

[Home](#) > [Your Council](#) > [Your councillors](#) > [Executive members](#)

Executive members

Last Modified November 16, 2023



Individual Executive Members appointed to the positions or holding the cabinet member responsibilities mentioned below may discharge any Executive function falling within or to any extent touching upon the areas of responsibility described, subject to the limitations identified.

In circumstances where a cabinet member is absent or otherwise unable to act or the position is vacant, the Leader may arrange for Executive functions in respect of the relevant areas of responsibility to be discharged, in whole or in part, by one or more other Cabinet Members (including the deputy leader).

Members of the executive

The executive consists of the following members:

- [Councillor Lynn Williams- Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Tourism, Arts and Culture](#)
- [Councillor Ivan Taylor - Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Partnerships and Performance](#)
- [Councillor Kath Benson - Cabinet Member for Young People and Aspiration](#)
- [Councillor Neal Brookes - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care](#)
- [Councillor Paula Burdess - Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Street Scene and Neighbourhoods](#)
- [Councillor Jo Farrell - Cabinet Member for Levelling Up - People](#)
- [Councillor Jim Hobson - Cabinet Member for Children's Services](#)
- [Councillor Jane Hugo - Cabinet Member for Climate Change](#)
- [Councillor Mark Smith - Cabinet Member for Levelling Up - Place](#)

Councillors Peter Hunter, Laura Marshall and Portia Webb have been appointed as Cabinet Assistants to assist the Leader of the Council and relevant Cabinet Members.

Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Tourism, Arts and Culture: Councillor Lynn Williams

The Leader will provide Executive Leadership to the Council on all matters and particularly all major strategic, corporate cross-cutting, financial reputational and commercially sensitive issues.

The leader may without prejudice discharge any executive function and has a particular responsibility for the following functional areas:

- Tourism and marketing services
- Tourism-based regeneration
- Arts and Culture
- Illuminations
- Built Heritage
- Planning and land use
- Corporate Services (ICT, HR, Customer First, communications)
- Financial management

[Contact Councillor Lynn Williams](#)

Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Partnerships and Performance: Councillor Ivan Taylor

In the absence or unavailability of the Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader of the Council may in line with the Council's

constitution exercise the powers of the Leader of the Council and may without prejudice discharge any executive function.

- Relationships with all the Council wholly owned companies and the shareholder lead Cabinet Member
- Relationships with partner organisations:
 - Blackpool Tower complex and associated buildings (Merlin)
 - Hounds Hill Shopping Centre
- Corporate strategy development and research
- Governance
- Contracts, policy and purchasing

[Contact Councillor Taylor](#)

Cabinet Member for Young People and Aspiration: Councillor Kath Benson

The Cabinet Member for Young People and Aspiration has responsibility for the following areas:

- Schools under LA control, Community schools
- Children with Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- LEA support to academies and voluntary aided schools
- School place planning, organisation and buildings
- Education diversity and support units/service e.g. Pupil Referral Units
- Youth Services
- Youth Employment and Education

[Contact Councillor Benson](#)

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care: Councillor Neal Brookes

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care has responsibility for the following areas:

- Adult provider services including Commissioned services for adults
- Adult social care assessment and support
- Adult respite, day services, Care at Home, supported living and residential services
- Adult Safeguarding
- Reablement and intermediate care
- Health integration including funding and services delivery
- Regulated care sector/ inspection/ quality monitoring
- Adult mental health, learning disability, frail older people and physical disability services

[Contact Councillor Brookes](#)

Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Street Scene and Neighbourhoods: Councillor Paula Burdess

The Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Street Scene and Neighbourhoods has responsibility for the following areas:

- Public protection including environmental protection, Trading Standards, licensing, food control, health and safety, housing and planning enforcement
- Community safety, CCTV, security and civil enforcement
- Highways and Traffic management
- Street lighting
- Integrated Transport Services including adults, children and Rideability Community Transport Services and school crossing patrol
- Parking services
- Private Sector Housing Licensing/ Selective Licensing
- Street cleansing including trade waste, Household Waste Recycling Centre, Local Environmental Action Team and building cleaning

[Contact Councillor Burdess](#)

Cabinet Member for Levelling Up - People: Councillor Jo Farrell

The Cabinet Member for Levelling Up - People also has responsibility for the following areas:

- Public health and health protection
- Mental Health and wellbeing

- Harm reduction
- Domestic abuse
- Leisure services including leisure management, Active Blackpool, Community Sport, PE and schools' sports and outdoor pursuits
- Libraries
- Housing options and homelessness
- Decent Homes
- Housing related support and sustaining private sector tenancies
- Catering
- Equality and diversity
- Adult Learning
- Getting People into Work Including Positive Steps, Youth Employment and Education and Business Growth Prosperity
- Relationships with Department for Work and Pensions and Job Centre Plus
- Social Value
- Welfare Benefits and Council Tax Reduction Scheme

[Contact Councillor Farrell](#)

Cabinet Member for Children's Services: Councillor Jim Hobson

Also the Statutory Lead member for Children's Services under the Children's Act 2004. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services has responsibility for the following areas:

- Care leavers
- Children's social care and targeted intervention services
- Children's commissioning
- Early help
- Early Years
- Family Hubs
- Fostering/adoption/permanence planning

Cabinet Member for Climate Change: Councillor Jane Hugo

The Cabinet Member for Climate Change has responsibility for the following areas:

- Climate Change
- Energy and environment
- Flood and water management
- Coastal defence schemes and sea water quality
- Strategic Waste Management
- Parks and green environment
- Life Events (including cemeteries and crematorium, registrars and Coroner's support)

[Contact Councillor Hugo](#)

Cabinet Member for Levelling Up - Place: Councillor Mark Smith

The Cabinet Member for Business, Levelling Up - Place has responsibility for the following areas:

- Economic development based regeneration including growth and prosperity
- Enterprise Zones
- Town Deal and Community Renewal Funding
- Asset management/Council owned properties
- Strategic housing
- Strategic transport management
- Building services
- Business Improvement District (BID)

[Contact Councillor Smith](#)

Blackpool Council

Municipal Buildings
Corporation Street
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