

SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings at a meeting of the Council held in the District Council Chamber, Kendal Town Hall, Kendal, on Wednesday, 13 July 2022, at 6.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors

Pete McSweeney (Chairman)
Matt Severn (Vice-Chairman)

Giles Archibald	Philip Dixon	Helen Ladhams
Rupert Audland	Pete Endsor	Malcolm Lamb
Pat Bell	Judy Filmore	Kevin Lancaster
Ben Berry	Alvin Finch	Susanne Long
Roger Bingham	Fiona Hanlon	Suzie Pye
Jonathan Brook	Eamonn Hennessy	Doug Rathbone
Helen Chaffey	Hazel Hodgson	Peter Thornton
Ben Cooper	John Holmes	Heather Troughton
Brian Cooper	Kevin Holmes	David Webster
Michael Cornah	Vicky Hughes	Ian Wharton
Jonathan Cornthwaite	Andrew Jarvis	Mark Wilson
Tracy Coward	Dyan Jones	Shirley-Anne Wilson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Robin Ashcroft, Stephen Coleman, Gill Gardner, Tom Harvey, Chris Hogg, Rachael Hogg, Helen Irving, Ali Jama, Janette Jenkinson, Brian Rendell and Janet Willis.

Officers

Lawrence Conway	Chief Executive
Linda Fisher	Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer)
Sean Hall	Principal Specialist (Health & Environment)
Julia Krier	Legal, Governance and Democracy Senior Specialist (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
Richard Machin	Communications Specialist
Simon McVey	Director of Strategy, Innovation and Resources
Adam Moffatt	Legal, Governance and Democracy Specialist
Claire Read	Finance Specialist (Deputy Section 151 Officer)
Helen Smith	Finance Lead Specialist (Section 151 Officer)

C/24

MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the Chairman be authorised to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 18 May 2022.

C/25

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) informed Members that the Council had received a request to speak from Mr John Studholme. She noted that the application to speak at Council had been refused under the

Council's General Public Participation Scheme, which was set out in the Constitution (Part 4, Appendix 1, (h) Representations are not permitted where the issue relates to the circumstances of an individual, matters covered by legal or other proceedings or about a member of staff).

No further questions, representations, deputations or petitions had been received from members of the public in respect of this meeting.

C/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were raised by Members.

C/27 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - EXCLUDED ITEMS

There were no items in Part II of the Agenda.

C/28 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman drew attention to the updated list of formal engagements, which had been circulated at the meeting.

C/29 REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN 2021/22

The Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) provided an update from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, highlighting that the Committee had noted the report and raised a number of questions regarding the figures within the report, no comments had been made for Council to consider.

The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder presented the Revenue and Capital Outturn 2021/22 report, which set out the Council's performance for 2021/22 and the impact on reserves. He highlighted the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the finance team and thanked them for their hard work throughout the year.

The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder added that Council was in a good position considering the current environment and the forthcoming impact of Local Government Reorganisation.

Attention was drawn to an update within the report since it had been considered by Cabinet at the 4 July meeting. Since then it had been realised that the outturn required an amendment to correctly account for the carry-forward of Customer Connect budgets which had been incorrectly carried-forward twice. This amendment of £510,000 increased the overall underspend from £23,000 to £533,000 and further increased the contribution to General Reserve to £510,000.

The overall net General Fund had a net underspend of £510,000 for 2021/22 including Covid-19 and resulted in a net contribution of £515,000 to reserves rather than the use of £18,000 as budgeted. Although the impact of Covid-19 had mainly impacted the 2020/21 financial year, the medium to long-term financial impact was still to be fully understood.

The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder noted paragraph 3.6 in the report which covered service variances over £50,000, notably Covid-19 which had seen a much lower than expected income loss, particularly from car parking where additional income in the Lake District National Park had largely offset any reduced income in other parts

of the district. He added that additional income from the Sales, Fees and Charges grant had offset losses in administration of Covid-19 responsibilities.

The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder noted that the largest single element of expenditure for the Council related to employee costs, mainly salaries but also pension contributions and the cost of agency and contract staff. In addition, employee costs were incurred on agency and temporary staff to ensure continuity of services while staff were redeployed to Covid-19 related tasks. He added that labour costs and the challenging labour market had made it difficult to fill vacancies, which added to the expenditure.

Members were informed of an underspend in the capital programme of £4.1 million the majority of which related to timing adjustments with request to carry forwards budgets to 2021/22 or the removal of expenditure relating to Kendal Flood Relief programme, which was treated as agency expenditure in the Council's accounts. The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder reiterated his earlier point in thanking officers for their hard work during a challenging period.

Members reiterated the Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder's thanks to officers for their hard work and noted the impressive delivery of projects across the district.

REESOLVED – That

- (1) the amended contributions to and from reserves, as detailed in Appendix 1a, be approved;
- (2) the virement of £2,109,829 for the Covid Additional Relief Fund as set out in paragraph 3.10 be approved; and
- (3) the amended Capital Programme at Appendix 3 to the report be approved.

C/30

2021/22 ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder presented the 2021 /22 Annual Treasury Management Report. The report reviewed the treasury activities and the actual prudential and treasury activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for the 2021/22 financial year, meeting the requirement of the Local Government Act 2003, the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management and the CIPFA Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

The level of external debt remained at £12.8 million, below the Capital Requirement of £24 million which showed that the Council had not funded revenue activity through borrowing, a key prudential indicator which has helped to avoid incurring higher borrowing costs in the future.

The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder referred to the current inflation levels and highlighted that inflation was expected to continue to rise amongst a perfect storm of issues and therefore, the Bank Rate was expected to rise further during 2022/23 from its current level of 1%.

During discussion on the item, Members requested clarification on the position of funding for Grange Lido, noting that work had not begun. In response to the query, the Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder informed Members that all funds, and properties would transfer to the new unitary authority and explained the Section 24 (S24)

Direction which required any commitment over £2 million to be approved by the new authority. He added that the mechanisms to move forward quickly on decisions covered by the S24 Direction had been put in place.

Following a request from Members the Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder undertook to provide an update on the Grange Lido project to Grange Town Council.

Members requested an update regarding progress on Ulverston Leisure Centre, Members noted that the decision had first been published on the Forward Plan in 2017. The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder noted that he was unable to comment for the Westmorland and Furness Authority but clarified that when the Ulverston Leisure Centre went to Cabinet in 2018 following publication on the Forward Plan, it had been noted that any future decision would have to consider all demands of the Capital Programme. He added that Phases 2 and 3 of the project required significant project development and that the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic had fundamentally impacted the leisure industry as a whole with both the leisure service provider and the business case being affected. Furthermore, the Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder reminded members that Phase 1 of the project needed to be completed and requested that all members collectively push for the new authority to progress Phases 2 and 3 moving forwards.

Members raised a question regarding the impact of under borrowing on the ambitious housing plans of the Council. In response, the Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder noted that he did not believe that under borrowing had affected the Council's aspirations for Housing. He added that there was £6 million in funds for Affordable Housing, so there was no financial constraint; it was about identifying the right projects to commit to.

RESOLVED – That the 2021/22 Annual Treasury Management Report be approved.

C/31

THE GAMBLING ACT 2005 - STATEMENT OF GAMBLING LICENSING POLICY

Councillor Helen Ladhams, Chair of the Licensing and Licensing Regulatory Committees, presented a report on the Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy (Gambling Act 2005). She informed Members that the revised Policy had been completed with a formal public consultation policy having been undertaken in line with Regulation 7 of The Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 as well as consultation with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at the March 2022 meeting.

She noted that the Licensing Regulatory Committee, at the 4 July 2022 meeting had recommended that the revised Policy be adopted by Council.

The revision to the policy sought to support and strengthen the three Gambling Licensing Objectives, namely:-

- (1) Preventing gambling from being source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime;
- (2) Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way;
- (3) Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

13.07.2022

Council

RESOLVED – That

- (1) the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) the recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee dated 4 March 2022, that the revised Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy be adopted following the public consultation, and consideration of any comments received be noted;
- (3) the recommendation from The Licensing Regulatory Committee, that the revised Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy be adopted following their meeting on 4 July 2022 be noted; and
- (4) the Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy attached at appendix 1 to the report be adopted.

C/32**AMENDMENT TO THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) presented a report, which sought to make an amendment to the Council's Code of Conduct to address the matter of declaration of interests for members who serve on more than one local authority. It was proposed that rather than provide dispensations for this 'Other Registerable Interest', an amendment be made to the Member Code of Conduct to address the matter and avoid the need to provide dispensation. It was highlighted that the need to request a dispensation for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests will still apply. The report added that the need for members to consider their position on bias, predetermination and predisposition would also still apply.

The report proposed the following wording be inserted into the relevant section of the agreed Member Code of Conduct:-

- "The requirements to disclose an Other Registrable Interest and not participate in a decision directly relating to or affecting it, shall be applied in such a manner as to recognise that this Code should not obstruct a member's service on more than one local authority. For the avoidance of doubt, participation in discussion and decision making at one local authority will not by itself normally prevent you from taking part in discussion and decision making on the same matter at another local authority. This is on the basis that a reasonable member of the public will see no objection in principle to such service or regard it as prejudicing a member's judgement of the public interest and will only regard a matter as giving rise to bias in exceptional circumstances"

RESOLVED – That

- (1) the amendments to the Member Code of Conduct outlined in paragraph 3.6 of the report be agreed; and
- (2) it be noted that the Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) will make the necessary changes to the Council's Constitution.

C/33**LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CABINET QUESTION TIME, INCLUDING THE COMPOSITE REPORT OF THE CABINET (1 HOUR MAXIMUM)**

Councillor Jonathan Brook, Leader of the Council, informed Members that although he had no formal announcements, he wished to formally thank staff for their continued hard work in difficult circumstances with both Covid-19 and Local Government Reorganisation having a significant impact on staff. The Leader referred to a number of ongoing and completed projects, including the Cross-a-Moor Roundabout, which represented a significant upgrade to infrastructure and would enable the delivery of further homes in the area as well as allowing freer movement of traffic. He also noted the progress made on the Gooseholme footbridge and concluded by thanking all Members and officers involved.

The Chairman suggested that, on this occasion, written responses be provided to those written questions, which had been received in accordance with paragraphs 10.2 and 10.3 of the Council's Rules of Procedure, copies of which had been distributed to Members present at the start of the meeting.

Note – the responses to the questions below were provided following the meeting and have been included in the minutes following a request by Councillor Matt Severn.

From Councillor Giles Archibald to Councillor Suzie Pye, Health Wellbeing and Poverty Alleviation Portfolio Holder – *“Can you give us a picture how South Lakeland’s residents are coping with the cost of living crisis and can you describe your fears for possible deterioration during the winter. The funds described in your report and the poverty truth commission seem like very important ways in which the council can help the community. Can you provide more detail on these initiatives?”*

“8,500 Working Age people in South Lakeland are reliant on one or more benefits to get by. Almost half of the people on Universal Credit are in work. Over 3,000 children in South Lakeland live in a household claiming Universal Credit. 12% of households live in fuel poverty (that figure is 2 years old, has probably risen, and will likely rise sharply in the coming months).

A rise in the cost of goods and services; inflation passing 9%; and a rise in the energy cap in the Autumn to a predicted £3,422 mean many of us are making changes to the way we shop, eat, travel, and work. But for some, the number of corners they can cut is rapidly running out. When you’ve already switched to basic brands, when you’re regularly batch-cooking meals, when you switched to the cheapest tariff months ago: when that’s you and you are still not making ends meet – you are in crisis.

Last month I launched 2 funds from the Poverty Alleviation fund:

The first is an Emergency fund of £2,000 to be shared amongst any of our Building Financial Resilience partners (like Citizens Advice, and Age UK) who need small funds to meet the immediate needs of people they see face to face. A sandwich, A bus fare, replacing a broken fridge, or filling an empty fridge. It is designed to be as accessible and immediate as we can make it.

Our second fund is the Fairer South Lakeland Community Fund amounting to £25,000 for the first round. Community groups, and parish & town councils are being invited to apply for funding to be spent in their local community.

Projects might be around alleviating child poverty, community car shares; repair cafes; warm hubs; debt management tools; food parcels, or it might provide support for a specific group of people, for example young carers, or resettled refugees.

I would like to appeal to elected members to push this fund in your own local areas around whatever the specific needs in your ward are.

I would like to thank officers for their work around this. I would also like to thank the Councillors whose generosity in diverting their allowance has enabled the establishment of the fund.

Aside from the new funds, there is help available through SLDC and our partners, which can be accessed via the financial hardship page on the SLDC website. Help includes the Council Tax Reduction scheme, the Handy Persons Scheme, local food hubs, Cold to Cosy Homes, plus many more. There is also a link at the top of our homepage, to a breakdown of government help such as the £650 one-off cost of living payment for those claiming benefits.

Putting the help in place though, is not always enough. There is often a barrier around asking for that help, caused by stigma, and the perceived lack of any true understanding from those in charge.

When we are governed by the uber-rich, when one candidate for Prime Minister appears in the Sunday Times Rich List, and another states "*We spend too much on benefits. There are too many people in this country who are working age, who are of good health, and who are choosing to rely on benefits*" - when that is how the people in charge, the people who are meant to have your back sees you: no wonder when I speak to those receiving food parcels, they feel shame, embarrassment and utter bewilderment, when those are the messages they hear coming out of Westminster. So it is up to us as local Councillors to speak for the Everyman. To inject empathy and understanding into the vernacular around poverty. We share a moral responsibility to see that everyone has a decent standard of living.

And we need people to know it's OK to ask for help.

"This month it's you – next month it might be me" We are all vulnerable to financial hardship.

My hope is that the South Lakeland Poverty Truth Alliance will become central to opening up the conversation around poverty in South Lakeland, and how we as a Local Authority view it, talk about it, and tackle it.

But in the mean time we do need to brace ourselves for the coming months. Carry on signposting people towards help, promote the new funds, but above all, be compassionate.

Supporting data:

Council Tax Reduction Scheme:

- Working age people in receipt of CTRS caseload upward: pre pandemic 2431, July 2022 - 2665.
- However pensioner caseload down for CTRS - 2235 pre pandemic, July 2022 – 1989.

Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) – annual Govt funding decreased over last few years. £104,467 in 2021/22, now £72,538 for 2022/23. However Govt could make a further award for allocation later in the year.

- DHP - Numbers of applications – Q1 2021/22 - **164 applications** and made 138 awards to 107 recipients. 2022/23 Q1 – **184 apps**, made 147 awards to 111 recipients.
- So far paid out in 22/23 £17,020, and committed £8000
- Working with Homeless team (to promote the Homeless prevention fund) so not paying out DHP for arrears, when the HPF is available.
- “Bedroom Tax” – significant reason for pay outs.

Breathing Space :

- 60 days to get advice / support. Has to be approved by nominated debt advisor (CA etc)
- overall 50 notifications of people entering BS since May 2021. Most been through 60 day moratorium.
- However often doesn't lead to debt solutions, rather a pause in recovery is the current experience

Money Advice Service

- SLDC refer clients to the MAS.
- Little feedback on effectiveness as yet.

Energy rebates:

- Paid out to over 28,500 people (out of estimated 33/34,000 people in total) of almost £4.3million pot
- Continuing to identify new recipients as information comes in.
- 30 September is deadline.

Following statistics from the June Economy tracker:

1. **Universal Credit** (all claimant categories, % of working age pop): **SL – 7.7%**, Cumbria 11.5%, England 13.8% (May)
2. **Universal Credit** (In Work category, % working age pop): **SL – 3.6%**, Cumbria – 4.4%, England – 5.3% (May)
3. **Universal Credit** (All households on UC) : **SL - 3770** (Feb)
4. **Universal Credit** (Any households with child dependents): **SL - 1757** (Feb)
5. **Universal Credit (Children (Under 20) in UC households: 3,114 (Feb 2022)**
6. **ANY DWP benefits:** *Benefits included: Job Seekers Allowance, Employment Support Allowance, Universal Credit, Incapacity, Severe Disablement Allowance, Income Support, State Pension, Pension Credit, Personal Independence Payment, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Housing Benefit, Carers Allowance, Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, Bereavement Support Benefit, Widow's Benefit, Bereavement Benefit: All benefits , all ages (Nov 2021) – SL – 36,472*

7. State Pension Age (inc State Pension) : SL –27,545 (Nov 21)

P5. Index of Deprivation 2019
 Source: MHCLG
[Back to contents](#)

% LSOAs in the Worst 10% nationally

	Multiple Deprivation	Income	Income Dep Affecting Children	Income Dep Affecting Older People	Employment	Education & Skills	Education & Skills - Young People	Education & Skills - Adults	Health	Crime	Barriers to Services & Housing	Barriers - Geographical	Barriers -Wider	Living Environment	Living Environment - Indoors	Living Environment - Outdoors
Allerdale	12%	10%	7%	2%	13%	18%	20%	13%	12%	0%	13%	32%	0%	22%	35%	0%
Barrow	24%	18%	22%	8%	29%	16%	27%	4%	53%	8%	0%	0%	0%	37%	47%	0%
Carlisle	6%	6%	7%	1%	9%	18%	26%	15%	16%	3%	10%	16%	0%	9%	18%	0%
Copeland	6%	8%	6%	0%	14%	16%	29%	8%	27%	2%	8%	27%	0%	12%	18%	0%
Eden	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	28%	53%	0%	50%	64%	0%
South Lakeland	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	14%	31%	0%	24%	42%	0%
Cumbria	8%	7%	7%	2%	11%	12%	19%	7%	18%	2%	12%	25%	0%	23%	35%	0%

8. SL Index of deprivation 2019 Centiles (1 = Most deprived):

Ward (2018)	LSOA	Multiple Deprivation	Income	Income Dep Affecting Children	Income Dep Affecting Older People	Employment	Education & Skills	Education & Skills - Young People	Education & Skills - Adults	Health	Crime	Barriers to Services & Housing	Barriers - Geographical	Barriers -Wider	Living Environment	Living Environment - Indoors	Living Environment - Outdoors
Ambleside & Grasmere	001A	8	7	8	4	9	7	4	7	7	9	9	9	7	4	3	5
	001B	7	9	8	3	9	10	8	8	7	7	9	9	7	4	3	5
	001C	7	9	8	3	9	10	8	8	7	7	9	9	7	4	3	5
Amside & Milnthorpe	011A	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
	011B	8	7	7	8	8	9	8	7	8	8	8	8	7	4	3	5
	011C	9	9	10	8	8	9	8	7	8	8	10	10	10	10	10	10
Bowness & Levens	002C	7	8	8	10	9	7	6	8	8	8	4	10	9	4	3	5
	007B	6	5	5	5	5	7	6	8	8	9	4	10	9	4	3	5
	010C	9	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	10	10	1	1	1	1	1	1
Broughton & Coniston	007A	6	8	8	9	8	8	8	7	8	10	1	1	1	1	1	1
	007C	5	5	5	5	5	7	6	8	8	10	1	1	1	1	1	1
	008A	7	8	7	10	9	9	9	10	10	10	8	3	10	1	1	1
Burton & Crooklands	010A	10	10	10	10	10	8	7	9	9	10	10	6	10	5	3	7
	010B	8	9	10	9	9	9	8	9	9	10	1	1	10	2	1	7
	011D	9	9	9	8	8	6	5	8	8	10	9	5	9	5	3	8
Cartmel	013E	7	7	8	6	8	5	3	6	6	9	10	8	9	2	1	10
	008D	6	9	10	9	10	8	7	8	8	10	2	1	10	1	1	9
	014A	8	8	9	8	7	9	9	8	8	10	2	1	10	7	6	9
Furness Peninsula	014B	7	8	9	3	7	9	3	3	7	10	2	1	10	4	2	10
	014C	5	3	3	3	7	8	7	9	7	10	1	1	10	1	1	10
	013A	9	9	8	9	8	10	3	3	3	10	3	6	10	3	1	10
Grange	013B	8	8	7	9	6	8	7	8	8	10	9	8	8	5	3	10
	013C	6	6	6	7	5	7	7	7	5	9	8	5	7	3	2	10
	013D	9	10	10	10	7	9	9	9	7	10	4	2	10	7	1	10
Kendal East	003B	4	4	4	5	3	2	2	3	4	8	3	6	7	5	3	10
	005A	9	9	9	9	8	6	5	6	8	10	7	3	10	6	4	10
	005C	8	7	8	7	8	5	5	6	8	9	6	3	10	5	3	10
Kendal North	003D	8	8	9	8	7	8	6	9	8	9	7	4	8	3	1	10
	004D	5	4	4	5	4	3	2	5	6	7	9	6	7	4	3	10
	002A	7	5	8	9	8	7	5	8	9	10	3	1	9	2	1	10
Kendal Rural	003A	6	7	8	8	8	6	5	7	10	3	1	9	1	1	1	9
	005D	5	10	10	10	10	8	8	8	10	7	1	1	9	1	1	7
	005B	10	10	10	9	10	8	8	7	7	10	5	5	10	10	8	10
Kendal South & Natland	006B	8	7	6	7	7	6	5	7	6	10	10	7	8	4	2	10
	006C	10	10	10	10	9	7	6	7	10	10	6	2	9	7	5	9
	003C	8	9	8	10	8	7	6	7	8	7	9	5	8	1	1	9
Kendal Town	004A	5	5	7	6	5	9	9	8	6	6	7	5	6	1	1	9
	004B	5	5	7	5	5	8	7	8	4	4	6	4	6	2	2	8
	004C	4	3	3	4	3	1	1	3	4	8	8	5	7	6	4	10
Kendal West	006A	10	9	10	9	8	7	6	8	8	8	9	4	10	7	5	10
	006D	8	7	10	6	6	9	9	9	7	10	5	2	10	10	9	10
	005A	8	7	9	7	7	8	9	8	8	5	10	3	9	3	2	9
Sedburgh & Kirkby Lonsdale	005B	8	10	10	10	9	9	8	9	9	10	3	1	10	1	1	10
	005C	6	9	10	10	9	7	6	7	10	10	1	1	9	7	1	10
	005D	6	6	8	8	5	7	7	6	6	10	10	9	7	2	1	10
Ulverston East	012A	5	4	6	5	5	5	5	6	9	9	10	4	9	4	3	9
	012B	4	4	4	5	5	3	2	4	4	9	7	3	9	3	3	10
	012C	5	5	8	5	4	8	7	8	4	9	10	9	8	2	1	9
Ulverston West	012C	8	7	8	7	7	9	8	9	8	9	8	9	9	2	1	10
	014D	8	8	8	9	5	8	7	8	6	10	10	7	10	6	4	10
	014E	10	10	9	10	10	10	10	9	9	10	8	4	10	7	5	9
Windermere	001D	7	7	9	6	7	5	4	7	7	9	4	3	6	3	2	10
	002B	9	7	8	6	8	7	7	7	9	9	9	5	9	4	3	10
	002D	7	7	10	5	7	3	2	5	7	8	10	7	10	2	1	10
	002E	7	6	6	6	6	5	4	7	7	9	6	3	7	7	5	10

9. Households below £10,000 income: SL – 5.4%

10. **Median Affordability Ratio (House price/ household income): SL – 7.9,**
Cumbria – 6.2, England – 8 (2021)
11. **% Children (0-15) in Relative Low Income Families: SL – 12%,** Cumbria 16%, England – 18% (Relative low-income is defined as a family whose equivalised income before housing costs is below 60% of contemporary median income)
12. **Total Children Aged 0-15 in LIF (2020/21): SL – 1,904**
13. **Free School meals numbers – Reception to Year 11: SL 1,103 (Oct 2020 – 25% increase from Oct 2019)**
14. **FSM eligible (Reception to Year 11): SL – 8.9% (Oct 2020)**
15. **Households in Fuel Poverty (Low income low energy efficiency measure: SL – 11.9%/ 5947 households (2020))”**

From Councillor Helen Ladhams to Councillor Helen Chaffey, Housing Portfolio Holder – *“A number of individuals have agreed to help out Ukrainian refugees, how are SLDC helping our Ukrainian guests?”*

“The County Council and SLDC are working closely together, along with other public and third sector partners to ensure we provide a joined up approach where possible. The county council resettlement team is undertaking a lot of the tasks associated with administering the scheme, because of the well-established arrangements already in place to support Syrians and Afghans – however all district councils are also involved, offering advice and support on any housing issues, monitoring for homelessness presentations, supporting discussions about any community issues that are presenting. Whilst things are very busy in relation to this scheme, we are not seeing lots of issues present themselves at this point. Community groups and networks are establishing themselves who are also providing a fantastic welcome and support with integration.

In terms of the HfU scheme, action we are undertaking is as follows:

- housing checks with hosts
- initiation of DBS checks with hosts
- provision of advice and guidance to guests and hosts about expectations of each other
- provision of guests with the emergency cash they are entitled to
- processing the “thank you payments” to hosts
- making returns to government
- manages re-matching where arrangements have broken down between guests and hosts
- offering fire safety advice and checks
- supporting school admissions
- offering online support sessions for hosts to share info and support networking
- offering a regular e- bulletin for hosts with signposts to support in there
- engagement with head teachers to explore emerging needs/ issues in schools
- provision of casework support for arrivals
- work with the third sector to help with connecting the various offers out there from community groups
- offering ESOL and language cafes through libraries to support English skills
- working through a tactical co-ordination group which meets regularly bringing public sector and third sector reps and the LEP together to support a joined up approach

In addition, this is the current SLDC funding from Councillor Pye's Poverty Alleviation Fund.

Name	Project	Award	Notes
Mr Punnett	Arnside Homes for Ukraine	£750	Received via FSL Fund. Emailed requesting bank details: 15/07/22 Bank details to VMD: 18/07/22
Mhairi Helme	Programme of English lessons for Ukrainian resettled refugees	£1500	
Mhairi Helme	Programme of English lessons for Ukrainian resettled refugees	£3458	Agreed (Cllr Pye) 21/07/22 VMD email – 210722: The cost of the Town Hall hire for 12 months for New Beginnings is £3458.
Dave Plumb - Common Space Common Humanity	£1000 spend across 5 families – same offer for each family. (£200 for each family – 4 x 1.5 hr lesson)	£1000	Paid
Zoe – Sedbergh Together Network	Three families: We have 3 males who want to learn to drive. Looking for financial support that can be offered to assist the families to secure their full uk licence. £200 per family	£600	Paid

In summary, I have been quite involved with the Arnside Homes For Ukraine Group and I have to say my personal experience in terms of responsiveness from both SLDC and CCC Officers, on behalf of hosts and residents alike, has been fantastic. In particular, I'd like to call out Gareth Candlin and his team for enabling the conversion of a property in Kendal from commercial to residential usage; Rob Cartner and his team for their responsiveness at all times and Andy Smart and his team for their help in securing places in the school system for the Ukrainian children."

From Councillor Judy Filmore to Councillor Dyan Jones, Climate Action and Biodiversity Portfolio Holder – *"Have emissions been reduced by 33% through quarter 1 of 2022/23?"*

"As stated emissions are 33% down, this is through our recorded data (April, May, half of June) in Quarter 1, we're still awaiting full data for the whole of Quarter 1.

The so far positive results in emissions reduction vs last year, has come from less Gas usage. This year in April we used 30,000kWh less Gas than in 2021 and in May over 50,000kWh less Gas than in 2021. This trend looks set to continue in June and July.

We think is due to two things:

1. Building managers turning off heating more frequently during the Spring/Early Summer months due to more awareness of the need to reduce usage, after work done by the assets and Climate Action team to engage with building managers on this and also due to increased cost pressures of energy usage.
2. The gas boiler in Lowther Street has been decommissioned which should lead to a decrease in emissions vs last year when both that boiler and the South Lakeland House boiler were operational.

We will continue to monitor our emissions and hope to see a reduction in electricity emissions also, there was a 3% reduction May but this a negligible reduction.”

From Councillor Heather Troughton to Councillor Dyan Jones, Climate Action and Biodiversity Portfolio Holder – *“What is the Council doing to address biodiversity loss and what can Town and Parish Councils do to help?”*

“Following the interest in the Greening Campaign we created a second offer, if you like, of support for community action around mitigating bio-diversity loss across our district. A Bio-diversity Community Toolkit which gives handy guidance to new or existing groups that want to grow their actions with volunteers and will be promoted as a call to action for residents who may be thinking about creating groups or doing stuff in their neighbourhood - more info is on page 184 of the report tonight.

The toolkit outlines where work can be carried out, how to get involved by contacting our locality team. The toolkit outlines the benefits of biodiversity and goes into detail about different features for example. bee banks or bee hotels, bog gardens, meadows, tree planting, planting for pollinators or woodpiles. You can find the toolkit on our website and it will be promoted in the next edition of South Lakeland News.”

From Councillor Kevin Lancaster to Councillor Dyan Jones, Climate Action and Biodiversity Portfolio Holder – *“Ash trees are in an awful state, what is the current thinking on ash dieback? This will be a landscape-changing thing for England and Western Europe, even trees that were showing resistance are now being impacted. I would like a detailed response on this matter”*

“Ash Dieback

What’s happening to our Ash trees?

Ash trees are suffering from a fungal epidemic that is causing Ash Dieback (ADB). In South Lakeland, ADB was first confirmed in Ash trees in 2015 and is now widespread throughout the district. It is widely accepted as the biggest threat to trees in the UK since Dutch Elm Disease.

What does Ash Dieback do to the tree?

ADB is a highly destructive disease. Current research by the Forestry Commission suggests that between 70% and 85% of infected trees will die as a result of infection.

What are symptoms of infection?

Wilting of leaves in mid to late summer, and diamond-shaped lesions around the union between branches and the main stems of the tree, which eventually cut off nutrients and kill the branch. Advanced infection shows lesions at the base of the tree and usually leads to secondary infection by other tree decay fungi, weakening the tree and leading to branches breaking off and in some cases, whole tree failure.

What can we do to stop it?

Unfortunately, we cannot stop the spread of ADB because the spores of the fungus are wind-borne and can travel many miles to infect other Ash trees.

I have an Ash tree in my garden, what should I do?

If you have an Ash tree in your garden and you are worried about it you can check it yourself.

The Government's web page has more information on spotting symptoms, including a link to a Forestry Commission video: www.gov.uk/guidance/managing-ash-dieback-in-england

As owner of an infected tree you are responsible for it, and any damage it might do. Infected trees can deteriorate quite quickly and become more difficult to remove safely, so it's worth seeking professional advice sooner rather than later. If the tree has a Tree Preservation Order or is in a Conservation Area, you will need to apply to the council before you do any work to it. You can do this here: www.southlakeland.gov.uk/planning-and-building/trees-and-hedges/"

From Councillor Mark Wilson to Councillor Dyan Jones, Climate Action and Biodiversity Portfolio Holder – *“Regarding carbon reduction, Ulverston Town Council are encouraging Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAfS) to speak to residents about how they can prepare to stay warm. Please could we see some ‘hot tips’ for residents to meet the challenge of the winter, people will be suffering from fuel bills? We have been collecting tips on the Local Committee and would like to see a pool of these tips published in South Lakeland News to help keep people well fed and warm.*

“The communications team has been undertaking an extensive signposting and information sharing exercise around the cost of living crisis, both through our social media platforms and in our South Lakeland News newsletter. These messages relate to many inter-linked and cross-cutting themes, including energy-saving advice and tips, sustainable warmth, help with bills and so on. We always share more specific energy-saving tips in the winter months, when people have their heating on.

As a snapshot of comms activity, in recent weeks we have been promoting the Sustainable Warmth Scheme, messages from our partners Cumbria Action for Sustainability, support signposting from DWP and various domestic solar panel support schemes.

There is also a lot of advice for residents regarding reducing their carbon footprint, which can also reduce energy use and costs at <https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/your-environment/climate-change-and-biodiversity/what-you-can-do/>”

Councillor Dyan Jones noted the important point regarding the pressures of winter with energy bills rising. She added that a well thought out and funded insulation grant scheme was essential and that it was important to recognise the failings of the current government scheme.

Councillor Matt Severn requested that all written responses be included within the minutes of the meeting. The Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) requested that all written responses be submitted by Friday, 15 July in order to include them within the minutes of the meeting.

Councillor Ben Cooper requested an update on a question raised at the Annual Meeting of the Council regarding Capital Expenditure. Councillor Andrew Jarvis undertook to provide a written response on this matter.

RESOLVED – That on this occasion, approval be given for written responses to be provided to the above questions which had been both submitted before and asked during the meeting.

C/34 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OR CHAIRMAN OF ANY COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE

No questions had been received under Rule 10.6 of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

C/35 URGENT DECISIONS

RESOLVED – That the details relating to an urgent Executive Decision taken since the last scheduled ordinary meeting of the Council held on 23 March 2021, namely CEX/26 (2022/23), be received.

C/36 NOTICE OF MOTION

In accordance with Paragraph 11.1 of the Council's Rules of Procedure, the following notice of motion had been put to Council by Councillor Jonathan Cornthwaite:-

“Council therefore supports Fair Game, a national campaign that seeks radical reform of the way football is managed and run, specifically its call for: An Independent Regulator for the sport; A refocus on ‘values’ rather than profit; The establishment of a Sustainability Index, which will reallocate the payments made to clubs to reward those which are run well, respect equality standards and properly engage with their fans and their community; and Fans to be given the final say on any proposed change to a club’s ‘crown jewels’, including the club’s name, nickname, colours, badge and the geographical location from where the club plays. Council also notes that former Sports Minister Tracey Crouch MP has published a Government-commissioned fan –led review into football governance and that a vast majority of its findings mirror Fair Game’s aspirations.

Council therefore resolves to: Declare its support for the Fair Game manifesto, ‘Solutions for our National Game’, and calls on other Councils to join us in our support; Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Minister for Sport, our local Members of Parliament, and the Chair of the Local Government Association Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, asking them to support and work towards implementing Fair Game’s manifesto and the findings of the fan-led review led by Tracey Crouch MP; and Ask the

Council's representatives to encourage other like-minded councils to support Fair Game"

In presenting the motion, Councillor Jonathan Cornthwaite referred to the Fair Game organisation which had gathered pace alongside the Government led review of football. He highlighted the importance of supporting grassroots football, particularly when considering the support for the sport across the nation and referred to his involvement in local Burnside Team over a number of years. In concluding his remarks, Councillor Cornthwaite noted the importance of the motion he had proposed, in supporting teams across the English football pyramid to ensure that both smaller and large clubs would be well run and remain in the league system.

In seconding the motion, Councillor Mark Wilson, echoed Councillor Cornthwaite's comments, highlighting the importance of football to communities and adding that it was important to ensure that everyone had an opportunity to be involved in football.

Councillor Matt Severn thanked Councillor Cornthwaite for bringing the motion to council for consideration. He informed members that at the top of the football pyramid, the accumulation of wealth was having a negative impact on the smaller teams and noted the significant amount of leagues that local teams participated in across the district. He added that there were three football league clubs close to South Lakeland and echoed previous comments regarding the importance of football to communities.

Councillor Dyan Jones referred to the poor management of some clubs noted that she hoped that support would be given to teams who had not been well run in order to give them the best possible chance of success.

RESOLVED – That

(1) Council:-

- (a) declares its support for the Fair Game manifesto, 'Solutions for our National Game';
- (b) calls on other Councils to join the Council in supporting Fair Game;
- (c) asks the Council's representatives to encourage other like-minded councils to support Fair Game.

(2) the Chief Executive write to the Minister for Sport, our local Members of Parliament, and the Chair of the Local Government Association Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, asking them to support and work towards implementing Fair Game's manifesto and the findings of the fan-led review led by Tracey Crouch MO.

C/37

URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

C/38

EMERGENCY DELEGATED EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

a 019 04/05/2022 - Council Tax Energy Rebate

No Member having raised concern when asked by the Chairman, it was

RESOLVED – That the following Emergency Delegated Executive Decisions taken by the Chief Executive, in accordance with the Leaders decision noted by Cabinet at CEX/104 (2019/20), be noted:-

(1) 019 – 04/06/2022 – Council Tax Energy Rebate

The meeting ended at 7.49 p.m.