



## BARROW BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN HALL  
DUKE STREET  
BARROW-IN-FURNESS

3rd October, 2016

To: The Members of Barrow Borough Council

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of BARROW BOROUGH COUNCIL to be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER at the TOWN HALL, BARROW on TUESDAY the 11th day of OCTOBER, 2016 COMMENCING AT 5.30 PM for the transaction of the business specified below.

Executive Director

---

Prior to the business of the meeting, Prayers will be offered.

### Business

#### 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

To receive declarations by Members and/or co-optees of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting).

Members may however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

2. MINUTES. To confirm the Minutes of the Council's proceedings held on 19th July and the Extraordinary meeting held on 6th September, 2016.
3. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

**To expedite the business of the meeting, Members are requested to give the Executive Director adequate notice of any Amendment which they propose to raise.**

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS – To receive any announcements from the Chairman, Leader or Head of Paid Service.
5. ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR.
6. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO STANDING COMMITTEES.
7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON A REVIEW OF THE REPRESENTATION OF POLITICAL GROUPS ON COMMITTEES.
8. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE.
9. (A) TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS:-
  - (1) Planning
  - (2) Licensing Regulatory
  - (3) Licensing
  - (4) Executive
  - (5) Audit
- (B) QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Council has agreed that time be set aside for questions to the Leader of the Council.

Standing Order 10.2 and 10.4 set out the procedure for questions to the Leader and the notice period required.

The Leader will also take any questions without notice relevant to the reports and minutes detailed on the agenda.

10. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORT.
11. TO PASS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION, THAT IS TO SAY:

That the Council authorises the fixing of its Common Seal to any documents to give effect to the Minutes and proceedings of the Committees submitted to or approved by this meeting and any other matters dealt with at this meeting.

**To expedite the business of the meeting, Members are requested to give the Executive Director adequate notice of any Amendment which they propose to raise.**

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 5</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Executive Director</b>	
<p><b>Title: Election of Councillor</b></p> <p><b>Summary and Conclusions:</b></p> <p>To report on the election of a Councillor for Parkside Ward.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>To note the report.</p>	

**Report**

I have to report that at the election of a Councillor for the Parkside Ward held on 8th September, 2016 the following person was duly elected:

Lee Roberts  
Number of Votes – 317

Councillor Roberts made and subscribed the declaration required by law and accepted the office of Councillor. He will serve in that capacity until May 2019.

**Background Papers**

Nil.

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 6</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Executive Director</b>	
<p><b>Title: Review of Representation of Political Groups on Committees</b></p> <p><b>Summary and Conclusions:</b></p> <p>A request for review of arrangements has been received by the Labour Group under the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989.</p> <p>This report deals with that review and the consequent recommendations.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p>To recommend the Council -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To agree the size of Committees and the allocation of seats and substitute seats to political groups in accordance with the details at <b>Appendix 1</b>;</li> <li>2. To agree the allocation of seats on Outside Bodies, the number of seats and allocations in respect of Forums, Panels, Working Groups etc. in accordance with the details at <b>Appendix 2</b> and (with the exception of the Housing Management Forum) delegate to the appropriate committees the power to make the necessary appointments; and</li> <li>3. To confirm the appointment of Members to Committees by the Labour Group.</li> </ol>	

### **Report**

It is the duty of the Council or of a relevant Committee in performing this function to determine the allocation to different political groups of the seats which fall to be filled by appointments and in making such determinations to give effect, so far as reasonably practicable, to the following principles:-

1. That not all the seats on the body are allocated to the same political group.

2. That the majority of the seats on the body is allocated to a particular political group if the number of members belonging to that group is a majority of the Authority's membership.
3. Subject to Nos. (1) and (2) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary Committees of the Authority which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all seats on the ordinary Committees of that Authority as is borne by the number of Members of that group to the membership of that Authority;
4. Subject to Nos. (1) and (3) above, that the number of the seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as is borne by the number of Members of the group to the membership of the Authority; and
5. The number of seats held on the Council by each group is:-

Labour Group	27
Conservative Group	8
Independent	1

The relevant Regulations require that so far as is reasonable the proportion of the total seats on Committees and on individual Committees held by the Political Groups bear the same proportion to their seats on the Council.

**Appendix 1** shows the recommended allocation of seats on Committees and Sub-Committees.

Members are asked to note the following:-

1. The number of seats on the Executive, Licensing, Licensing Regulatory, Planning and Overview and Scrutiny Committee have been set at twelve.
2. The Council's Constitution provides that –
  - (a) Members of the Executive Committee shall not be eligible to be members of the Planning Committee and vice-versa.
  - (b) One Executive Committee member from each political group may be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee subject to the proportionality rules. All other Councillors qualify to sit on the Committees and any Sub-Committee established.
4. The number of Councillors on the Housing Management Forum has been set at eight.
5. The number of Councillors on the Audit Committee has been set at six.

The recommended seat allocations in respect of those Outside Bodies to which the proportionality rules have been applied and in respect of Forums, Working Groups and Panels are at **Appendix 2**.

It is recommended that the Council delegate to Committees the power to make appointments to outside bodies etc. appropriate to their terms of reference.

Background Papers

Nil

**SEPTEMBER 2016**  
**CALCULATION OF POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES**

**STAGE 1 – Percentage Representation on the Council:**

<b>Party</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Percentage %</b>
Labour	27	75
Conservative	8	22.22
Independent	1	2.78

**STAGE 1A – Total number of seats on Committees to be Allocated:**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Membership</b>
Executive	12
Planning	12
Licensing Regulatory	12
Licensing	12
Overview and Scrutiny	12
Audit	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>

**STAGE 2 – Total Allocation of Seats to Each Party**

(To ensue as far as reasonably practicable that the numbers of seats allocated to a group in total is in the same proportion as the number of members of the group on the council as a whole)

<b>Party</b>	<b>Number of seats</b>	<b>Seats (rounded up)</b>
Labour	49.5	50
Conservative	14.7	15

(One seat would remain unallocated because one Independent cannot be treated as a political group).

**STAGE 3 – Percentage Allocation of Total Number of Seats on Committees:**

<b>Party</b>	<b>Number of seats</b>	<b>%</b>
Labour	50	75.76
Conservative	15	22.73

## **STAGE 4 – Allocations on Individual Committees**

To ensure that so far as reasonably practicable the number of seats allocated to a group on each committee is in the same proportion as the number of members of the group on the council as a whole)

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Seats on Committee</b>	<b>Seat Entitlement</b>	<b>Total</b>
Executive	Labour	12	9	9
	Conservative		2.66	3
Planning	Labour	12	9	9
	Conservative		2.66	3
Licensing Regulatory	Labour	12	9	9
	Conservative		2.66	3
Licensing	Labour	12	9	9
	Conservative		2.66	3
O&S	Labour	12	9	9
	Conservative		2.66	3
Audit	Labour	6	4.5	5
	Conservative		1.33	1
			Total Seats	66
			Labour	50
			Conservative	(16)15

Under this option the Conservative Group need to lose one seat from either the Executive, Planning, Licensing or Regulatory Licensing Committees, which would satisfy the statutory political balance rules. The Council would need to decide which.

An Independent Member is not part of a political group and has no legal entitlement to a seat on a Committee. If the Council wishes to allocate the one residual seat then this would be a resolution of Council against which no Member votes. If this is not possible the seat would remain unallocated.

## **SUB-COMMITTEE**

Licensing	Labour	2	2.25	2
	Conservative	1	0.66	1



## APPENDIX 2

### ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, 10TH MAY, 2016

#### OUTSIDE BODIES ETC.

	<u>SEATS</u>	<u>NOTIONAL SEAT ALLOCATIONS</u>		<u>SEE NOTES ON CATEGORIES</u>
		<u>LAB</u>	<u>CON</u>	
Allotments Liaison Committee	9	7	2	(1)
Barrow Local Committee – Highways Advisory Group	3	2	1	(2)
Barrow Borough Sports Council	3	2	1	(2)
Cumbria Police and Crime Panel	1	1	0	(2)
Cumbria Local Nature Partnership Board	1	1	0	(2)
Wildlife and Countryside Advisory Committee	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	(2)
	26	20	6	

---

#### Categories

- (1) A body established to advise on a particular matter or administer a particular budget allocated by the Council and as such, subject to the Proportionality Rules.
- (2) A Committee on which the Local Authority is represented, which is advisory and which deals with matters which may have a bearing on a Local Authority's functions or makes representations on its behalf and which, on balance, are subject to the Proportionality Rules applied so far as reasonably practicable.
- (3) A Committee either established (or not) by this Local Authority, although it has representatives appointed to it, and is not subject to the Proportionality Rules.
- (4) An advisory body the representation on which has been determined by the Local Authority on a Ward basis.

**FORUMS, WORKING GROUPS, PANELS ETC.**

	<b><u>SEATS</u></b>	<b><u>NOTIONAL SEAT ALLOCATIONS</u></b>		<b><u>SEE NOTES ON CATEGORIES</u></b>
		<b><u>LAB</u></b>	<b><u>CON</u></b>	
Housing Management Forum	8	6	2	(1)
Renovation Grants Panel	4	3	1	(1)
*Medical Assessment/Housing Applications Appeals Panel	*3	-	-	(1)
*Review Board - Housing Register/Homeless Applicants	*3	-	-	(1)
Planning Policy Working Group (2 Members Executive Committee and 4 Members Planning Committee)	6	5	1	(1)
Planning Panel	5	4	1	(1)
*Appeals Panel	*4	-	-	(1)
Early Retirement/Voluntary Redundancy Panel	4	3	1	(1)
Grading Appeals Panel	4	3	1	(1)
Tenant Scrutiny Working Group	3	2	1	(1)
Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group	3	2	1	(1)
Taxi Licensing Working Party	4	3	1	(1)
Licensing Policy Consultation Working Group	4	3	1	(1)
Barrow Alcohol Inquiry Working Party	4	3	1	(1)
Member Training Working Group	4	3	1	(1)
Health and Safety Management Board	5	4	1	(1)
Constitution Working Group	4	..3	1	(1)
Excluding	*64	49	(50) 15 (14)	

The Conservative Group will need to lose a seat. The Council would need to decide which.

Selected by Executive Director in accordance with proportionality rules when required

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 7</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Executive Director</b>	
<p><b>Title: Appointment of Member to Standing Committees</b></p> <p><b>Summary and Conclusions:</b></p> <p>To report on the wishes of the Labour Group that the Council appoint Councillor L. Roberts as a Member of the Licensing Committee, Licensing Regulatory Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Also as a Substitute Member of the Executive and Planning Committees and Licensing Sub-Committee. .</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>To agree that Council formally confirm such appointments.</p>	

### **Report**

In accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 the Leader of the Labour Group has notified me of the wish to appoint Councillor L. Roberts to the seats allocated to the Group on the Licensing Committee, Licensing Regulatory Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Also as a Substitute Member of the Executive and Planning Committees and Licensing Sub-Committee.

There is a duty to give effect to the allocation of seats previously determined by Council by making appointments in accordance with the wishes of the Group.

### **Background Papers**

Nil

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 8</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Executive Director</b>	
<p><b>Title: Appointment of Vice Chairman of the Audit Committee</b></p> <p><b>Summary and Conclusions:</b></p> <p>This report deals with a change in the appointment of the Vice Chairman of the Audit Committee.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p>To agree that the Council confirms the appointment of a Member in place of Councillor Harkin as Vice Chairman of the Audit Committee.</p>	

### **Report**

The Labour Group has given notice of its wish to replace Councillor Harkin as the Vice Chairman of the Audit Committee.

The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 places a duty on the Council to give effect to the allocation of seats in accordance with the wishes of political groups.

Council will be asked to confirm the appointment of a replacement Vice Chairman of the Audit Committee in place of Councillor Harkin.

### **Background Papers**

Nil

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 9(A)(1)</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Executive Director</b>	
<p><b>REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE (Report of the meetings held on 16th August, 6th September, 4th October and 11th October, 2016)</b></p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p>There were no recommendations referred to Council from the meetings held on 16th August, 6th September and 4th October, 2016.</p> <p>If necessary an addendum to this report will deal with any recommendations from the Planning Committee to be held on 11th October, 2016.</p> <p><u>Delegated Decisions</u></p> <p>The matters determined by the Planning Committee in exercise of the powers which have been delegated to the Committee will be detailed in the Minutes of the meetings noted above reproduced in Volume 2 2016/17 of the printed Minutes.</p>	

Background Papers

Nil

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 9(A)(2)</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Executive Director</b>	

**REPORT OF THE LICENSING REGULATORY COMMITTEE  
(Report of the meetings held on 21st July and 1st September, 2016)**

**Recommendations:**

There were no recommendations referred to Council from the meeting held on 21st July, 2016.

The following recommendations have been referred to Council.

**Licensing Regulatory Committee – 1st September, 2016**

**1.0 Policy Relating to the Fitness of Applicants for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licences**

1.1 Following a review of the current Council guidelines on the fitness of applicants for hackney carriage and private hire drivers licences, Officers developed a new draft policy which was presented to Members at the Committee Meeting on 30th June, 2016. At that meeting Members approved a public consultation of the new draft Policy, including its additional requirement to enable the Licensing Authority to introduce appropriate and necessary training, to continually improve driver standards, knowledge and awareness.

**1.2 Recommendations:-**

**That it be noted that the Draft Fitness of Applicants for Hackney Carriage Driver's Licences Policy and the results from the consultation be reported to the Executive Committee on 7th September, 2016 for consideration before being forwarded to Full Council, with any proposals, for adoption.**

### Delegated Decisions

The matters determined by the Licensing Regulatory Committee in exercise of the powers which have been delegated to the Committee will be detailed in the Minutes of the meetings noted above reproduced in Volume 2 2016/17 of the printed Minutes.

### Background Papers

Nil

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 9(A)(3)</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Executive Director</b>	
<p><b>REPORT OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE (Report of the meetings held on 21st July and 1st September, 2016)</b></p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p>The meeting to be held on 21st July, 2016 had been cancelled.</p> <p>There were no recommendations referred to Council from the meeting held on 1st September, 2016.</p> <p><u>Delegated Decisions</u></p> <p>The matters determined by the Licensing Committee in exercise of the powers which have been delegated to the Committee will be detailed in the Minutes of the meeting noted above reproduced in Volume 2 2016/17 of the printed Minutes.</p>	

Background Papers

Nil



<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 9(A)(4)</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Executive Director</b>	

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
(Report of the meeting held on 7th September, 2016)**

**Recommendations:**

The following recommendations have been referred to Council.

**Executive Committee – 7th September, 2016**

**1.0 Housing Management Forum: Recommendations**

**1.1 Fencing on Council Estates**

The purpose of the Assistant Director – Housing’s report was to confirm the Council’s approach to providing fencing on Council estates.

**Recommendation:-**

**To recommend the Council:-**

- (i) To note the information contained in the report;**
- (ii) To confirm that in considering requests for crossing of land the Council’s Policy was to “protect green space”; and**
- (iii) To agree the Procedure note attached as an appendix to the report on how this Policy should be implemented.**

**1.2 Roosegate Estate External Works**

The purpose of the Assistant Director – Housing’s report was to suggest additional funding be provided to continue the Roosegate Refurbishment Scheme to the end of the financial year, on the basis that the final phase would commence in April, 2017.

**Recommendation:-**

**To recommend the Council that:-**

- (i) The final phase to refurbish 35 properties on Roosegate be agreed for the year 2017/18; and**
- (ii) Reserves be made available to ensure continuation of the scheme between December 2016 and April 2017 if needs arose.**

**1.3 Cumbria Choice: Choice-Based Lettings Scheme - Update**

The purpose of the Assistant Director – Housing’s report was to provide Members with an update on the Review of the Cumbria-wide Choice Based Lettings Scheme – Cumbria Choice.

**Recommendation:-**

**To recommend the Council that:-**

- (i) The content of the report be noted; and**
- (ii) The final draft of the Review of the Allocation Policy which formed the operating basis for Cumbria Choice be agreed.**

**2.0 Land Charge and OS Map Fees**

- 2.1 The Director of Resources report informed the Committee that the Council’s Land Charge service currently maintained a high market share for searches carried out. There were various factors that were currently developing, and would change in the future, that required the Council to be more agile in its ability to set and charge fees for searches

**2.2 Recommendation:-**

**To recommend the Council:-**

- (i) To delegate the setting of Land Charge fees to the Property Information Manager in consultation with the Director of Resources and Assistant Director of Regeneration and Built Environment; and**
- (ii) To delegate the setting of charges for the Council’s Ordnance Survey plan printing service to the Property Information Manager.**

### **3.0 Ship Water Sampling Fees**

3.1 The Director of Resources report informed the Committee that the Council was responsible for administering ship sanitation certificates for those ships using Barrow's port facilities. The ship sanitation certificate mirrored the food hygiene work the Council carried out on shore, but included the ability to test water supplies, as well as reviewing wider standards of hygiene and cleanliness on board. There was also a duty to monitor the fixed assets of the port and in particular stand pipes from which ships draw fresh water.

#### **3.2 Recommendation:-**

**To recommend the Council:-**

- (i) To agree the fees for water samples, at cost recovery as detailed in the report, with immediate effect; and**
- (ii) To delegate the review and setting of fees for water sampling to the Environmental Health Manager.**

#### Delegated Decisions

The matters determined by the Executive Committee in exercise of the powers which have been delegated to the Committee will be detailed in the Minutes of the meetings noted above reproduced in Volume 2 (2016/17) of the printed Minutes.

#### Background Papers

Nil

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 9(A)(5)</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Executive Director</b>	

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE  
(Report of the meeting held on 15th September, 2016)**

**Recommendations:**

There were no recommendations referred to Council from the above meeting.

Delegated Decisions

The matters determined by the Audit Committee in exercise of the powers which have been delegated to the Committee will be detailed in the Minutes of the meeting noted above reproduced in Volume 2 (2016/17) of the printed Minutes.

Background Papers

Nil

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Agenda Item 10</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 11th October, 2016</b>	
<b>Reporting Officer: Corporate Support Manager</b>	
<p><b>Title: Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2015/16</b></p> <p><b>Summary and Conclusions:</b></p> <p>The Annual Report details the work undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2015/16.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p>To recommend the Council to accept the Annual Report from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p>	

**Report**

**Foreword**

The Council has one Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the remit to investigate, scrutinise, monitor, oversee and comment on service delivery mechanisms, policy implementation, or any other issue affecting the Borough or its residents provided that they have previously been considered by either the Executive Committee or Council.

Membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 2015/16:

- Councillors Heath (Chairman)
- Cassidy (Vice-Chairman)
- Gill
- Husband
- McLeavy
- Opie
- Preston
- Proffitt
- C. Thomson
- M. A. Thomson
- Wall
- Williams

Members had previously agreed to develop a four year work programme up to March 2016 and identified topics for review these are presented in Table 1.

The Committee recognises that additional urgent items may be identified during the period and they will be considered in an appropriate timeframe.

Item	Topic	Scope of the review
1	Allotments.	To review the Council's arrangements for managing tenancies and the waiting list. Ensure the allotment service is financially sustainable
2	Street cleanliness.	To review to Council's arrangements for working with the contractor to deliver a higher standard of street cleanliness. To ensure appropriate arrangements are in place to manage external factors the impact on street cleanliness e.g. seagulls and fly tipping.
3	Coastal protection.	The implementation of phase four of the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy has resulted in changes to way in which coastal defence projects are funded. The review will focus on our medium term project plan and how it will be funded.
4	Estates and asset management.	To review arrangements for maximising income from our assets and the potential for the disposal of redundant assets.
5	Town centres development and supporting local traders.	Review arrangements for supporting local traders in the current economic climate.
6	Highways and car parking	Review the provision of highways maintenance by Cumbria County Council. Review street lighting and on-street parking arrangements.
7	Economic Development, planning and development control.	Review arrangements for planning and economic development in light of the reduced funding as a result of the Governments deficit reduction programme. Ensure the Council still has appropriate arrangements in place to access development funding
8	Cultural Services	Review the impact of the Council's service review on cultural services. The review will consider events, distribution of funding and service charges.
9	Policy and strategy	Monitor the development of and performance against the council's key priorities.

10	Housing strategy	Review availability of private sector and socially housing and consider partnership arrangements to ensure that the availability of housing in the borough meets demand.
11	Localised flooding	Review arrangements to protect residents and property against local flooding.

From the work programme above, items 1 (Allotments), 3 (Costal Protection) and 8 (Cultural Services) were completed prior to the start of 2015/16, items 2 (Street Cleanliness) and 9 (Policy and Strategy) are standing items for this committee, item 11 (Localised Flooding) was reviewed during 2015/16. We need to prioritise the work programme for 2016/17.

Members of the Committee considered reviewing item 10 (Housing Strategy).

### **Housing Strategy**

The Council's Principal Planning Officer addressed the Committee. She provided Members with an update on the consultation process and the timetable for the Local Plan production.

The Committee was informed that the Borough's existing Local Plan had been adopted in 2001 and therefore some of the policies were out of date and needed updating or replacing. The Planning Policy Team was responsible for preparing the new Local Plan which sets the broad framework for acceptable development in the Borough for the next 15 years, up to 2031.

In line with the Regulations a number of assessments and consultation stages were required throughout the process of drafting the new Local Plan, however, the timetable suggested the Plan would be examined and adopted in 2016.

Members agreed to defer reviewing the Housing Strategy until the Local Plan had been adopted.

### **Localised Flooding**

Members had requested that this Committee reviewed arrangements for localised flooding as part of their Work Programme. It was noted that Cumbria County Council was the Lead Partner for Flood Management and had established Making Space for Water Groups (MSfWG) for each of the six districts.

The Environmental Protection Officer who was the Council's Lead Officer on the MSfWG provided a presentation of the current arrangements for preventing and dealing with local flooding. Members were provided with a list of the current flood hotspots within the Borough.

Members were satisfied that appropriate arrangements were in place.

### **Street Cleanliness**

Members received a number of street cleansing reports and raised their concerns regarding the reduction in the amount of waste being recycled which had reduced from 8978 tonnes in 2014/15 to 8335 tonnes in 2015/16. This was due to a significant reduction in the amount of paper collected and a reduction in green waste which may have been attributable to the cold spring.

Members were also concerned about an increase in contamination in green waste collections, which is attributable to residents using their green waste bins for residual waste.

### **Friends of Barrow Cemetery Group**

Members requested that we consider establishing a 'Friends of the Cemetery' Group.

This was progressed and Barrow Cemetery has become an associate member of the Federation of Cemetery Friends, and we are now working towards full membership.

The Cemetery had around 1000 trees and the Council were required to keep a record of them. It was suggested that Quick Response codes would be one option to keep track of the trees; another benefit of them would be that members of the family could also add more information onto the code about the person passed. Currently a trial to assess the viability of using the Quick Response codes is being undertaken by Cemetery staff.

### **Background Papers**

Nil.