

Public Realm Agreements

Overview and Scrutiny Task Group Report

June 2023

Chair of the Task Group:

County Councillor Alan Schofield

For further information regarding this report, please contact:

Gary Halsall, Senior Democratic Services Officer (Overview and Scrutiny)



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Introduction

By virtue of Section 1(2) of the Highways Act 1980 the County Council is the Highway Authority for highways other than trunk roads in the County of Lancashire.

Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2000 enable a local authority to arrange for the discharge of their functions by any other local authority.

Lancashire County Council and the twelve district councils have made arrangements for the undertaking of certain highway authority functions by the district councils and had reached an understanding on various highway related matters on the terms and conditions of each Public Realm Agreement (PRA).

Public Realm Agreements have been in place since 2003 when the highway function transferred from the district and borough councils to the county council. Whilst the content of the agreement has not changed since then, the funding levels have. The agreements also include a section on permissive tasks.

In addition to the agreements in place with the district councils, arrangements have been entered into with a small number of parish and town councils and payments from the county council are primarily used for additional grass cutting, weeding and 'gateway' works.



Background to the review

The former Internal Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting held on 21 January 2022, received a presentation on Public Realm Agreements and agreed that a scoping exercise be undertaken to identify the remit of a potential task group to come back to the next meeting of the committee for agreement. The following areas were highlighted for possible consideration:

- Relationships with other authorities
- Balancing environmental and financial issues
- Communication with the public

A scoping document was subsequently presented to the former scrutiny committee at its meeting held on 4 March 2022, with an initial objective to identify ways of improving communication and information about Public Realm Agreements between the county council, district councils, and residents. During that meeting members raised further points for consideration, as follows:

- The task group could be used as an opportunity to share good practice and solutions between the county council, district councils, and community groups.
- Clarification could be provided for members regarding the roles and remits set out by the Public Realm Agreements between district councils and the county council.
- Improvements could be made to Public Realm Agreements in terms of seamless service delivery and customer experience for residents. Both the county council and district councils could take more ownership when queries were received from members of the public in order to shape the service provided for residents.
- A need to balance the needs and wants of residents, whilst taking into consideration financial limitations and supporting biodiversity.

The committee subsequently agreed that a task group on Public Realm Agreements be established, as set out by the scoping document. The task group was welcomed by the Highways Service, as a means to bring clarity and an opportunity to refresh the agreements with the district councils.



Soon after this decision was taken, proposed changes to the county council's Overview and Scrutiny committees, which the Cabinet had recommended to Full Council for approval were made. Accordingly, the work of the task group was paused until the new scrutiny function and committee structure was launched (subject to agreement by Full Council at its AGM on 26 May 2022).

The newly established Scrutiny Management Board at its meeting on 26 July 2022 agreed that the task group should report back to the newly established Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee.



Terms of reference

Following the Scrutiny Management Board's decision, a new Chair was appointed to the task group and the terms of reference for the review were enhanced and presented to the task group at its first meeting which was held on 27 September 2022.

Whilst areas were highlighted for possible consideration especially; relationships with other authorities, balancing environmental and financial issues, and communication with the public it was noted that all aspects of the Public Realm Agreements subject would be looked at.

The initial objectives of the review were to:

1. Examine and consider the existing financial allocations for the functions within the Lancashire County Council approved applicable Public Realm Agreement budget.
2. Assess via the 12 district councils on how they fulfil the terms of existing PRAs.
3. Identify ways of improving communication and information (Who does what) about Public Realm Agreements between the county council, district councils, and residents including via parishes where applicable.

The task group in its work have had regard to the key lines of enquiry (KLOE) in the terms of reference.

The task group was not expected to look at non-PRA work, e.g. winter gritting (for which there is a Memorandum of Understanding between the county council and district councils). Lancashire County Council highway maintenance functions, eg gully cleansing and road surface repairs (carriageway and footway), were also outside the scope of the task group's Terms of Reference.

In fulfilling the second objective for the review, a survey was issued to all 12 district councils, with all 12 providing responses. Additionally, two questions were sent to all parish and town councils in Lancashire (over 200). A total of 30 parish and town councils provided a reply. All responses were then shared with the task group for consideration.

A copy of the full terms of reference is available upon request.



Membership of the task group

The following county councillors were appointed to the task group following the Scrutiny Management Board's decision in July 2022:

- Joan Burrows*
- Terry Hurn
- Erica Lewis
- Jackie Oakes
- John Potter
- Alan Schofield (Chair)*
- Ron Woollam

* County Councillors Joan Burrows and Alan Schofield replaced County Councillors Sue Hind and John Shedwick respectively and on a permanent basis from late July 2022 onwards.

County Councillor David O'Toole replaced County Councillor Terry Hurn at the meeting held on 31 May 2023.

Officers

The task group's work programme was supported by the following officers who provided relevant support, guidance and information and attended the meetings as appropriate.

From Lancashire County Council:

- John Davies, Head of Service Highways (from 10/11/2022 meeting)
- Phil Durnell, Director of Highway and Transport (up to and including 27/09/2022 meeting)
- Kate Lee, Head of Service Financial Management
- Ridwan Musa, Highways Service Manager (Operations)
- Rob Wilson, Highways Manager Countywide Maintenance
- Andrew Woodcock, Senior Accountant
- Craig Alker, Democratic Services Officer (Technical)
- Gary Halsall, Senior Democratic Services Officer (Overview and Scrutiny)



Meetings of the task group and progress meetings

The task group held meetings on the following dates:

- 27 September 2022
- 10 November
- 16 December
- 21 February 2023
- 31 May 2023*

During late November 2022 to early January 2023, officers from the county council's Highways Team also held a series of progress meetings with each district council to review the successes over the duration of the current agreement to date and identify any pressures that had arisen before the commencement of the next season in 2023/24.

* This meeting was held on MS Teams. All other meetings were held in person at County Hall, Preston.



Key findings and draft recommendations

1.1. PRA budget allocations

The basis of the allocations so far have been calculated by historical work measurements provided by district councils (relating to amenity grass cutting, rural flail cutting and highspeed flail) and based on what district councils used to spend (relating to weed control, tree works, hedges and shrubs and leaf clearance).

From 2021/22 there has been a 5-year agreement in place with allocations automatically adjusted for inflation and with scope for in-year adjustments.

During 2022/23, additional allocations were made to some district councils (see below). Appendices A and B give details of allocations made in 2022/23 and the proposed allocation for 2023/24 as at 4 April 2023. Further to this an increase of 4.9% based on RPI equating to £61,039 in total had also been added to the 2022/23 allocations to district councils.

The allocations for 2023/24 include a 9.8% inflation uplift.

For 2022/23 and ongoing years, an additional £470,000 was added to the Public Realm Agreement work budget. Following in-year regular liaison and contacts between the county council and district council officers, £109,877 (as at 10 November 2022) of that increase was allocated to Preston, Chorley, Hyndburn, Rossendale and Ribble Valley. For Chorley, Hyndburn and Preston, the increase was due to weed management costs. The request from Rossendale was for an additional sum for grass cutting and weed management costs totalling. For Ribble Valley, the request was for additional monies for amenity grass cutting, weed control and leaf clearance.

Further adjustments were made to the allocations for 2023/24, from the £470,000 pot with agreement from highways officers following receipt of evidence from district councils to substantiate requests received. The main adjustments were as follows:

Fylde area

The allocation from the county council to Fylde Borough Council increased from £97,978 to £101,108. This increase is for £800 of additional traffic management identified, and a



transfer of £2,330 previously allocated for public realm work from Newton with Clifton Parish Council who no longer wish to undertake the work function.

An additional allocation of £659 for additional hedge cutting for Freckleton Parish Council has been awarded. The allocation for parish councils in the area is therefore reduced from £13,542 to £11,871

Morecambe Town Council

Morecambe Town Council will now be delivering the weed management service for the district of Lancaster. £63,295 has been included for this in the parish and town council allocation as reflected in Appendices B and C. Apart from the weed spraying work, there is work that requires the physical removal of weeds which is undertaken by the county council; and such continuation of county council cost for weed control in Lancaster District is included in Appendix B.

Preston City Council

The Preston City Council allocation was increased from £118,608 to £123,608. This is to support the additional costs for grass cutting and for maintaining hedges and shrubs.

Wyre Borough Council

Wyre Borough Council's allocation increased from £112,756 to £113,756. This is to support additional weed spraying costs.

All Areas

£50,000 Flail cutting saving applied across all areas as a pro-rata based on 2022/23 costs.

In the case of the historical work measurements used for the basis of the allocations (relating to amenity grass cutting, rural flail cutting and highspeed flail), it is the view of the task group that these should be more up to date and for the basis of previous spend (relating to weed control, tree works, hedges and shrubs and leaf clearance) should be reviewed and updated to reflect present need.

It is noted that the proforma existing Public Realm Agreement includes this clause 5.1 - "The County Council shall inform the Council (ie the other party council to the agreement) of the Reimbursement as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event not later than 1 February each year".



It was noted that the council's budget is not usually set until later in February, and therefore this deadline should be reviewed

Proposed recommendations

1. There should be an annual review of public realm work requirements and budget allocations. - i.e. That the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport give consideration to introducing an annual review of public realm work requirements and budget allocations
2. That the date in clause 5.1 of the Public Realm Agreements be changed to 1st March.

1.2. Parish and Town Councils

Historically, there had been a £29,603 direct allocation from the county council to some parish and town councils primarily for additional grass cutting, weeding and 'gateway' works. This comprised £7,229 split between seven parish and town councils in the Wyre district; £12,333 between eight parish councils in the Fylde district; £7991 between two parish councils in Preston and £2,050 for one parish council in Hyndburn. The allocations for 2023/24 include a 9.8% uplift. Details of allocations to those parish and town councils is set out at Appendix C.

It is recognised that other parish and town councils may currently be undertaking public realm type work e.g. by employing or contracting with a lengthsman financed out of the parish/town council precept.

It is the view of the task group that continuation and possible extension of this to other parish and town councils be considered.

As noted at Full Council 25th May 2023 the Corporate, Cultural and Community Services Scrutiny Committee made a resolution on 13th April that some recommendations be shared with the Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services (whose remit includes parish and town councils) - some of which recommendations related directly or indirectly to Public Realm functions, as follows:



- 'i. For the following information to be collated, possibly via the next survey to help build a better understanding of the parish and town councils in Lancashire:
 - e. what public realm functions they deliver
- ii. Support for the Parish Lengthsman by considering a Lengthsman of the Year Award.
- v. The Public Realm Task and Finish Group Report to be shared with the committee once finalised'.

Proposed recommendation

- 3. That all other parish and town councils in Lancashire be offered a chance to apply for a direct allocation subject to appropriate specifications, and agreement and availability from the 2023/24 unallocated Public Realm Agreement budget (£407,199 as at 4 April 2023) - and subject to the area of work not already undertaken by the respective district council.

1.3. Use of glyphosate

There are some concerns, nationally and globally about the use of glyphosate and the risk to humans, pollinators and the planet. Yet, there are research papers which don't highlight those concerns. The choice of which to use for effectiveness currently for highway weed control is left with each district council.

Trials are understood to have taken place by Lancaster University (a student's dissertation of 2018) and Cardiff Council (January 2023). Conclusions from the report at Cardiff Council¹ by Advanced Invasives LTD include, that glyphosate is "the most effective and sustainable weed control method currently available" and that "glyphosate was also the least expensive product tested and ranked highest for customer satisfaction."

It is the view of the task group that while glyphosate is accepted as an effective weed control method, there may be alternative herbicides or methods that could be researched and or trialled.

¹ Cardiff Council press release on the results of its Alternative Weed Control Trial: <https://www.cardiffnewsroom.co.uk/releases/c25/30579.html>



Lancashire County Council wants to improve the biodiversity in our county and the task group would welcome any attempts to reduce the use of herbicides.

Invasive weeds such as Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam are dealt with on a reactive basis by the county council.

Proposed recommendations

4. We encourage our partners at district and parish level to reduce or eliminate the use of glyphosate but the discretion as to which herbicide to use on Public Realm Agreement work continue to be left with the district councils concerned.
5. That arrangements be made (by Lancashire County Council and/or in conjunction with district council(s)) for trialling other herbicides (other than Glyphosate) and/or methods and to keep in touch with relevant developments.
6. That the existing basis of work to remove specified invasive weeds which receive attention by the county council on a reactive basis, should be communicated to district councils and parish and town councils.

1.4. Understanding of and communication on the Public Realm Agreement

From the responses provided by the district councils to the survey, it was noted that there is not complete understanding among them of the respective specifications in relation to the Highways Management Plan as referenced in the public realm agreement and there is a need to identify further who does what and the respective officers involved.

It is the view of the task group that there is a need to improve the communication of the Public Realm Agreement work specifications and a need for more transparency to districts from the county council.

There is scope for co-ordinating activities. There is a desire for publication of an annual programme of works respectively at each district council and by Lancashire County Council.



Proposed recommendations

7. That the Public Realm Agreement be enhanced by providing hyperlinks to the current Highways Management Plan and to cover planning for emergency responses.
8. That the frequency of liaison through progress meetings with district councils (including especially on Public Realm Agreement work) be increased to twice a year e.g. in late Spring and early Autumn. This is linked to recommendation no. 1.
9. That those parish and town councils having a direct allocation for some Public Realm Agreement type work, be listed, or appended to the respective district council PRA document.
10. That the contact details of respective county council and district council officers involved in public realm agreement work, be kept up to date via the progress meetings.
11. That county council officers discuss further with district council colleagues the publishing of annual programme of works emanating from the 2023/24 respective budgets and onwards, that the programme of works be then communicated by respective district councils to any/all parish and town councils in their district area and include the then respective contact details for the district council officers.
12. That county council officers should communicate the county council related programme of works to all parish and town councils (either directly or via district councils) including respective contact details for the Lancashire County Council officers.

1.5. Grass cutting

Whilst there were various views arising, it is felt that the minimum requirement of the county council for the number of cuts per year. be unchanged for the time being. It was noted that flail cutting is reducing for 2023/24 onwards via a budget reduction overall of £50k per year (Cabinet decision of 3 November 2022 and as reviewed at the Scrutiny Management Board meeting held on 8 November 2022).



The county council's grass cutting teams are dedicated to county council corporate sites, schools and colleges. The grass cutting to highway verges is commissioned through the district councils and flail cutting is subcontracted out if the district cannot undertake this function.

All flail work on high speed and urban roads are outsourced to the county council's supply chain through a competitive procurement process.

It was noted that cutting on highway verges is especially prevalent adjacent to road junctions, to preserve adequate sight lines for traffic at the junction.

Proposed recommendation

13. The existing arrangements for grass cutting, including effect of the flail cutting reduction, be reviewed prior to the budget for 2024/25 being set.

1.6. Budget monitoring/cost management

Individual district councils have the responsibility of overseeing and monitoring the budget allocated to them, through their own internal procedures and processes.

It is the view of the task group that this appears to be acceptable.

The county council has its own internal procedures for supervision of its own work.

It is noted that the existing PRA proforma includes this clause (6.1) - "Staff employed by the Council (ie the other party council to the agreement) for the discharge of the Relevant Functions shall be competent and shall be properly managed by the Council".

However, most district councils find it difficult to split cost between their Lancashire County Council Public Realm Agreement work and their own district work in similar functions.

The view of the task group is that this is an area not entirely resolved.

It can be noted that the existing PRA of April 2021 includes this clause (7.2): 'The County Council shall pay to the Council the Reimbursement within 30 days of invoice receipt but in any event not later than 31 May of each year'. This means that the allocation is annual



payments to the 12 District Councils, eg for 2023/24 of overall £1,540,024, would be expected to be paid by the county council wholly by or before 31st May, while the spending of the money by the District Councils would be spread across the financial year (subject to seasonal requirements relating to the PRA work functions concerned).

However, as there would not be a material impact on the county council's cash flow benefit / cost saving by changing from a whole sum year's payment to the District Councils by or before 31st May, per advice from head of corporate finance, no recommendation is being made to consider changing to any different timeline or incidence (eg instalments).

Proposed recommendations

14. No change recommended in respect of district councils' budget monitoring/supervision; however, further consideration should be given to respective cost management by each District Council at future liaison/progress meetings.
15. The County Council's own procedures for reviewing its own, direct or contracted public realm work should be reviewed.

1.7. Biodiversity

On biodiversity, while five districts had no plans to make adjustments on public realm delivery or biodiversity considerations, five other district councils were pursuing their own biodiversity plans and adjustments such as introducing a wildlife corridor programme, re-wilding, mini meadows, wildflower areas and No Mow May (a national campaign to encourage people not to mow their lawns until the end of May in order to boost the flowers, and nectar, available to pollinating insects such as bees, butterflies and moths).

In Lancaster, the city council undertook and delivered a new grassland management strategy² in 2020 which radically changed the way it approached management of grounds maintenance. This document was shared with county council officers prior to implementation.

In Fylde, the council was setting a number of future targets to alter operational activity to benefit biodiversity and carbon neutral goals. These include but are not restricted to: grass

² Lancaster City Council Grassland Management Strategy website: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/aed35178a92e424590993a95c8827e63>



cutting frequencies; reduction in the use of chemical and exploration of alternatives; phase-in of green fleet. A programme of work with Community Payback teams is being set up to increase capacity in hot spot areas.

There is no reference or commitment to biodiversity or carbon neutral goals in the example/current Public Realm Agreement. It is the view of the task group that biodiversity issues need to be integrated into work specifications.

Proposed recommendations

16. That biodiversity issues and carbon neutral goals be a consideration in the annual review of the Public Realm Agreement work and be reflected in the Public Realm Agreement.

1.8. Permissive tasks

"Permissive tasks" is the term used to describe any task that is not already covered by the agreement and which requires permission from the county council as the Highway Authority. There is no definitive list of what constitutes a permissive task, but this could include cleaning of road signs, bus shelters³, removal of fly posters and forgotten signs and cones. The county council is open to considering all proposals from the district councils, though in accordance with the permissive tasks clause in the agreement; such tasks would not be funded by the county council.

Sign cleaning is not carried out by district councils other than in South Ribble (in high profile locations). The only other instance where the permissive task clause has been used by a district council was to enable action to be taken for flyposting in Preston.

From the survey, it was noted that seven district councils had not explored options under this clause. Four districts were either unaware, unsure of, or wanted further information on the clause with one district claiming it was not applicable. It is the view of the task group that there appears to be a need for more awareness on permissive tasks between the county council and district councils.

³ If bus shelters are owned by the districts or parishes, it is their responsibility to maintain. As a permissive task district can ask to maintain Lancashire County Council owned bus shelters.

Proposed recommendation

17. That permissive tasks be discussed further at future liaison/progress meetings.

1.9. Budget pressures

It is widely recognised that all councils, like households, are facing some cost pressures. In relation to PRA related work, particular areas for concern are labour, plant material, fuel and cost inflation.

It is understood and recognised that inflation increase(s) have been applied by the county council for 2022/23 and that a 9.8% inflation increase has been added for 2023/24 proposed budgets.

Proposed recommendation

18. That future appropriate inflation increases are considered in the future budgets. This is also linked to an earlier finding and recommendation for annual review of budgets (recommendation no 1).



Information on responses received

Information is available on:

- Summary from progress meetings November 2022 to January 2023 Lancashire County Council/District Council officers
- Summary of responses from District Council survey
- Summary of responses from Parish and Town Council survey



Acknowledgements

This task group is grateful for the support and advice of those who provided information and evidence to support its work (not least the Lancashire County Council officers as listed on page 6)



Appendix A

Who does what - Budget Allocations for 2022/23

Who Does What Table (22/23)												
	Amenity Grass Cutting	Rural Flail Cutting	High Speed Flail	Weed Control	Tree Works	Hedges & Shrubs	Leaf Clearance	Sign Clearing	Parish/Town Council	District Councils	County Council Costs	22/23 Total Public Realm Cost
Burnley	18,981	21,300		28,802		9,394	5,239			62,416	21,300	83,716
Chorley	28,666	37,003		21,771	*	5,367	16,100			108,907	0	108,907
Fylde	51,096	35,700		20,892	*	*	17,245		12,333	89,233	35,700	137,266
Hyndburn	23,368	3,763		31,437		7,050	4,682		2,050	70,300	0	72,350
Lancaster	22,995	43,801		80,000		82,663	12,297			161,756	80,000	241,756
Pendle	23,046	13,800		33,183		9,321	6,830			72,380	13,800	86,180
Preston	29,891	19,900		40,996	*	17,875	19,260		7,991	108,022	19,900	135,913
Ribble Valley	14,412	66,900		45,957	*	*	28,670			89,039	66,900	155,939
Rossendale	35,016		14,000	13,360		7,362	6,500			76,238	0	76,238
South Ribble	61,388	21,167		21,376	*	20,308	32,065	Y		156,304	0	156,304
West Lancs	129,696	67,670		49,915	*	*	32,471			279,752	0	279,752
Wyre	52,566	37,700		32,153		10,441	7,532		7,229	102,692	37,700	147,621
Countywide		11,000				275,000				0	286,000	286,000
Unallocated										414,658		414,658
Total									29,603	1,791,697	561,300	2,382,600

£275,000 is tree work purposely held at a countywide level to ensure work carried out in line with TAMP

County Council costs are contained/reported within wider Highways revenue budget

Key
District Council Payment
Parish/Town Council Payment
County Council Cost

* For these Lancashire County Council works on trees and hedges and shrubs the budget is not split into districts.

Sign cleaning is a permissive task. No funding is provided by the county council for permissive tasks. It should be noted that South Ribble Borough Council does not clean all signs within its borough, just those in high profile locations.

Where figures straddle more than one public realm aspect in the above table, it is due to the district charging for these activities as one lump sum. No separate figures are available.

Appendix B

Who does what - Budget Allocations for 2023/24

Who Does What Table (23/24) - Including Additional Agreed Allocations to District, Parish & Town Councils												
	Amenity Grass Cutting	Rural Flail Cutting	High Speed Flail	Weed Control	Tree Works	Hedges & Shrubs	Leaf Clearance	Sign Clearing	Parish/Town Council	District Councils	County Council Costs	23/24 Total Public Realm Cost
Burnley	20,841	20,684		31,625		10,315	5,752			68,533	20,684	89,217
Chorley	31,475	35,934		23,905	*	5,893	17,678			114,885	0	114,885
Fylde	59,234	34,669		22,939	*	*	18,935		11,871	101,108	34,669	147,648
Hyndburn	25,657	3,608		34,518		7,741	5,141		2,251	76,665	0	78,916
Lancaster	25,249	42,536		24,545		90,764	13,502		63,295	172,051	24,545	259,891
Pendle	25,305	13,401		36,435		10,234	7,499			79,473	13,401	92,874
Preston	36,820	19,325		45,014	*	20,627	21,147		8,774	123,608	19,325	151,707
Ribble Valley	15,824	64,968		50,461	*	*	31,480			97,765	64,968	162,733
Rossendale	38,448	13,596		14,669		8,083	7,137			81,933	0	81,933
South Ribble	67,405	20,555		23,471	*	22,298	35,207	Y		168,936	0	168,936
West Lancs	142,406	65,716		54,807	*	*	35,653			298,582	0	298,582
Wyre	57,718	36,612		36,304		11,464	8,270		7,937	113,756	36,612	158,305
Countywide		10,682				301,950				0	312,632	312,632
Unallocated										407,199	0	407,199
Total									94,128	1,904,494	526,836	2,525,458
Notes:												
£301,950 is tree work purposely held at a countywide level to ensure work carried out in line with TAMP												
County Council costs are contained/reported within wider Highways revenue budget												
£50,000 Flail cutting saving applied based on 2022/23 costs												
Key												
District Council Payment												
Parish/Town Council Payment												
County Council Cost												

* For these Lancashire County Council works on trees and hedges and shrubs the budget is not split into districts.

Sign cleaning is a permissive task. No funding is provided by the county council for permissive tasks. It should be noted that South Ribble Borough Council does not clean all signs within its borough, just those in high profile locations.

Where figures straddle more than one public realm aspect in the above table, it is due to the district charging for these activities as one lump sum. No separate figures are available.

Appendix C

Parish and Town Council Allocations

These are historical payments to 2022/23 used primarily for additional grass cutting, weeding and 'gateway' works.

Wyre	2022/23 (£)	2023/24 (£)
Cabus Parish Council	2,814	3,090
Catterall Parish Council	198	217
Garstang Town Council	839	921
Kirkland Parish Council	378	415
Myerscough and Bilsborrow Parish Council	1,916	2,104
Upper Rawcliffe Parish Council	593	651
Pilling Parish Council	491	539
Sub-total	7,229	7,937
Fylde		
Bryning with Warton Parish Council	2,850	3,129
Elswick Parish Council	1,059	1,163
Freckleton Parish Council	2,998	3,951
Little Eccleston Parish Council	890	977
Medlar with Wesham Parish Council	1,324	1,454
Newton with Clifton Parish Council	2,122	0
Singleton Parish Council	468	514
Staining Parish Council	622	683
Sub-total	12,333	11,871
Hyndburn		
Altham Parish Council	2,050	2,251
Lancaster		
Morecambe Town Council	0	63,295 ⁴
Preston		
Broughton in Amounderness Parish Council	5,224	5,736
Barton Parish Council	2,767	3,038
Sub-total	7,991	8,774
Total:	29,603	94,128

⁴ Morecambe Town Council allocation 2023/24, per highways officers, to be for delivering the highway weed management service for Lancaster City Council district.



Appendix D

Glossary

Amenity grass cutting	Areas of grass in small areas of public open space that may be used for recreational activities or may be important for visual amenity.
Flail cutting	<p>A flail mower is a type of powered garden/agricultural equipment which is used to deal with heavier grass/scrub which a normal lawn mower could not cope with.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High speed flail cutting - is where additional traffic management is required due to the speed restriction of the road, in particular dual carriageways to carry out the task. • Rural flail cutting – flail cutting in rural settings other than high speed flail.
Gateway works	Work carried out at the entrances to villages and parishes.
Glyphosate	A herbicide - commonly known as weed killers, are substances used to control undesired plants, also known as weeds.
Mini meadow	A small patch of colourful flowers grown from seed.
No Mow May	A national campaign to encourage people not to mow their lawns until the end of May in order to boost the flowers, and nectar, available to pollinating insects such as bees, butterflies and moths.
Rewilding	The process of protecting an environment and returning it to its natural state, for example by bringing back wild animals that used to live there.
RPI	Retail Price Index - is a price index calculated and published by the U.K.'s Office of National Statistics.



TAMP	Transport Asset Management Plan – the county council's approved strategy to maintain and improve the transport asset network in Lancashire between 2015/16 and 2029/30 ⁵
Wildlife corridor programme	Refer to any linear feature in the landscape that can be used for migration or dispersal of wildlife.

⁵ Lancashire County Council TAMP webpage: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/strategies-policies-plans/roads-parking-and-travel/highway-asset-management-in-lancashire/strategies/transport-asset-management-plan/>

