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Meeting	<b>COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
Time/Day/Date	6.30 pm on Thursday, 23 April 2026
Location	Stenson House, London Road, Coalville, LE67 3FN
Officer to contact	Democratic Services (01530 454512)

### AGENDA

Item		Pages
<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>		
<b>2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b>		
	Under the Code of Conduct members are reminded that in declaring interests you should make clear the nature of that interest and whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest, registerable interest or other interest.	
<b>3. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION</b>		
	To receive questions from members of the public under rule no.10 of the Council Procedure Rules. The procedure rule provides that members of the public may ask any question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties which affect the District, provided that three clear days' notice in writing has been given to the Head of Legal and Support Services.	
<b>4. MINUTES</b>		
	To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2026.	<b>3 - 6</b>
<b>5. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS UPDATE</b>		
	To consider any outstanding actions from previous meetings.	<b>7 - 10</b>
<b>6. CABINET RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS</b>		
	To report on Cabinet's response to recommendations made by the Community Scrutiny Committee.	<b>11 - 12</b>
<b>7. MOIRA FURNACE VISITOR EXPERIENCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (PHASE TWO)</b>		
	Report of the Head of Economic Regeneration and Property	<b>13 - 72</b>

**8. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

To consider any items to be included in the work programme. The plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions and the current work programme are attached for information.

**73 - 88**

**9. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The officers consider that the press and public should be excluded during consideration of the following items in accordance with Section 100(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 as publicity would be likely to result in disclosure of exempt or confidential information. Members are reminded that they must have regard to the public interest test and must consider, for each item, whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure outweighs the public interest in making the item available.

**10. COALVILLE OLD MARKET HALL REGENERATION PROPOSAL**

Report of the Head of Economic Regeneration and Property

**89 - 108**

Circulation:

Councillor T Eynon (Chair)  
Councillor A Barker (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor M Ball  
Councillor D Bigby  
Councillor M French  
Councillor K Horn  
Councillor S Lambeth  
Councillor P Lees  
Councillor E Parle  
Councillor L Windram

MINUTES of a meeting of the COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the Abbey Room, Stenson House, London Road, Coalville, LE67 3FN on WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2026

Present: Councillor T Eynon (Chair)

Councillors A Barker, M French, K Horn, S Lambeth, P Lees, E Parle, L Windram and C Beck (Substitute for Councillor D Bigby)

In Attendance: Councillors J Legrys

Portfolio Holders: Councillors R Blunt and M Wyatt

Officers: Mr J Arnold, Mrs R Wallace, Ms K Hiller, Mr J Knight, Ms E Marquez, Mr P Sanders and Mr P Wheatley

## **26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Ball and D Bigby.

## **27. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **28. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

There were no public questions.

## **29. MINUTES**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2025.

It was moved by Councillor A Barker, seconded by Councillor E Parle and

RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2025 be approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

## **30. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS UPDATE**

The update was noted.

## **31. CABINET RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The update was noted.

## **32. LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

Councillor M Wyatt, Portfolio Holder, presented the report.

Several questions of clarity we asked and responded to by officers.

A discussion was had regarding the litter picking volunteers and the great work they did. Members suggested that an event be organized to thank the volunteers, which was welcomed by officers.

The campaign's impact on communities was praised, and it was suggested that more marketing be done, using the photographs and information within the report. It was noted that the campaign was being pushed further into the rural parts of the district and Members felt that additional marketing would help share what is being done with the wider community.

The progress made in years one and two of the campaign was noted.

The Committee made the following recommendations for officers to consider on the draft year three action plan:

RECOMMENDED THAT:

- 1) The campaign continues, be sustainable and to expand into more areas.
- 2) Volunteers be rewarded with a 'thank you' event.
- 3) Marketing be increased to share the good work undertaken with the wider community.

### **33. PLAYING PITCHES, BUILT FACILITIES (SPORTS AND COMMUNITY), AND OPEN SPACES STRATEGIES**

Councillor M Wyatt, Portfolio Holder, presented the report.

Concerns were raised about the methodology used to create the strategies and the data set, including paddle sport and drive time to sports facilities assumptions. The validity of the data set was also questioned. Officers confirmed that the methodology used was of a standard set by Sports England with input from various national governing bodies of sport. Therefore, in their opinion it was reliable and assurances were made on its validity. Further explanations were given and the risk of deviating from standard methodology were stressed.

Comments were made on the environmental implications of the use of 3G sports pitches, and it was questioned if there was anything in place to deal with the matter. Officers confirmed that sustainability matters would be considered at the project delivery stage.

During discussion, some Members advocated for clearer timelines for projects including consultation periods, feasibility studies to be carried out and tighter definitions for community facilities. Concerns were raised that without a theoretical timeframe for projects, then they may be lost under Local Government Reorganisation. Officers clarified that the report was not in relation to the delivery of the projects, but the creation of an evidence base to assist with future project funding. Therefore, the actions requested by Members would be for the next stage in the project process. Following further discussions, it was agreed for the Committee to recommend to Cabinet that they undertake the feasibility studies and funding for specific projects as identified within the strategies as part of the next steps within the lifetime of this council.

The Committee continued to have discussions regarding timelines, the conclusion of which was the suggestion that it was something that could be looked at by the Scrutiny Work Programming Group as part of future horizon scanning.

Comments were made on the lack of consideration for changing rooms and ancillary buildings. Officers clarified that these were separate matters that were included as part of the Football Foundation's Local Football Facilities plans.

The Chair thanked Members for their contributions.

RECOMMENDED THAT CABINET:

Considers undertaking the feasibility studies and funding for specific projects as identified in the strategies during the life of the authority before Local Government Reorganisation.

**34. STENSON SQUARE GARDENS - PRESENTATION OF DESIGNS POST PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND APPROVAL TO FUND AND SUBMIT PLANNING APPLICATION(S)**

Councillor R Blunt, the Leader of the Council, presented the report.

Several questions of clarity were asked and responded to by the Leader of the Council and officers.

In relation to the proposed housing development, the financial implications of affordable housing versus market housing were raised. The consensus was that a mixed-use development was preferred which included social housing. Members stressed the need for proper proportion of social housing. It was also suggested that homes be accessible for specific demographics. Officers explained the budget allocation and the funding plans. The potential for a mixed-use development was acknowledged, and it was confirmed that more work was needed on this once the principle was agreed for housing on the site.

During discussion, the timing of the project was questioned due to the risk of funds being absorbed into the new authority as part of Local Government Reorganisation. The Leader of the Council acknowledged that time was critical and confirmed that the aim was to secure maximum revenue and continue the regeneration of Coalville within the current lifetime of the authority.

Members noted the mixed public feedback from the consultation responses and felt that future marketing and public communication were essential to gain the support of the public. The Leader of the Council and Officers confirmed their commitment to continued public engagement and communication during the project.

A discussion was had on the heritage of the site and the possible opportunity to investigate what may be in the ground once works start. It was acknowledged that the Coalville Heritage Society had shown interest and investigated grant funding to assist, which was unfortunately unsuccessful. The Committee agreed to recommend to Cabinet that the Coalville Heritage Society be encouraged to investigate options available to help fund some archaeological investigations.

Following a request from Members, officers provided some further details on the plans and materials for the gardens. The consultants for the project also gave details on the proposed trees for planting. Members welcomed the plans and agreed to recommend to Cabinet that more marketing be undertaken to showcase the design visuals and promote the project with the aim to gain more community involvement.

The Chair thanked Members for their contributions.

RECOMMENDED THAT CABINET:

- 1) Encourage the Coalville Heritage Society to investigate the options available to help fund some archaeological investigations on the site when works begin and there is access to the ground.
- 2) Undertake more marketing to showcase the design visuals and promote the project with the aim to gain more community involvement.

**35. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to the future work programme.

A discussion was had Section 106 Agreements as a possible future item. The Strategic Director of Place confirmed this would be referred for further discussion at the Scrutiny Work Programming Group.

The future work programme was noted.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.46 pm

Community Scrutiny Committee



Outstanding Actions

Key: **GREEN** – completed  
**AMBER** – working towards completion  
**RED** – to be completed

Item	Action	Comments	Responsible Officer/ Portfolio Holder	Target dates/ rationale for delays	Last Updated	Action Status
<b>Meeting held on 11 September 2025</b>						
6	<b>Marlborough Square Project Review</b> To provide the committee with the final accounts from the project once the contractor account has been settled including a commercial breakdown and final outturn figures.	Final project close-down figures will be provided once defects have been remedied by the contractor, final account agreed and sums paid. This is anticipated to be during the 26/27 financial year.	Paul Wheatley/ James Arnold	26/27 to be confirmed (see comments)	01/12/25	Amber
6	<b>Marlborough Square Project Review</b> Recommended that: 1 – Negotiations be undertaken with LCC Highways re setting up a blanket road closure to remove the cost barrier to potential event providers.	This matter requires further discussion with LCC Highways to determine what is possible within their policies prior to development of local guidance notes for event organisers.  April 2026 update: A road closure covering all NWLDC planned events is now in place.	Paul Wheatley/ James Arnold	26/27	15/04/26	Green

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Item	Action	Comments	Responsible Officer/ Portfolio Holder	Target dates/ rationale for delays	Last Updated	Action Status
	2 – assessments be carried out on the colours of the surface areas in relation to the safety of visually impaired users. The Committee suggested 'Vista' to undertake the assessment.	A further road safety audit has been completed and the scheme has been inspected by LCC Highways who have confirmed the surface has been completed in accordance with standing Highways policies and design guides.	Paul Wheatley/ James Arnold	Closed	01/12/25	Green
	3 – Checks be made with LCC Highways on pedestrian and highway safety for the square. In particular the number of slips, trips and falls reported and any traffic or speeding concerns.	April 2026 Update: All required highway safety audits have now been completed and signed off by LCC as part of the closure of the section 278 process.			15/04/26	Green
7	<b>Coalville Regeneration Framework – 2025 Update</b> During discussions re the finances of the capital projects, as it would form of the finance papers moving forward, it was agreed that the financial information be tabulated and include timelines.	Regeneration project capital funding will be included in the Council's Capital monitoring papers.  Both Portfolio holders and Shadow Portfolio holders are already provided with regular project progress information.  For 26/27 a programme of live projects will be provided as an information paper to members.	Paul Wheatley	26/27	01/12/25	Amber

Item	Action	Comments	Responsible Officer/ Portfolio Holder	Target dates/ rationale for delays	Last Updated	Action Status
7	<b>Coalville Regeneration Framework – 2025 Update</b>					
	To consider the following issues at the next Scrutiny Work Programming Group for possible future items:					
	1 – Receiving the data on the footfall in the town once the measurable data is available from the external provider.	Sufficient data not yet recorded. Data will be provided once available.	James Arnold	-	01/12/25	Amber
	2 – Storage location solutions for event equipment such as stalls/gazebos.	The Council is developing a new storage facility at Forest Road that can accommodate stalls and gazebos. Officers planned to undertake a 2-year review of market and bring a report to committee, storage to be included. This report is due Autumn 2026.	James Arnold	closed	7/01/26	Green
3 – Issues with electric scooters and cycles travelling at an excessive speed around Hermitage Lake	Officers to report the issues to the Police at the partnership meeting and will be reported back to committee in due course.  April 2026 update: The police are aware of various ASB issues around Hermitage Recreational Ground and lake and will continue to patrol. The police can seize e-scooters/e-motorbikes under S59 of the Police Reform Act however they need to be present and be able to stop the offender to do this. NWLDC has taken delivery of 30 metal, light reflective signs to be installed across all our problem area parks warning people that e-bikes, e-bikes, quads, off-road bikes are prohibited on parkland and open	Jason Knight	-	15/04/26	Green	

		spaces. The situation will continue to be monitored through the regular meetings the Parks team have with the Community Safety team and the police'					
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**COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – THURSDAY, 23 APRIL 2026**

**ITEM 6 – CABINET RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Scrutiny comments and recommendations made on: Stenson Gardens Update Report**

**Scrutiny meeting comments and recommendations made: 26 February 2026**

**Date considered by Cabinet: 24 March 2026**

	<b>Comments/recommendations from scrutiny</b>	<b>Advice provided by officers at the Scrutiny meeting</b>	<b>Cabinet response</b>
<b>C1</b>	<b>Proposed housing on site:</b> The financial implications of affordable housing versus market housing were raised. The consensus was that a mixed-use development was preferred which included social housing. Members stressed the need for proper proportion of social housing. It was also suggested that homes be accessible for specific demographics.	Officers explained the budget allocation and the funding plans. The potential for a mixed-use development was acknowledged, and it was confirmed that more work was needed on this once the principle was agreed for housing on the site.	Noted.
<b>C2</b>	<b>Project timeline:</b> The timing of the project was questioned due to the risk of funds being absorbed into the new authority as part of Local Government Reorganisation.	It was acknowledged that time was critical and the aim was to secure maximum revenue within the current lifetime of the authority.	Noted.
<b>C3</b>	<b>Public consultation:</b> The mixed public feedback was noted. Members felt that future marketing and public communication were essential.	Officers clarified they were committed to continued public engagement and communication during the project.	Noted.

<b>R1</b>	<b>Recommendation:</b> That Cabinet encourages the Coalville Heritage Society to investigate the options available to help fund some archaeological investigations on the site when works begin and there is access to the ground.	-	Cabinet considered the recommendation but was not in support, therefore it was not put to the vote.
<b>R2</b>	<b>Recommendation:</b> That Cabinet undertakes more marketing to showcase the design visuals and promote the project with the aim of gaining more community involvement.	-	Cabinet was in full support of the recommendation which was put to the vote and approved.

**NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – THURSDAY, 23  
APRIL 2026**



<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>MOIRA FURNACE VISITOR EXPERIENCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (PHASE TWO)</b>	
<b>Presented by</b>	Councillor A Woodman Housing, Property and Customer Services Portfolio Holder	
<b>Background Papers</b>	<a href="#">District Regeneration Framework (2024)</a>  <a href="#">Council Delivery Plan</a>  <a href="#">Our vision for The Heart of the National Forest</a>  <a href="#">Cabinet 28.01.2025 - printed minutes Moira Furnace Capital Works Programme Update</a>  Future Options Appraisal Moira Furnace Museum and Country Park Report 2021 (Appended as confidential – commercially sensitive)	<b>Public Report:</b> Yes
<b>Financial Implications</b>	It is recommended that the subsequent phase of Moira Furnace's development be financed through the Business Rates Reserve. It is anticipated that, by March 2028, approximately £12 million will be available to support capital projects.  <b>Signed off by the Acting Section 151 Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Legal Implications</b>	The Moira Furnace site is predominately located on land owned by North West Leicestershire District Council. At its periphery the proposals extend on to Moira Furnace Museum Trust owned land.  All works will be undertaken in line with planning and scheduled monument consent requirements.  All procurement activity associated with consultant appointments, the preparation of the RIBA stages, and subsequent contractor procurement will be undertaken in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023.  <b>Signed off by the Monitoring Officer:</b> Yes	

<b>Staffing and Corporate Implications</b>	The project will be delivered using existing Economic Regeneration Team and Property Services Team staff resources.
	<b>Signed off by the Head of Paid Service:</b> Yes
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To introduce the Moira Furnace Visitor Experience Improvement Programme (Phase Two) to the Community Scrutiny Committee, setting out the business case, progress to date and providing an opportunity for Members to comment on the proposals for the next phase and potential future phases.
<b>Recommendations</b>	<p><b>THAT COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:</b></p> <p><b>1) NOTES THE PHASE ONE WORKS COMPLETED IN 2025/26.</b></p> <p><b>2) PROVIDES COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS ON THE PROPOSED MOIRA FURNACE VISITOR EXPERIENCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (PHASE TWO) FOR CONSIDERATION BY CABINET AT ITS MEETING ON 19 MAY 2026.</b></p>

## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The regeneration of sites within North West Leicestershire is a key priority within the Council Delivery Plan and the Moira Furnace project is one of the flagship schemes highlighted in the Districtwide Regeneration Framework 2024.
- 1.2 The continued development of Moira Furnace Museum and Country Park will contribute to the Council's long held ambition to transform the former coalfield area of Moira and Donisthorpe as part of the National Forest's transformation of the Heart of the National Forest.
- 1.3 Moira Furnace is owned by the Council and is listed as a scheduled monument dating back to 1806. It is considered one of the most well-preserved blast furnaces in the country. The Furnace and site are operated by the Moira Furnace Museum Trust (the "Trust") on behalf of the Council, and the Trust receives an annual grant of £45,000 from the Council towards the running costs. The grant contributes towards operational staffing costs. All other day-to-day running costs and expenses (e.g. utility costs) are funded by the Trust, with annual operational costs currently being approximately £140,000 per annum.
- 1.4 Whilst the Trust is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Furnace, liability for structural repairs remains with the Council as freeholder. It is the Council that has legal responsibility for protecting the building as a scheduled monument and Historic England ensures the Council meets its obligations.
- 1.5 The Moira Furnace "Phase One" restoration and refurbishment works concluded in March 2026, following the investment of Council and UKSPF funding, with the launch event on 16 April 2026.

- 1.6 The Phase One improvements were never intended to be the full extent of the overall improvement works, but more a discreet phase delivered against committed funding, bringing the monument up to a good standard of repair. There is a further opportunity to invest in the wider site, developing the site to improve and enhance facilities, in order to improve the visitor experience and increase visitor numbers.
- 1.7 Further development and investment will secure the site as a visitor attraction in the Heart of the Forest, aligned with the North West Leicestershire Council Delivery Plan 2023 – 2028, the North West Leicestershire Districtwide Regeneration Framework and Heart of the Forest Vision.

## **2.0 NEXT STEPS – INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND VISITOR EXPERIENCE**

- 2.1 Investment in the attraction supports the longer-term sustainability and viability of the site, specifically the investment in improved infrastructure that gives commercial return. This accords with the 2021 Options Appraisal Report findings. The options appraisal was officer commissioned work and used as an evidence base for the “Conserving and Enhancing our Heritage” key project within the North West Leicestershire District Regeneration Framework 2024.
- 2.2 Phase Two investment proposes the following improvements:
- a) A fit for purpose on site operational and storage facility for the Trust
  - b) A new visitor centre (café/restaurant, interpretation and toilet provision)
  - c) Site, roadways, and parking upgrade (inc. EV charging), play facilities and canal structural and safety works.
- 2.3 A further phase - Phase Three is also being planned (presently uncostered) and could focus on the following:
- a) bridge loft access
  - b) basement entrance area and retaining walls
  - c) monument interpretation and illumination
- 2.4 Both Phase Two and Phase Three improvements were identified as opportunities in the Future Options Appraisal 2021: Moira Furnace Museum and Country Park and follow up Moira Furnace Café Development Study 2021.

## **3.0 PROJECT BENEFITS**

- 3.1 The proposed Phase Two improvements accord with the 2021 Options Appraisal.
- 3.2 The following benefits are expected to be achieved as a result of the Phase Two improvements:
- Increased footfall and visitor numbers
  - Longer dwell time on site (more site attractions)
  - Visitor experience upgrade (café, visitor hub)
  - Reputation and status as a visitor attraction
  - Increased footfall to associated businesses on site
  - Opportunity to improve the financial stability of the Trust

## 4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This report outlines a recommendation for Phase Two (fees and works) for the Council to allocate £2,455,000, comprising £446,000 of consultancy fees and £2,009,000 for construction over the next two years 2026-2028 to invest in improvements at Moira Furnace. In order to proceed, this will require a further allocation to the Council's Capital Programme from the Business Rates Reserve.

### **TOTAL - £2,455,000**

(comprising fees and works, see below)

#### **Fees**

RIBA 2-3 £204,650, RIBA 4 Total - £102,280 (budget figures) and RIBA 5-7 Total - £139,000 (budget figures)

### **TOTAL (rounded) - £446,000**

#### **Works**

Construction cost estimates (inclusive of inflation and contingency)

1. Operational and Storage Facility - £465,000
2. A new visitor hub - £990,000
3. Improved access, parking and play facilities - £554,000

### **TOTAL - £2,009,000**

- 4.2 Phase Three is currently uncosted, a full report will be presented to Cabinet for consideration prior to proceeding.

## 5.0 PROCUREMENT

- 5.1 The professional design team will be procured via a call off contract from the Scape Framework, with the preferred consultants being Perfect Circle (who also supported the Phase One project and have extensive knowledge of the site and buildings).
- 5.2 The method of procurement for the construction contract will be determined at a later date but is likely to be mini-competition using a national framework of contractors and Cabinet approval will be required to appoint that contractor due to value.

## 6.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Trust is a charitable organisation part-funded by the Council through an annual Service Level Agreement. The annual grant from the Council represents around 30% of the funding required by the Trust to operate the site. The Trust leases the Furnace building and associated land from the Council and the lease was renewed in February 2026.
- 6.2 The Trust has a track record of delivering services on the site, supported by the Council. Since the announcement of Local Government Reorganisation in December 2024, the Trust is keen to explore options to support their own financial sustainability. The Trust continues to work with the Council on site improvements that accord with that objective.
- 6.3 The site operations team comprises a Site Manager, Site Assistant/Volunteer Coordinator and seasonal Events Coordinator. The introduction of the seasonal Events Coordinator role in 2026 acknowledges the importance of event delivery on the site which significantly increases visitor numbers and extends visitor dwell time.

- 6.4 The Moira Furnace Museum Trust Limited (charity number: 702783) has seven active trustees and over 80 volunteers currently registered.
- 6.5 The main objects of the charity are to provide, establish and preserve facilities in the village of Moira in the District of North West Leicestershire for the purposes of the study of and research into its industry, archaeology, architecture, transportation, social history, natural history and the conservation of its flora and fauna for the benefit and education of the public.
- 6.6 Moira Furnace Museum is an accredited museum; the accreditation is currently being renewed and should be confirmed in May 2026.
- 6.7 The Council has legal responsibility for protecting the building as a scheduled monument and Historic England ensures the Council meets its obligations.
- 6.8 The Council and Moira Furnace Museum Trust Limited are the two landowners at Moira Furnace Museum Country Park. The park adjoins land owned by Leicestershire County Council, The National Forest Company and private landowners.

## 7.0 PROJECT RISKS

- 7.1 Detailed project risks are identified in the RAID Risk Register and include materials availability, contractor pricing, required permission, Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), inflation etc.
- 7.2 The project timetable has been assessed in the context of the anticipated LGR timeline, and a delivery plan will be maintained to ensure continuity should governance arrangements change.

## 8.0 PROJECT TIMEFRAME

- 8.1 The following timeframe is proposed for project commencement, implementation and conclusion.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Process</b>
July 2026 to September 2026	RIBA 2-3 (Concept Design and Spatial Coordination) of operational building
October 2026 to December 2026	Planning consent for operational building
January 2027 to Feb 2027	Procurement of Pre-fabricated modular structure as operational building
February 2027 – April 2027	Delivery and installation of the Operational and Storage Facility
September 2026 to Jan 2027	Planning consent for visitor centre / cafe
February 2027 – June 2027	RIBA 4 (Technical Design and tendering) for visitor centre / cafe
June 2027 to Dec 2027	RIBA 5,6,7 Progression of item 2. A new visitor hub
June 2027 to Dec 2028	Planning consent for improved access parking and play facilities
January 2028 to April 2028	RIBA 5,6,7 Progression of item 3. Improved access, parking and play facilities - £454,000

## 9.0 CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

- 9.1 The Future Options Appraisal 2021: Moira Furnace Museum and Country Park involved background research including a review of the ‘then’ current position, consultation with trustees, volunteers, staff and a range of stakeholders along with market assessment, a review of case examples and a module of primary research.
- 9.2 Before and during the Phase One works there was significant engagement with interested parties, ranging from trustees, tenants, ward councillors (District and County), neighbouring landowners and the wider community and residents.
- 9.3 Project communication was supported by a robust communication, delivered by officers of the Economic Regeneration Team and Communications Team, using a wide range of techniques (social media, press releases and on site information).
- 9.4 It is proposed that Phase Two will adopt the same approach as Phase One for consultation, engagement and communication.

## 10.0 APPENDICES

Appendix one - Phase One photos

Appendix two – Phase Two – Visitor Centre artist’s impression and site map

Appendix three – Site map taken from the Options Appraisal 2021 Report

<b>Policies and other considerations, as appropriate</b>	
Council Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Planning and regeneration</li> <li>- Communities and housing</li> <li>- Clean, green and Zero Carbon</li> <li>- A well-run council</li> </ul>
Policy Considerations:	North West Leicestershire Districtwide Regeneration Framework
Safeguarding:	Principles of safeguarding will be taken into account through the design and planning process.
Equalities/Diversity:	Phase Two will be designed for all users.
Customer Impact:	Creation of new visitor economy facilities for economic and social regeneration, enjoyment, education, and leisure/recreation (wellbeing/quality of life).
Economic and Social Impact:	Creation of new visitor economy facilities for economic and social regeneration, enjoyment, education, and leisure/recreation (wellbeing/quality of life).
Environment, Climate Change and zero carbon:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree planting</li> <li>Provision of EV charging points</li> <li>Bio diversity improvements</li> </ul>
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Refer section 9.0.
Risks:	Refer section 7.0.
Officer Contact	Paul Wheatley Head of Property and Regeneration <a href="mailto:paul.wheatley@nwleicestershire.gov.uk">paul.wheatley@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</a>

## APPENDIX ONE – Phase One photos

Moira Furnace in scaffold March to August 2025, to allow for Phase One works



Moira Furnace post Phase One works including new site signage and Interpretation



## APPENDIX TWO – Phase Two

Artist's impression taken from the Moira Furnace Café Development Study – Final Report 2021

NOTE: this is for illustration purposes only and may not be representative of the final design and location.



# APPENDIX THREE - Site map taken from the Options Appraisal Report 2021



## Moira Furnace & Country Park

### KEY

#### Proposals Short-term: Completed within 12 months

1. Sense of welcome and new car parking signage
  2. Woodland adventure trail (specific location to be identified)
  3. Dog agility area
  4. Lime Kilns Interpretation
  5. Watersports shipping container
  6. Improve condition of existing trails
- Youth shelter (location to be identified)  
CCTV (location to be identified)

#### Proposals Medium-term: Completed within 12 to 30 months

7. New car parking (location to be identified)
  8. Car parking payment system
  9. Tensile structure over part of the courtyard
  10. New catering offer (extending Unit 8)
  11. Changing Places facility
  12. High quality self catering accommodation within Blast Furnace
  13. Introduce digital technology within Furnace Museum
  14. Introduction of visitor accommodation (pods, camping pitches and service block)
  15. Extend play area with accessible play
- Allowance for events service infrastructure and improvements to the public realm (locations to be identified)

#### Proposals Long-term: Completed 30+ months

- Outdoor shelter (location to be identified)

Likely to contain exempt information under paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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**Community Scrutiny Committee – WORK PROGRAMME (as at 15/04/26)**

Date of Meeting	Item	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Agenda Item Duration
<b>June 2026</b>				
25 June 2026	<b>Scrutiny Annual Report</b> To present the work of the two scrutiny committees for the 2025/26 civic year.	James Arnold, Strategic Director of Place	-	30 minutes
25 June 2026	<b>Resident Involvement Process</b> Following a request from the Scrutiny Work Programming Group, the Committee are asked to consider the resident involvement process following its review.	Gary Hall, Head of Housing	-	30 minutes
25 June 2026	<b>Marlborough Centre Regeneration</b> Update on the Marlborough Centre Project award of contract prior to Cabinet.	Paul Wheatley, Head of Economic Regeneration	-	30 minutes
25 June 2026	<b>Recommendations of the Water Management in the Coalville Strategic Growth Area Task and Finish Group</b> To consider the review undertaken by the task and finish group and make recommendations to Cabinet	James Arnold, Strategic Director	-	30 minutes
25 June 2026	<b>New Recycling Containers Project Update and Policy</b> The report underpins the operational working for waste services and for the use of residents and operational workers.	Paul Sanders, Head of Community Services	-	30 minutes

**Work requests considered by the Scrutiny Work Programming Group**

Work Request	Status/Progress	Committee date to be considered (provisional)
National Forest Line	<p>Nothing further to update since cancellation of RYR programme.</p> <p><u>Previous Updates</u></p> <p><u>Update September 2024 (from DfT)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chancellor announced the cancellation of the RYR programme in her statement on 29 July 2024.</li> <li>• The RYR projects will now come to an orderly close and no further funding will be provided through the programme.</li> <li>• Where projects are not currently live, no new work will be started. For projects which have development or design work in progress, DfT are considering the best way to bring these projects to a close.</li> <li>• For Ivanhoe, this will mean that no new work will start.</li> <li>• The Chancellor also announced that the Transport Secretary will be undertaking a review of the Department’s investment portfolio, including individual RYR projects.</li> <li>• DfT Capital Review underway and is considering alignment of individual infrastructure projects with government’s priorities of growth, housing, jobs and value for money.</li> <li>• The review is being progressed in two phases – the first will consider RYR projects plus other Network North proposals, the second will have a larger scope. The outputs will help to inform a wider Spending Review in 2025 however some announcements could be made before then.</li> </ul> <p><u>December 2023</u></p>	-

	<p>It was agreed that there would be further review by Community Scrutiny following item in December 2023 to seek to provide support to the Ivanhoe/National Forest Line.</p>	
<p>S106 agreements and the transfer of open space and sustainable urban drainage systems</p>	<p>A scrutiny topic suggestion form was considered by the Scrutiny Work Programming Group on June 2025.</p> <p>The Head of Planning was invited to the meeting to assist with the discussion and help scope the proposed scrutiny topic. It was recommended that a first step would be to consult Parish Councils and understand the level of interest and also clarify current approach being followed by the Council which is set out in the current local plan.</p> <p>Agreed that an information paper be prepared by Planning to set out the current position and enable further discussion by the Work Programming Group and to decide on further action.</p>	-
<p><b>Matters reserved for future consideration</b></p>		
<p>Housing Assistance Policy for NWLDC</p>	<p>At the Scrutiny Work Programming Group in November 2025, a request was made for a report to committee due to concerns on the delivery of the grants. It was acknowledged that any discussions with Leicestershire County Council would be difficult at this stage of the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) process. It was agreed for further discussions on the matter in Autumn 2026 following formal agreement of the LGR proposals.</p>	TBC
<p>Scoping work on Warehouse Design</p>	<p>At the Scrutiny Work Programming Group meeting in December 2024, a request was made to examine the design of warehouses around the district, given the significant number of them within the district and with further growth projected. It was agreed that scoping work for further discussion will be carried out after the submission of the Local Plan in 2026.</p>	TBC

## **Principles and Criteria used for Assessing Items Put Forward**

### **Identify** Issues for consideration by Scrutiny

- Consulting with members of Scrutiny Committees, senior officers, Cabinet members – horizon scanning on policy development
- Looking at the corporate priorities, Council Delivery Plan and Cabinet Forward plan – identify key issues/topics for investigation/inquiry
- Considering events and decisions in the Council's calendar which could require an input/consultation via scrutiny – eg budget setting, CDP development
- Considering requests from members – eg via another forum or scoping report submitted
- Evaluating the Council's performance – eg quarterly reports, end of year reports, reviewing success of a particular scheme or initiative
- Reviewing any follow up work required after previous scrutiny work

### **Prioritise** the potential list of scrutiny topics based on factors including

- the resources required to deliver it (from members, offices and financially)
- the value and level of impact which could be achieved
- link to the council's priorities
- whether it is a regular recurring item which requires consideration before Cabinet/Council approval
- consideration of the guidance for selecting scrutiny topics

Topics <b>are</b> suitable for Scrutiny when	Topics <b>are not</b> suitable for Scrutiny when
Scrutiny could have an impact and add value	The issue is already being addressed elsewhere and change is imminent
The topic is of high local importance and reflects the concerns of local people	The topic would be better addressed elsewhere (and will be referred there)
The resources are available that would be required to conduct the review – staff and budget	Scrutiny involvement would have limited or no impact on outcomes
It avoids duplication of work elsewhere	The topic would be sub-judice or prejudicial to the councils interests
The issues is one that the committee can realistically influence	The topic is too broad to make a review realistic
The issue is related to an area where the council or one of its partners is not performing well	New legislation or guidance relating to the topic is expected in the next year

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# DRAFT Notice of Executive Key Decisions

The attached notice lists the matters which are likely to be the subject of a key decision by the Council's executive and executive decision making bodies. This notice is produced in accordance with the Constitution adopted by North West Leicestershire District Council and will be published a minimum of 28 days before the date on which a key decision is to be made on behalf of the Council.

## Key Decisions

A key decision means a decision taken by the Cabinet, a committee of the Cabinet, an area or joint committee or an individual in connection with the discharge of a function which is the responsibility of the executive and which is likely:

- (a) to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the Council;
- (c) for the purposes of (a) and (b) above £100,000 shall be regarded as significant in terms of expenditure or savings, and any issue which, in the opinion of the Leader is likely to have an impact on people, shall be regarded as significant in terms of impact on communities.

## The Council's Executive

The Council's executive committee is the Cabinet. The Cabinet comprises:

Councillor R Blunt	-	Leader
Councillor M Wyatt	-	Deputy Leader and Communities & Climate Change
Councillor T Gillard	-	Business and Regeneration
Councillor K Merrie MBE	-	Finance & Corporate
Councillor N J Rushton	-	Infrastructure
Councillor A Saffell	-	Planning
Councillor A Woodman	-	Housing, Property & Customer Services

## Confidential Items and Private Meetings of the Executive

Whilst the majority of the Cabinet's business at the meetings listed in this notice will be open to the public and media organisations to attend, there will inevitably be some business to be considered that contains, for example, confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. This is a formal notice under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 that part of the Cabinet meetings listed in this Forward Plan may be held in private because the agenda and reports for the meeting contain exempt information under Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it. Those Items where it is considered that they should be considered in private are identified on the Notice.

## Access to Agenda and Related Documents

Documents relating to the matters listed in this notice are available at least 5 clear working days prior to the date of decision as indicated below. Other documents relevant to the matters listed in this notice may be submitted to the decision maker.

If you wish to request or submit a document, or make representation in relation to any issue contained within this notice, please contact Democratic Services on telephone number 01530 454512 or by emailing [memberservices@nwleicestershire.gov.uk](mailto:memberservices@nwleicestershire.gov.uk)

## Executive Decisions

Decision	Decision Maker	Status of Decision	Public or Private  (and reason – where private)	Date of Decision	Contacts	Documents to be submitted to the Decision Maker	Considered by Scrutiny or other Committee
<b>May 2026</b>							
Supplementary Estimates, Virements and Capital Approvals	Cabinet	Key	Public	19 May 2026	Councillor Keith Merrie MBE Tel: 07596 112270 keith.merrie@nwleicester shire.gov.uk  Head of Finance Tel: 01530 454492 anna.crouch@nwleicester shire.gov.uk	Supplementary Estimates, Virements and Capital Approvals	N/A - decision delegated to Cabinet under the constitution.
Former Tenant Rent Arrears, Current Tenant Rent Arrears, Council tax, Non Domestic Rates and Sundry Debts Write Offs	Cabinet	Key	Public	19 May 2026	Head of Finance Tel: 01530 454492 anna.crouch@nwleicester shire.gov.uk		N/A - function delegated to Cabinet

Decision	Decision Maker	Status of Decision	Public or Private  (and reason – where private)	Date of Decision	Contacts	Documents to be submitted to the Decision Maker	Considered by Scrutiny or other Committee
MOIRA FURNACE VISITOR EXPERIENCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (PHASE TWO)	Cabinet	Key	Public	19 May 2026	<p>Councillor Tony Gillard, Councillor Andrew Woodman Tel: 01530 452930, Tel: 07970 520357 tony.gillard@nwleicestershire.gov.uk, andrew.woodman@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p> <p>Principal Economic Development Officer Tel: 01530 454769 wendy.may@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p>	MOIRA FURNACE VISITOR EXPERIENCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (PHASE TWO)	23/04/2026
Housing Action Plans Post Inspection	Cabinet	Key	Public	19 May 2026	<p>Councillor Andrew Woodman Tel: 07970 520357 andrew.woodman@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p> <p>Strategic Director of Communities Tel: 01530 454819 andy.barton@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p>	Comments made by Scrutiny Report Housing Action Plans Post Inspection	Corporate Scrutiny Committee - 19 March 2026
Update on procurement of vehicle fleet for Recycling Containers Project	Cabinet	Key	Public	19 May 2026	<p>Councillor Michael Wyatt Tel: 07773 341531 michael.wyatt@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p> <p>aimee.garner@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p>	CSG paper, Original Cabinet paper (22nd April 2025)	Has been addressed at CSG

Decision	Decision Maker	Status of Decision	Public or Private (and reason – where private)	Date of Decision	Contacts	Documents to be submitted to the Decision Maker	Considered by Scrutiny or other Committee
Disposal - Housing Properties Northfield Drive Coalville	Cabinet	Key	Public	19 May 2026	<p>Councillor Andrew Woodman Tel: 07970 520357 andrew.woodman@nwleicester.gov.uk</p> <p>New Build Project Officer michael.fowell@nwleicester.gov.uk</p>	Disposal - Housing Properties Northfield Drive Coalville	n/a disposal
<p>Council Delivery Plan - Performance Report - 2025/26 Quarter 4</p> <p>82</p>	Cabinet	Key	Public	19 May 2026	<p>Councillor Nicholas Rushton Tel: 01530 412059 nicholas.rushton@nwleicester.gov.uk</p> <p>Head of Human Resources and Organisation Development, HR Systems and Data Manager hannah.panter@nwleicester.gov.uk, laura.staveley@nwleicester.gov.uk</p>	Council Delivery Plan - Performance Report - 2025/26 Quarter 4	Corporate Scrutiny likely 18 June



Decision	Decision Maker	Status of Decision	Public or Private  (and reason – where private)	Date of Decision	Contacts	Documents to be submitted to the Decision Maker	Considered by Scrutiny or other Committee
Marlborough Centre Regeneration	Cabinet	Key	Private	19 May 2026	Councillor Richard Blunt Tel: 01530 454510 richard.blunt@nwleicester-shire.gov.uk  Senior Economic Development Officer Tel: 01530 454678 emily.marquez@nwleices-tershire.gov.uk	Marlborough Centre Regeneration	To be considered at Community Scrutiny 23 April
Housing Fleet Renewal	Cabinet	Key	Private Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	19 May 2026	Councillor Andrew Woodman Tel: 07970 520357 andrew.woodman@nwleicester-shire.gov.uk  Housing Responsive Repairs, Voids and Minor Works Team Manager  megan.hodgett@nwleices-tershire.gov.uk	Housing Fleet Renewal	Procurement decision reserved to cabinet
Award of Payment Solution Contract	Cabinet	Key	Private	19 May 2026	Head of Finance Tel: 01530 454492 anna.crouch@nwleicester-shire.gov.uk	Award of Payment Solution Contract	N/A - Function delegated to Cabinet

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June 2026

<b>Decision</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Status of Decision</b>	<b>Public or Private</b>  (and reason – where private)	<b>Date of Decision</b>	<b>Contacts</b>	<b>Documents to be submitted to the Decision Maker</b>	<b>Considered by Scrutiny or other Committee</b>
Supplementary Estimates, Virements and Capital Approvals	Cabinet	Key	Public	23 June 2026	Councillor Keith Merrie MBE Tel: 07596 112270 keith.merrie@nwleicester shire.gov.uk  Head of Finance Tel: 01530 454492 anna.crouch@nwleicester shire.gov.uk	Supplementary Estimates, Virements and Capital Approvals	N/A - decision delegated to Cabinet under the constitution.
Treasury Management Stewardship Report 2025/26  8 5	Cabinet	Non-Key	Public	23 June 2026	Head of Finance Tel: 01530 454492 anna.crouch@nwleicester shire.gov.uk	Treasury Management Stewardship Report 2025/26	Audit and Governance Committee - 10/06/25
Customer Service Performance Update 2025/26	Cabinet	Non-Key	Public	23 June 2026	Councillor Andrew Woodman Tel: 07970 520357 andrew.woodman@nwleicester shire.gov.uk  Customer Services Team Manager  nichola.oliver@nwleicester shire.gov.uk	Customer Service Performance Update 2025/26	Corporate Scrutiny Committee - 18/06/2026

Decision	Decision Maker	Status of Decision	Public or Private (and reason – where private)	Date of Decision	Contacts	Documents to be submitted to the Decision Maker	Considered by Scrutiny or other Committee
Annual Corporate Complaints 2025/26	Cabinet	Key	Public	23 June 2026	<p>Councillor Andrew Woodman Tel: 07970 520357 andrew.woodman@nwleicester.gov.uk</p> <p>Customer Services Team Manager  nichola.oliver@nwleicester.gov.uk</p>	Annual Corporate Complaints 2025/26	Corporate Scrutiny Committee - 18 June 2026
Acquisitions and Disposals  88	Cabinet	Key	Private Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)Contains Exempt information	23 June 2026	<p>Councillor Andrew Woodman Tel: 07970 520357 andrew.woodman@nwleicester.gov.uk</p> <p>Strategic Director of Place, Strategic Director of Communities Tel: 01530 454555, Tel: 01530 454819 james.arnold@nwleicester.gov.uk, andy.barton@nwleicester.gov.uk</p>	Acquisitions and Disposals	Delegated Cabinet Function



Decision	Decision Maker	Status of Decision	Public or Private (and reason – where private)	Date of Decision	Contacts	Documents to be submitted to the Decision Maker	Considered by Scrutiny or other Committee
New Recycling Containers Project Update and Policy	Cabinet	Key	Public	28 July 2026	Councillor Michael Wyatt Tel: 07773 341531 michael.wyatt@nwleicester.gov.uk  aimee.garner@nwleicester.gov.uk	Bin Policy	to be considered at Community Scrutiny on 25th June

Likely to contain exempt information under paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Agenda Item 10.

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