



MERSEYSIDE WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY

## **FORWARD PLAN**

**Publication Date: May 2026**

### **Introduction**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Authority publishes a “Forward Plan” of “Key Decisions”.

The Forward Plan is published on a six weekly basis to match the Authority’s meeting cycle and covers key issues to be dealt with in the subsequent three months. It is a publicly available document and its purpose is to reinforce the openness and accountability of the Authority’s decision-making process.

The Plan seeks to anticipate the issues that will be the subject of a Key Decision during that period. For each item the Plan includes:

- The item’s title and a short description of the decision being sought.
- An indication of who will be making the decision.
- The Scrutiny arrangements for the decision.
- An indication of when the decision is expected to be made. This may be a specific date i.e. the date of a meeting, or a period during which the decision is likely to be made.
- A list of Supporting Papers. These will be documents which the decision-maker(s) will consider or take into account when making the decision.
- An indication of what consultation will take place on the item which is the subject of the proposed decision. This will include an indication as to who will be consulted (i.e. principal groups and organisations) and how that consultation will be conducted.
- An indication of how and to whom representations should be made on the item.

Within the Plan, the items are listed in the chronological order in which it is anticipated that the decisions will be made.

The decision in respect of each key decision is recorded in the minutes for the relevant meeting which are approved at the subsequent meeting of the Authority and are open for inspection at the Authority Offices and on the Authority's web site.

## **Definition of a Key Decision**

The definition of a Key Decision is set out in the Authority's Constitution. It is as follows:-

*A Key Decision is an executive decision:-*

- (i) incurring expenditure or making savings which are financially significant, unless the specific expenditure or saving has previously been agreed by the Authority; or*
- (ii) which, in the view of the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair, is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in Merseyside.*

*A decision will be considered financially significant if:-*

- a) in the case of revenue expenditure, it results in incurring expenditure or making savings of £250,000 or greater;*
- b) in the case of capital expenditure, the capital expenditure/savings are in excess of £1 Million;*

*unless the specific expenditure or savings have previously been agreed by the Authority or have been taken in line with the Authority's Financial Management Policy.*

*In determining whether a decision is significant in terms of its effect on communities, the Chief Executive and lead Member will give consideration to:-*

- a) the number of residents/service users/District Council areas that will be affected;*
- b) whether the impact is short term, long term or permanent;*
- c) the impact on the community in terms of the economic, social and environmental well-being.*

## **Decision-Makers**

Key Decisions will be made by the Authority or its committees where relevant powers have been delegated. A report will be submitted to the relevant meeting on each key decision, and Members will also consider, where necessary, any report which has been 'called-in' under the Authority's scrutiny arrangements.

## **Consultation**

The Chief Executive, in taking decisions under delegated powers, will consult with the relevant Authority Members and other key stakeholders, in accordance with those identified in the Forward Plan.

## **Authority Meetings**

The Authority will meet formally approximately every six weeks. Meeting dates are published on the web site [www.merseysidewda.gov.uk](http://www.merseysidewda.gov.uk). Each Authority meeting will be in two parts. The first part of the meeting will consider the Key Decisions contained in the Forward Plan, and any other matters determined by the Chair. The second part of the meeting will be made available for any scrutiny discussions.

The current schedule of meetings is as follows:

26<sup>th</sup> June 2026

25<sup>th</sup> September 2026

27<sup>th</sup> November 2026

5<sup>th</sup> February 2027

30<sup>th</sup> April 2027

## **Scrutiny Arrangements**

Two Members of the Authority may request that the Chair place a delegated decision matter on the Agenda of an Authority regular meeting as a 'scrutiny item'.

## **Information Reports**

The Authority will periodically publish information reports about its Policies, Strategies and Performance on the web site [www.merseysidewda.gov.uk](http://www.merseysidewda.gov.uk)

## **Contacts**

If you have any queries or comments regarding the contents or format of this document please direct them to Paula Pocock (Clerk to the Authority) on 0151-255-1444 or by e-mail at [enquiries@merseysidewda.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@merseysidewda.gov.uk)

## AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP 2025/26

<b>COUNCILLOR</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>	<b>Address and Contact Details</b>
Peter Norris (Liverpool)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigating and Disciplinary Committee</li> <li>• Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd Board</li> <li>• Procurement Project Board</li> </ul>	Labour Group Office Cunard Building Water Street Liverpool L1 3AH Email: <a href="mailto:peter.norris@liverpool.gov.uk">peter.norris@liverpool.gov.uk</a>
Louise Luxon-Kewley (Wirral)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forward Planning Members Panel</li> </ul>	Email: <a href="mailto:louiseluxonkewley@wirral.gov.uk">louiseluxonkewley@wirral.gov.uk</a>
Colin Baldwin (Wirral)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit and Governance Committee</li> </ul>	Email: <a href="mailto:colinbaldwin@wirral.gov.uk">colinbaldwin@wirral.gov.uk</a>
Laura Robertson-Collins (Liverpool)		Labour Group Office Municipal Buildings Dale Street Liverpool L2 2DH Tel: 07980 311545 Email: <a href="mailto:laura.robertson-collins@liverpool.gov.uk">laura.robertson-collins@liverpool.gov.uk</a>
Harry Bell (Knowsley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forward Planning Members Panel</li> <li>• Investigating and Disciplinary Committee</li> <li>• Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd Board</li> </ul>	2 Lyelake Close Southdene Kirkby Knowsley L32 8SY Tel: 07384 455427 Email: <a href="mailto:harry.bell@knowsley.gov.uk">harry.bell@knowsley.gov.uk</a>
Kris Brown (Liverpool)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appeals Committee</li> <li>• Audit and Governance Committee</li> </ul>	6th floor Cunard Building Water Street Liverpool L3 1AH Tel: 0151 233 0427 Email: <a href="mailto:kris.brown@liverpool.gov.uk">kris.brown@liverpool.gov.uk</a>

<p>Tracy Dickinson (St Helens)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forward Planning Members Panel</li> <li>• Appeals Committee</li> <li>• Procurement Project Board</li> <li>• Audit and Governance Committee</li> <li>• Procurement Project Board</li> </ul>	<p>Email: <a href="mailto:cllrtdickinson@sthelens.gov.uk">cllrtdickinson@sthelens.gov.uk</a></p>
<p>Catie Page (Sefton)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forward Planning Members Panel</li> <li>• Appeals Committee</li> <li>• Investigating and Disciplinary Committee</li> </ul>	<p>96 Gores Lane Formby Liverpool L37 7DF Tel: 07861 724391 Email: <a href="mailto:catie.page@sefton.gov.uk">catie.page@sefton.gov.uk</a></p>
<p>Dominic McNabb (Sefton)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appeals Committee</li> <li>• Audit and Governance Committee</li> <li>• Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd Board</li> <li>• North West Local Authorities' Employers' Organisation</li> </ul>	<p>C/o Labour Group Office Town Hall Oriol Road Bootle L20 7AE Tel: 0151 934 3361 Email: <a href="mailto:Dominic.McNabb@sefton.gov.uk">Dominic.McNabb@sefton.gov.uk</a></p>
<p>Paul Nolan (Halton)</p>		<p>383 Liverpool Road Widnes WA8 7HR Tel: 07826 877579 <a href="mailto:paul.nolan@halton.gov.uk">paul.nolan@halton.gov.uk</a></p>

Lesley Worswick Chief Executive	Various delegated matters	7 <sup>th</sup> Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: <a href="mailto:Lesley.worswick@merseysidewda.gov.uk">Lesley.worswick@merseysidewda.gov.uk</a>
Chris Kelsall Treasurer	Various delegated matters	7 <sup>th</sup> Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: <a href="mailto:Chris.Kelsall@merseysidewda.gov.uk">Chris.Kelsall@merseysidewda.gov.uk</a>
Paula Pocock Clerk to the Authority	Various delegated matters	7 <sup>th</sup> Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: <a href="mailto:paula.pocock@merseysidewda.gov.uk">paula.pocock@merseysidewda.gov.uk</a>
Ian Stephenson Monitoring Officer	Various delegated matters	7 <sup>th</sup> Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: <a href="mailto:ian.stephenson@merseysidewda.gov.uk">ian.stephenson@merseysidewda.gov.uk</a>

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<b>Item</b>	<b>Ref No.</b>	<b>Decision Date</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>
<b>Corporate Governance Report 2025-26</b>	K16-26	26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Chris Kelsall

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**KEY DECISION SHEET**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Corporate Governance Report 2025-26</b>			
<b>File Reference</b>	<b>K16-26</b>			
<b>Is the report likely to be private or public?</b>	Public			
<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Authority</b>			
<b>Key Decision Criteria</b>	<b>Financial</b>	<b>Community Impact</b>	<b>Other – please specify</b>	
<b>Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.</b>	N/A			
<b>Scrutiny area</b>	<b>Finance</b>			
<b>Date for decision</b>	Authority 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026			
<b>List of Background Papers for consideration</b>	<p>Appendix 1: Annual Governance Statement  Appendix 2: Improvement Plan 2026-27  Appendix 3: Improvement Action Plan 2025-26 update  Appendix 4: Annual assessment 2025-26  Appendix 5: Internal Audit Opinion 2025-26  Appendix 6: Statement of Assurance 2025-26  Appendix 7: Code of Corporate Governance  Appendix 8: MWHL Statement of Assurance 2025-26</p>			
<b>Risk Management Implications</b>	Improved accountability for governance and risk management			
<b>Prior consultation</b>	Chair's briefing			
<b>Representations</b>	In writing to or by email to <a href="mailto:Chris.Kelsall@merseysidewda.gov.uk">Chris.Kelsall@merseysidewda.gov.uk</a>			

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