continue to access swimming. Sport England support may be required here to identify a suitable consultant.

## References

- 1) Harrison M. YMCA Kirkham Update - Site Closure [Internet]. Fylde Coast YMCA Y:Active. 2023 [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Available from: <https://ymcayactive.org/ymca-kirkham-update-site-closure/>
- 2) Council LC. Lancashire.gov.uk. Lancashire County Council; [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Neighbourhood intelligence - main deprivation dashboard. Available from: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/lancashire-insight/deprivation/indices-of-deprivation-2019/neighbourhood-intelligence-main-deprivation-dashboard/>
- 3) Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Available from: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157093/report.aspx#tabempunemp>
- 4) Association LG. Usual Resident Population by Sex and Age for Fylde [Internet]. Local Government Association, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ, 020 7664 3000, <http://www.local.gov.uk>, [info@local.gov.uk](mailto:info@local.gov.uk); [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Available from: <https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/view/lga-research/lga-research-report-usual-resident-population-by-sex-and-age?mod-area=E07000119>
- 5) Local Authority Health Profiles - Data - OHID [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Available from: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/data#page/1/gid/1938132696/pat/6/ati/501/are/E07000119/iid/90366/age/1/sex/1/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yrr/3/cid/4/tbm/1>
- 6) Public health profiles - OHID [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Available from: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/search/excess%20weight>
- 7) Sport England [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Health conditions. Available from: <https://www.sportengland.org/research-and-data/research/health-conditions>
- 8) Sport England [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Children's activity levels recover to pre-pandemic levels. Available from: <https://www.sportengland.org/news/childrens-activity-levels-recover-pre-pandemic-levels>
- 9) Sport England [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Adults' activity levels in England bounce back to pre-pandemic levels. Available from: <https://www.sportengland.org/news/adults-activity-levels-england-bounce-back-pre-pandemic-levels>
- 10) Active Lives | Home [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Available from: <https://activelives.sportengland.org/>
- 11) GOV.UK [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Physical activity guidelines: adults and older adults. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/physical-activity-guidelines-adults-and-older-adults>
- 12) nhs.uk [Internet]. 2022 [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Physical activity guidelines for children and young people. Available from: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/exercise-guidelines/physical-activity-guidelines-children-and-young-people/>
- 13) GOV.UK [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. National curriculum in England: physical education programmes of study. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-physical-education-programmes-of-study/national-curriculum-in-england-physical-education-programmes-of-study>

- 14) Swim England [Internet]. 2022 [cited 2023 Sep 6]. England Swims research and findings. Available from: <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/england-swims-research-findings/>
- 15) Swim England [Internet]. 2021 [cited 2023 Sep 6]. A Decade of Decline: The Future of Swimming Pools in England. Available from: <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/decadeofdecline/>
- 16) Sport England [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Popular activities. Available from: <https://www.sportengland.org/research-and-data/research/popular-activities>
- 17) Active Places Power [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Available from: <https://www.activeplacespower.com/>
- 18) Agoda.com [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Dalmeny Resort Hotel | Lytham St Annes 2023 UPDATED DEALS £81, HD Photos & Reviews. Available from: <https://www.agoda.com/en-gb/dalmeny-resort-hotel/hotel/lytham-st-annes-gb.html>
- 19) Blackpool Social Club [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Available from: <https://www.blackpoolsocial.club/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/1323276169178.jpg>
- 20) Google Maps [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Google Maps. Available from: <https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7470146,-3.031572,3a,75y,289.44h,81.6t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sGcJOsr99fjMlZr5olvY5BQ!2e0!7i16384!8i8192?entry=ttu>
- 21) YMCA [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Available from: <https://ymcayactive.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/tri-scaled.jpg>
- 22) Swimming Pool - Picture of St. Ives Hotel, Lytham St Anne's - Tripadvisor [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 26]. Available from: [https://www.tripadvisor.com/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g190773-d564315-i37190246-St\\_Ives\\_Hotel-Lytham\\_St\\_Anne\\_s\\_Lancashire\\_England.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g190773-d564315-i37190246-St_Ives_Hotel-Lytham_St_Anne_s_Lancashire_England.html)
- 23) The Grand Hotel Pool Pictures & Reviews - Tripadvisor [Internet]. [cited 2023 Sep 28]. Available from: [https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Hotel\\_Feature-g190773-d616471-zft6217-The\\_Grand\\_Hotel.html](https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Hotel_Feature-g190773-d616471-zft6217-The_Grand_Hotel.html)
- 24) Lancashire County Council. Lancashire.gov.uk. Lancashire County Council; [cited 2023 Sep 6]. Census 2021. Available from: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/lancashire-insight/population-and-households/population-and-households-census-2021-articles/census-2021/>

## SCRUTINY ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES	COMMUNITY FOCUS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	18 JANUARY 2024	7

### REPORTS OF VARIOUS OUTSIDE BODIES

#### PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

#### PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

In line with the Protocol for Members on Outside Bodies (Part 5f of the Council's Constitution), every member serving on an outside body is required to complete a reporting form every six months. The last reports were submitted to the programme committees during the March 2023 cycle of meetings.

Representative members were alerted to the reporting deadline in November, with a reminder sent in early December, and a final reminder sent the first week of January. Reporting is completed via an online form, which is available year round on the Councillor Hub and the link was also emailed to representatives.

Below is a complete list of all the outside bodies, their representatives and, where returned, a report (or in some cases reports) from the representatives. Some bodies have not met and this has been noted. Some representatives have not returned reports.

Appointments to outside bodies are usually undertaken at the last Council business meeting of the municipal year apart from in an election year. In an election year, appointments must be made at the annual meeting.

From May 2023 the committee structure changed and due to that change the nominations to outside bodies were considered at Council meeting held on 17 July 2023.

#### SOURCE OF REFERRAL

The information is provided to maintain an understanding of the work of the outside bodies, and to remain abreast of any issues that may have an impact on the residents of the borough or the council.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact: [democracy@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@fylde.gov.uk)

#### SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

- To note the report
- Recommend that Executive Committee look at how to support members to better meet the reporting requirements
- Establish a small working group to review the effectiveness of the current reporting arrangements

## REPORT

1. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – BAE Systems Co-ordination**

**Representative** – Lead Member for the Environment

Nil report due to no meetings. Meeting scheduled for late January.

2. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Blackpool Airport EZ Project Board**

**Representative** – Deputy Leader

Nil report, no meetings.

3. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Community Projects Fund**

**Representative** - Councillor Cheryl Little

**Email:-** [cheryl.little@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:cheryl.little@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date):-** Mayoral year, ie. May to May

**How often does the organisation meet? And how often have you attended?:-**

The panel no longer meet, and the applications are reviewed electronically

**Key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council:-**

*Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc*

None

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?:-**

n/a

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?:-**

Yes

**Any further comments?:-**

As elected members will be aware we have a pool of funding available (20k per annum) to give as grants to community groups.

The funds are applied for via an application process, and these applications are considered by a virtual panel (conducted via e mail).

As the mayor I have been is a part of this Panel.

The other panel members are Michelle Scott (community rep), Mick Jones (geographic police inspector), Amy Thompson (active Lancashire health rep) and the chairman of the community safety partnership which is likely to be Chris Dixon together with Tracy Manning.

We receive applications and this fund enables community groups to undertake projects for the benefit of the Borough and is very worthwhile.

4. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Community Safety Partnership**

**Representative** – Lead Member for Social Wellbeing

No report submitted

5. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Duty to Co-operate – Planning**

**Representative** – Chairman of Planning and Lead Member for Economic Development

Nil report, no meetings.

6. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Fylde Citizens Advice Bureau**

**Representatives** – Lead Member for Customer and Operational Services and Councillor Goodman

**Email** [gail.goodman@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:gail.goodman@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** July 2023 (when first elected to this Outside Body) to 13 September 2023

**How often does the organisation meet?** Every 2 months - with the AGM organised for 15 November 2023

**How often have you attended?** This is my first meeting with the CAB. I met the Chair, several Trustees and Volunteers, including the Chief Officer and a member from Fylde Borough Council's Engagement Team.

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** The CAB has a purposes built office in Kirkham town centre. It accepts Walk Ins and Appointments, via email and telephone. The Organisation also holds a



Surgery at St Annes Town Hall on a Wednesday, ( a maximum of 3 appointments),in order to attract attendance from the west coast of the Fylde.

**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** Recruitment and training are of interest with regard to the work being done by the CAB - and future projects. A good part of the discussion revolved around whether it was possible to establish a full time office in the Town Hall, in order for the CAB to become set up a second walk in Hub, recruiting locally, providing training and ensuring the good work undertaken by their Officers. It became apparent that none of the empty shops within the town centre would be affordable by CAB, and that they very much valued their relationship with FBC.

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** There were two representatives from FBC directly - one mentioned above and the Lead Member of Customer and Op Services .It would be my intention to work closely with these two Members in establishing a worthwhile and effective liaison.

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** It is certainly important to support such a UK wide organisation within the Fylde. Their efficient and helpful advice , including liaison with the Food Bank, providing warm winter coats, bedding, electric blankets, and funding a Debt Adviser on site, has secured their importance in overall support for Fylde citizens.

**Any further comments?** Two telephone lines are now in use at Kirkham enabling better communication. The At Home Service has been very much appreciated by local residents and there are other agencies, e.g. Home Start who work closely with the CAB, recommending those who are particularly in need of support.

Email [gail.goodman@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:gail.goodman@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** September to November 2023

**How often does the organisation meet?** Every 2 months - with the AGM organised for 15 November 2023

**How often have you attended?** This is my second attendance to the Committee Meetings since my appointment.

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** This was the usual Committee meeting plus the AGM today. There was a report upon a visit from the DWP to the CAB, with regard to the Afghan Refugees at Weeton, accommodated in 55 houses for less than 6 weeks. The M.O.D. is supporting those with health and housing, having purchased 750 houses in the North West for these displaced persons.

**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** There should be no impact upon the local Community as the M.O.D. are looking for partners to work with in settling those Refugees.

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** There was one representative from FBC directly - the Lead Member of Customer and Op Services .It would be my intention to work closely with these two Members in establishing a worthwhile and effective liaison.

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** Yes, the CAB uses the Town Hall Offices in St Annes once a week on a Wednesday in order to welcome walk in applicants to discuss issues.

**Any further comments?** The Chief Officer's Report states that the CAB are actively recruiting volunteers for the Office in Kirkham. There have been 6 enquiries to 15 November, with at least 3 persons actively working. The next meeting is set for 17 January 2024.

Email [michelle.morris@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.morris@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** May 2023 to December 2023

**How often does the organisation meet?** Quarterly

**How often have you attended?** Once and I have visited twice during working hours once to shadow one of the advisors for a morning

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?**

FBC wholly funds the CAB and it is to look at how it is funded and what for. The CAB already have a presence in the Town Hall and are looking to expand that presence in the Town Centre but funds are restricted and there is space available at the Town Hall.

**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** Fylde Borough may decide to cut funding to the CAB or ask for smarter working. Is Kirkham the best place to be based?

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** Discussed at Executive Group including The Leader and Cllr Gaunt Executive Member for Finance

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** Absolutely as we are the sole funder. It is also worth scrutinising more closely the role of the CAB in Fylde and how it prioritises its case work.

7. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Fylde Coast YMCA Partnership Board**

**Representative** – Councillor Harrison

**Email** [Gavin.harrison@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:Gavin.harrison@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** July 2023 to present

**How often does the organisation meet?** Quarterly

**How often have you attended?** Every meeting

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** Swimming provision in Fylde, in particular St Anne's Pool.

**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** Continued financial support from Fylde Council

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** Head of Corporate Services, Sports Development Officer and Estates Officer also attend. Also, Lead member for Leisure/Tourism attended the November meeting.

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** Yes.

8. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Fylde & Wyre Health & Wellbeing Partnership**

**Representative** – Lead Member for Social Wellbeing

No report submitted

9. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Fylde Peninsular Water Management Group**

**Representative** – Lead Member for Environment

Nil report as no meetings held during the reporting period.

10. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Growth Lancashire Ltd**

**Representative** – Leader of the Council

**Email** [karen.buckley@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:karen.buckley@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** Up to 9 January 2024

**How often does the organisation meet?** Quarterly

**How often have you attended?** I have missed one meeting

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** Fylde Council became a member of Growth Lancashire when commissioning them to undertake a report on Hillside as part of the Kirkham Futures Project. Also, they deliver business support in the form of the Boost programme which Fylde has bought into with UKSPF funding.

**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** Our membership does attract an annual fee.

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** Appropriate Chairman/Lead Member

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** Yes

11. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Joint Scrutiny Committee**

**Representative** – Chairman of Planning

Nil report, no meetings.

12. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board**  
**Representative** – Lead Member for Social Wellbeing  
 No report submitted
13. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Lancashire Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee**  
**Representative** – Councillor Willder  
**Email** [Viv.willder@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:Viv.willder@fylde.gov.uk)  
**Period this report covers (date)** June 2023...As other meetings were held prior to FBC Elections !  
**How often does the organisation meet?** About 4 times a year  
**How often have you attended?** 1...as I wasn't able to attend the July one (I had a Public Protection for FBC on at the same time)  
**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** Updating many NHS Programmes that are already in force which will help residents, hospitals etc  
**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** More information to all official bodies to be made aware of any changes etc re budget, policies?  
  
**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** Info sent to Head of Health etc  
**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** Yes  
**Any further comments?** Need a sub (shadow) for other meetings if I can't attend LCC
14. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Lancashire Waste Partnership**  
**Representative** – Lead Member for Customer and Operational Services  
**Email** [michelle.morris@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.morris@fylde.gov.uk)  
**Period this report covers (date)** From May 2023  
**How often does the organisation meet?** Quarterly  
**How often have you attended?** The first once was cancelled and the last one in November was when I was away. There was representation there from Fylde by one of our officers.  
**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** The collection of green waste and the potential introduction of food recycling. The implementation of all electric vehicles. The use of alternative natural fuels for all vehicles  
**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** Waiting to receive a Section 31 letter from DEFRA regarding funding available for the food recycling scheme How often collection has to be of the grey bins The possibility of mixed recycling of cardboard and plastic etc Mixed food and green waste recycling  
**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** Discussed at Executive Group including The Leader and Cllr Gaunt Executive Member for Finance  
**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** Most definitely especially as it is within my Lead Member role.
15. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Local Government Association General Assembly (LGA)**  
**Representative** – Leader of the Council  
 Nil report as General Assembly held prior to Councillor Buckley's appointment to the body.
16. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Lowther Trust**  
**Representative** – Lead Member for Tourism, Leisure and Culture  
 No report submitted
17. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Lytham Town Trust**  
**Representative** – Councillor Withers  
 Nil report as only one meeting held since July and Councillor Withers was unable to attend.
18. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – North West Employers Organisation**  
**Representative** – Deputy Leader of the Council

Nil report, no meetings.

19. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – North West of England & Isle of Man Reserve Forces & Cadets Association**

**Representative** – Councillor Andrews

**Email** [frank.andrews@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:frank.andrews@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** Up to 14th January 2024

**How often does the organisation meet?** Minimum of Monthly plus frequent emails and meetings

**How often have you attended?** All so far. Included physical, cyber, signing ceremony and Remembrance weekend

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** The key Issue for Fylde is look after the interests of veterans particularly in housing, health and education

**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** There are no cases currently being considered in Fylde

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** I work closely with Edyta Paxton

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a**

**representative/representatives on this body?** Yes its important the FBC is seen to care and listen to Armed Forces problems

20. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – One Fylde**

**Representative** – Councillor Goodman

**Email** [gail.goodman@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:gail.goodman@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** From July 2023 (first allocation to this Charity) to 28 September 2023

**How often does the organisation meet?** The Board of Trustees meets once every 2 months - 6 times per year.

**How often have you attended?** This is my first meeting with the Chair of the Board and the CEO, since my new role as an FBC Councillor. The two Representatives and I have agreed on monthly meetings from now, in order to keep the Board updated on our Partnership.to update the Organisation.

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** This Organisation is the result of a merger between The Ormerod Trust and Fylde Community Link - renamed as One Fylde, supporting adults with learning disabilities and autism. The Body acts as a Landlord for providing accommodation, purchasing houses and apartments, thus providing those adults with homes for life. Employing upward of 400 support and administration workers, this Organisation is registered as a Charity, and therefore relies heavily on financial support from both Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Borough.

**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** Originally, residents of as far as Fleetwood to Warton, inclusive, benefited from this Charity. Indeed, there are a large number of houses and flats occupied through One Fylde in St Annes and Lytham. Apart from a small grant some years ago, Fylde Borough Council does not provide One Fylde with funding and presently, the Trustees are pursuing an Income Generation Strategy, in order to not only raise funds for the Charity, but to increase their profile, particularly with regard to ongoing recruitment of support care staff.

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** I shall be investigating how best to go forward with supporting this Outsides Body as we continue to meet monthly. I shall also attend the Trust Board meetings; better to understand their processes and practice.

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a**

**representative/representatives on this body?** It is certainly worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative on this body. One Fylde has had the benefit of the knowledge and support of Angela Jacques, who continues to attend and work with the Trust Board. She has been instrumental in promoting the Charity, particularly as the original Ormerod Trust.

**Any further comments?** Close to St Annes Square is a number of apartments in which adults with learning disabilities and autism are living, quite happily, and with 24 hour support, as a means to independence. Close by, volunteers are running a Radio Station, born in the Pandemic, and today, 28th September, is part of the Pride of Lancashire Awards. The Trustees are hopeful of success!

Email [gail.goodman@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:gail.goodman@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** September to November 2023

**How often does the organisation meet?** The Board of Trustees meets once every 2 months - 6 times per year.

**How often have you attended?** This is my second attendance since being appointed and a personal recommendation in order to visit with their Recycling Centre

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** The Recycling Centre is situated just off Queensway, the site of the old Easterleigh Animal Rescue Centre. Most employees are those persons accommodated by One Fylde, with disabilities, (autism), who work here to ensure cardboard, plastic, textiles and gardening waste is collected from the Lytham St Annes area, sorted and baled for onward transmission and use. The Organisation uses 4 vans to collect waste driven by fully qualified staff members.

**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** Officers from One Fylde have requested that Fylde Council may be able to assist in recycling any materials via this Centre, including waste management from the Gardening Teams, for whom One Fylde could recommend assistance by way of their own participants.

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** I have been advised to contact Clare Blyth from Waste Management

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** Yes, most certainly. The Mayor has visited this Centre and has equally been impressed with the hard work and dedication that goes on here in order to recycle a number of different materials. This Centre is a Flagship of its kind and every person working here will be awarded with a qualification dependent upon their skills utilised and honed in their work here.

**Any further comments?** The Centre has full facilities for up to 78 persons working here on a Shift Basis. I currently witnessed another group of One Fylde workers who were making decorations and items to sell at a Local Craft Fair. This is certainly a hive of industry!

21. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Park View 4 U Group**

**Representative** – Councillor Redfearn

**Email** [andrew.redfearn@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.redfearn@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** May - Dec

**How often does the organisation meet?** Ad-hoc meetings with trustees – at least quarterly

**How often have you attended?** 3 times

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** Park View are looking for help to provide public toilet facilities on the park. Ongoing issues with securing funds to replace the eco-pod community centre on the park due to existing pod being condemned.

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** Leader

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** Yes

**Any further comments?** The cafe has a new tenant and they are keen to work with Park View to improve and develop the cafe, I have met with the new tenant and Park View Chairman and they are very enthusiastic.

22. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – PATROL**

**Representative** – Lead Member for Customer and Operational Services

**Email** [michelle.morris@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.morris@fylde.gov.uk)

**Period this report covers (date)** May 2023 onwards

**How often does the organisation meet?** Annually

**How often have you attended?** Never

**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** It mainly covers traffic flow and parking the main one at the moment being making parking on the kerb illegal as is already the case in parts of London. It is quite a London centric organisation and the issues it covers are outside our scope but more under LCC.

**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** None at the moment that I can identify.

**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** No

**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** As all communication and presentations are via email and I have yet to attend a meeting in person it is worthwhile keeping me in the loop of what is happening.

23. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Police Crime Commissioner Panel**  
 Representatives – Lead Member for Social Wellbeing and Councillor Lee\* (\*please note as Cllr Lee was only appointed at Council on 2 October, he has not been asked to submit a report on this occasion)  
 No report submitted
24. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – South Fylde Line Community Rail Partnership**  
 Representative – Councillor Settle  
 No report submitted
25. **Outside Bodies - Member Reporting Form – Springfield Site Stakeholder Group**  
**Representatives** – Lead Member for Environment and Councillor Evans  
**Email** [thomas.threalfall@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:thomas.threalfall@fylde.gov.uk)  
**Period this report covers (date)** Up to December 2023  
**How often does the organisation meet?** Quarterly  
**How often have you attended?** All so far.  
**What are the key issues arising for Fylde Borough Council?** The move away from carbon based energy is presenting new opportunities for future energy delivery and as a result business for the site looks promising. The last meeting looked at all the safety protocols and arrangements on site which are thorough and reassuring.  
**Examples of issues could be those that may affect decisions regarding budget setting, challenges for residents, policy changes that affect partnership working etc** None arising  
**Who did you inform of these issues within Fylde Borough Council?** Head of Technical Services  
**In the light of these meetings, is it worthwhile for the Council to continue to have a representative/representatives on this body?** Yes it’s important FBC maintains a close relationship with this important employer.

BACKGROUND PAPERS REVELANT TO THIS ITEM		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
None		

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
Democratic Services	Email: <a href="mailto:democracy@fylde.gov.uk">democracy@fylde.gov.uk</a> & Tel 01253 658550	January 2024

# SCRUTINY ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
INTERIM SCRUTINY MANAGER	COMMUNITY FOCUS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	18 JANUARY 2024	8
<b>ONGOING SCRUTINY WORKPLANS 2024</b>			

## PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

### PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

To provide members with an update on the current work programme of the scrutiny committees. Going forward, the Scrutiny Workplan will be a standing item on the scrutiny agendas.

### SOURCE OF REFERRAL

Scrutiny training event - 7 June 2023

Workshop of Internal Affairs Scrutiny Committee members - 22 August 2023.

Workshop Community Focus Scrutiny Committee - 19 September 2023

### FURTHER INFORMATION

The current workplan is attached as an appendix.

### SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATION

To note the current draft workplan for the scrutiny committees for the remainder of the 2024 municipal year.

## REPORT

### SCRUTINY WORKPLANS

1. The Scrutiny Workplan outlines the areas of work which are expected to be scrutinised over the coming months/year by or on behalf of the Council’s Scrutiny function and any Task and Finish Groups convened for review work.
2. The workplan is a live document and ongoing consultation will continue to be undertaken with Heads of Service and Chairmen and Vice- Chairmen of the scrutiny committees.
3. Topics added to the work programme will have expected outcomes to add value to the services delivered by the Council and its partners and/or improve the quality of lives of Fylde residents. It is recognised that there is a need for flexibility in the work programme so as to allow relevant issues to be dealt with as and when they arise.
4. The report provides an overview of the current draft work plans of both the Internal Affairs and the

Community Focus Scrutiny Committees up to the end of the municipal year in April 2024.

5. Part 3 (Section 4) of the [Constitution](#) sets out the Terms of Reference of both scrutiny committees (Internal Affairs and Community Focus). Both committees should keep the respective work programmes under review and establish topic-specific in-depth reviews, to be time limited.
6. An extract of the most recent workplan is attached as an appendix. Any amendments to it since the publication of the agenda will be reported at the meeting.
7. There may be the need to arrange additional meetings of either committee if the work plan becomes too congested which will be subject to agreement with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

8. As part of the council’s commitment to keeping councillors informed of relevant information as soon as possible, the Councillor Hub is now available. The Councillor Hub forms part of the council’s intranet and is comprised of content particularly intended to assist elected members in their role. This provides an opportunity to improve arrangements for information items.
9. Traditionally, information items have not been able to be presented to councillors until they are included in the agenda for the relevant committee. Depending on the point in the committee cycle, this could be many weeks or even months after the information first becomes available.
10. Information items will now be posted on the Councillor Hub as soon as they are ready, unless the relevant committee chairman directs that the item should instead be placed in full on the agenda of the next available committee meeting. Additionally, the scrutiny workplan will include a list of the information items that are anticipated to be posted to the Hub before the next committee meeting.

BACKGROUND PAPERS REVELANT TO THIS ITEM		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Fylde Council Constitution	May 2023	<a href="https://fylde.cmis.uk.com/fylde/ConstitutionGovernanceMatters.aspx">https://fylde.cmis.uk.com/fylde/ConstitutionGovernanceMatters.aspx</a>

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
Scrutiny Team	<a href="mailto:scrutiny@fylde.gov.uk">scrutiny@fylde.gov.uk</a>	January 2024

**Attached Documents**

Appendix - Extract of the Workplan including a list of anticipated information reports for publication on the Councillor Hub



## Workplans for Scrutiny Committees 2024

Committee/ Date/Title of Report	Origin
<b>Scrutiny Internal Affairs – 24 Jan 2024</b>	
Use of Residential Premises as Children's Care Homes	Workshop
Affordable Housing Scoping & App of Task & Finish Group	Workshop
<b>Cycle 6</b>	
<b>Scrutiny Internal Affairs – 20 Feb 2024</b>	
Residents Survey	To consider responses
New Corporate Plan	New
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report - Position as at 31st December 2023	Regular report
Capital Monitoring Report - Position as at 31st December 2023	Regular report
Budget proposals	<a href="#">new proposals</a>
Events Policy	Review
Beach Management Plan	Review
Planning Peer Review Action Plan - Monitoring Delivery	Update
Ongoing Scrutiny Workplan 2024	Each Meeting
<b>Scrutiny Community Focus – 14 Mar 2024</b>	
Holiday, Activity & Food Programme (HAF)	Regular report
Statutory notifiable illnesses (TBC)	New
Ongoing Scrutiny Workplan 2024	Each meeting
<b>Cycle 8</b>	
<b>Scrutiny Internal Affairs – 09 Apr 2024</b>	
Commercial Strategy	Review
Car Parking Annual report	Annual report
Planning Peer Review Action Plan - Monitoring Delivery	Each Meeting
Coastal Strategy	Review
Wedding Service	New
Disabled Facilities Grant Update	Review
Enforcement Action- Statistical Information	6 monthly report
Section 106 Monies Update	6 monthly report
On going Scrutiny Workplan 2023/24	Each meeting

### Information reports for publication on the Councillor Hub

January 2024	Origin
Annual Tourism Statistics (STEAM)	Annual Report
February 2024	Origin
Home Energy Conservation Act	Update
Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy	Update