

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE PARTNERSHIP
REVENUES & BENEFITS JOINT COMMITTEE**

12 JUNE 2025 AT 3.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr Beadle, Cllr MC Bools (for Cllr KWP Lynch), Cllr Woodman
and Cllr Wyatt

Officers in attendance: Anna Crouch, Julie Kenny, Sally O'Hanlon, Rebecca Owen and Ashley Wilson

1. Appointment of chair

In the absence of the chair and vice-chair, it was moved by Councillor Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Beadle and

RESOLVED – Councillor Bools be appointed chair for the first part of the meeting only.

2. Appointment of Chair for the 2025/26 year

It was moved by Councillor Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Bools and

RESOLVED – Councillor Beadle be appointed chair for the 2025/26 municipal year.

3. Appointment of Vice-Chair

It was moved by Councillor Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Bools and

RESOLVED – Councillor Woodman be appointed vice-chair for the 2025/26 municipal year.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bray, Knowles and Lynch with the substitution of Councillor Bools for Councillor Lynch in accordance with paragraph 4.3 of the joint committee's constitution.

5. Declarations of interest

No interests were declared.

6. Minutes of previous meeting

On the motion of Councillor Woodman, seconded by Councillor Bools, it was

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 27 March were confirmed as a correct record.

7. Performance Outturn March 2025

Members were updated on the performance of the partnership for 2024/25. Concern was expressed in relation to the low collection rates for benefit debt and it was noted that it was difficult to recover this debt due to the nature of it and the vulnerability of the debtors, but improvements had been implemented.

The report was noted.

8. **Financial Outturn April 2024 to March 2025**

The draft financial outturn for 2024/25 was presented to the committee. A member queried the making of investments with local government reorganisation on the horizon. In response, it was explained that in authorities that had already been through reorganisation, functions had taken several years to harmonise so the value of the investments would be realised.

The report was noted.

9. **Internal Audit scope**

It was proposed that the internal audit scope should focus on council tax support and business rates key controls. This was supported by members.

The report was noted.

10. **Business rates consultation**

Members were updated on the awaited business rates reset which would allow the government to redistribute the income from business rates and would result in a reduction of business rates income for the authorities within the partnership who benefitted from a relatively high level of income.

11. **Schedule of future meetings**

The dates of future meetings were agreed as:

18 September 2025 at North West Leicestershire District Council

20 November 2025 at Harborough District Council

22 January 2026 at Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

26 March 2026 at North West Leicestershire District Council

25 June 2026 at Harborough District Council (annual meeting 2026/27).

12. **Forward Plan**

The forward plan was noted.

(The Meeting closed at 3.58 pm)

CHAIR

