

Report of	Meeting	Date
Deputy Chief Executive (Introduced by Executive Member (Economic Development and Public Service Reform))	Executive Cabinet	Thursday, 11 July 2024

## Productivity Plan

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	No
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### Purpose of the Report

1. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities have asked all local authorities to produce a Productivity Plan as part of the last Local Government Financial Settlement. Members should have oversight and endorsement of the Plan prior to its submission.

### Recommendations to Executive Cabinet

2. Members are recommended to endorse the Chorley Productivity Plan (at Appendix 1) and agree that it can be submitted to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

### Reasons for recommendations

3. The recommendation ensures that Chorley Council meets the request of Simon Hoare MP, detailed in his letter of April 2024 (Appendix 2).

### Other options considered and rejected

4. Not applicable – all local authorities have been asked to submit a Productivity Plan. Following the announcement of a general election, this requirement was checked and it remained the case that submission of Productivity Plans should take place by 19 July 2024.

### Corporate priorities

5. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

<b>Housing where residents can live well</b>	<b>A green and sustainable borough</b>
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### **Background to the report**

6. In April 2024, Simon Hoare MP wrote to all local authority Chief Executives requesting that a “Productivity Plan” be submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities by 19 July 2024.
7. The letter advises that the plan should be brief in length and set out; what we have done in recent years to transform our organisation and services, and should consider the following themes:
  - How we have transformed the way we design and deliver services to make better use of resources
  - How we plan to take advantage of technology and make better use of data to improve decision making, service design and use of resources
  - Our plans to reduce wasteful spend within our organisation and systems
  - The barriers preventing progress that the Government can help to reduce or remove
8. The Productivity Plan for Chorley has been produced following the guidance issued within the letter.
9. Productivity Plans must be returned to government by 19 July 2024. The plan must also be uploaded to the Chorley Council website so that it is visible to residents.
10. The Plans are then intended to be reviewed by an expert Panel, including representatives from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, the Local Government Association, OFLOG and SOCITM. The Panel is currently scheduled to commence reviews of the plans from October 2024.

### **Climate change and air quality**

11. Not applicable

### **Equality and diversity**

12. An equality impact assessment is not required in relation to this matter.

### **Risk**

13. There is a risk that the Plans will be submitted and then not be considered by an Expert Panel if there is a change of government following the general election.

### **Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer**

14. There are no direct financial implications to this report.

### **Comments of the Monitoring Officer**

15. No comments.

## Background documents

There are no background papers to this report

## Appendices

Appendix 1– Chorley Productivity Plan

Appendix 2 – DLUHC Letter of April 2024

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This decision will come into force and may be implemented five working days after its publication date, subject to being called in in accordance with the Council's Constitution.