

Annual Corporate Action Plan 2025/26 Closure Report

Key actions belonging to each strategic theme of the
Blaby District Plan 2024-28.

Corporate Action Plan Closing Report

Enabling Our Communities & Supporting Our Vulnerable Residents

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Homelessness Prevention	We are committed to maintaining a zero rough sleeping rate. We recognise the need for specialised housing to meet the needs of the most vulnerable members of our community, and pledge to work closely with partners to make this a reality.	Executive Director (Communities)	Preventing homelessness before it occurs has remained a priority. This reduces costly and unsuitable placements in temporary accommodation and supports the Councils emerging long term housing strategy. At the beginning of the year there were 213 individuals in temporary accommodation, this has risen sharply during the year to 277. We have not seen any seasonal variation in terms of the numbers and the increase has been exacerbated as we have not seen much movement in the provision of affordable housing becoming available. Two new prevention posts have been agreed in order to further support this priority for the coming year and we continue to focus on delivering homelessness reduction initiatives as well as identifying opportunities to provide our own affordable accommodation.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Temporary Accommodation	Continue to develop our offer of Temporary Accommodation to support the Homelessness Strategy in terms of the Operating Model and identifying additional opportunities to expand the offer.	Group Manager - Environmental Health, Housing & Community Service Expected completion: 31/03/26	Progress has been made and the Council secured the lease of a 13-unit property to support single homeless households. Agreement has also been reached to purchase a further 41 homes for use as temporary accommodation, providing a more suitable and cost-effective solution for both single and family households.

Enhancing & Maintaining our Natural and Built Environments

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Council Net Zero 2030	In an effort to be a responsible and exemplary organisation, and in response to the global climate change crisis, Blaby District Council aims to reduce its carbon emissions to 'Net Zero' by 31 March 2030. The collection of projects and initiatives within this work programme are contributing to that aim.	Executive Director (Communities)	We continue to monitor our Carbon Emissions and explore all opportunities to achieve this ambitious target. A cross-party working group has been set up to progress and prioritise initiatives.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Go Net Zero at the Depot (EV Charging)	Adaptations to the council depot to contribute towards our ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030. This will include installation of phase 1 electric vehicle charging infrastructure to facilitate the gradual evolution towards an electric fleet.	Group Manager - Neighbourhood Services Expected completion: 31/12/26	This project supports the council's longer term fleet electrification plans. Good progress has been made in delivering Phase 1 adaptations at Whetstone Depot to support the council's net zero ambitions. Following completion of feasibility work and detailed design, enabling works have commenced on site, with groundworks undertaken and key equipment procured to future proof the depot for the phased transition to an electric fleet.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>National Waste Collection Reform</p>	<p>To ensure we can deliver the new Government requirements with respect to food waste and have adequate funding in place to ensure effective and efficient provision of service.</p>	<p>Executive Director (S151)</p>	<p>The project to introduce the new food waste service was delivered on time and within budget. Government funding supported the implementation phase through grants covering vehicles, receptacles and resident communications. The Council also contributed to vehicle costs to incorporate additional safety features. Ongoing costs are funded through government grant within the Local Government Settlement; however, it is not currently clear how much funding has been provided to fully compensate the Council. Costs will continue to be monitored now that the service has been rolled out.</p>

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Food Waste Collections</p>	<p>New national government policy on waste collections has mandated the introduction of separate weekly food waste collections by 1 April 2026.</p>	<p>Group Manager - Neighbourhood Services</p> <p>Completed</p>	<p>The government mandated introduction of separate weekly food waste collections was successfully implemented on 30 March 2026, delivered on schedule and within budget. A council wide project team ensured that all key workstreams were completed to programme. This included recruitment and training of staff, procurement of vehicles and caddies, district wide caddy distribution, policy development, comprehensive communications activity, and the optimisation of collection routes. Dedicated capital and transitional funding was provided by central government to support the introduction of the service. While the long term revenue allocation was not specified separately, the ongoing costs of the service have been incorporated within the final local government funding settlement, ensuring the service is financially sustainable.</p>

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Emerging Local Plan	To continue development of the emerging local plan towards adoption of an up to date and robust plan that sets the spatial vision for the district and re-establishes a five year housing land supply.	Executive Director (Place)	Collation of the evidence required for the Local Plans submission to Regulation 19 continues. Progress has been made throughout the year, with the Local Plan now entering the final stages of preparation ahead of seeking the permission of Council to publish under Regulation 19 in the summer. The Local Plan will then be submitted for examination to the Planning Inspectorate by December 2026.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Progress the Local Plan	The production of the Local Plan will continue throughout the year, with milestones to include publication of the Regulation 19 phase, which will include engagement with the public.	Group Manager - Planning & Strategic Growth Expected completion: 31/03/26	The ongoing progression of the Local Plan is critical to the Councils Place based approach to development and continues to progress against the backdrop of changing guidance and legislation. As per the revisions to the NPPF in 2024 transport is a critical piece of evidence with specific reference to the new “vision led approach”. This work in being undertaken in partnership with the County Highways team to ensure the Local Plan compliments a strategic vision for growth. The Local Plan will be presented to Council in the summer seeking permission to publish at Regulation 19. Public engagement will then commence.

Growing & Supporting our Economy

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Economic Development Framework	The Economic Development Framework brings together all economic development activities that are occurring within the district and considers how they complement each other to maximise the benefits for our residents, businesses and visitors.	Executive Director (Place)	The Economic Development Framework continues to provide the strategic direction for supporting businesses to succeed in Blaby District. This year has seen the establishment of the Blaby Business Board. The Board is made up of Blaby District businesses who work with the Council to inform how we support local enterprises. This is one of several examples of how we are working with, and listening to, businesses to enable delivery of the EDF objectives.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Delivery of the Economic Development Framework action plan	Working with partners and across BDC teams, the newly created EDF action plan will be delivered. The plan enables delivery across the five thematic areas of the EDF, drawing upon the expertise and skills of both private and public sector bodies to ensure objectives are achieved.	Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects Expected completion: 31/03/26	The Economic Development Framework has demonstrated strong overall delivery in 2025–26. Delivery has included providing support to help small and medium sized businesses enabling them to secure more than £365,000 in grants and business loans. Through the EDF Blaby District Council have supported the creation of 70 new local jobs, with a further 60 in the pipeline. A total of 59 tailored business action plans were produced through direct one to one support. Delivery of the EDF has helped 15 new businesses start up, enabled over £200,000 of apprenticeship levy transfers to deliver 14 new Police apprenticeships, and supported young people through skills and employment programmes. We have also brought businesses and residents together through a range of events, including the business breakfasts, with more than 500 people attending over the course of the year. This continued focus on supporting businesses and institutions in Blaby to grow will continue in 2026/27.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Tourism Growth Plan</p>	<p>The Tourism Growth Plan for Blaby District outlines the ambition, objectives and priorities for managing, developing and promoting tourism in the district. The plan has been developed by the Blaby District Tourism Partnership. The plan's purpose is to focus efforts by the Council, its partners and tourism businesses on the actions which are likely to have the most benefit for the visitor economy of Blaby District.</p>	<p>Executive Director (Place)</p>	<p>Enabled by the Blaby Tourism Partnership, the Tourism Growth Plan continues to positively impact the district. Year on year growth in visitor numbers to the district and increasing financial value for destinations in the district, have been driven by the Partnership approach to tourism. This year the plan helped deliver new initiatives such as the district's participation in the Leicester Comedy Festival. The Tourism Growth Plan will continue to shape the partnership led approach to tourism growth over the coming years.</p>

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Delivery of the Tourism Growth Plan action plan, in conjunction with the Tourism Partnership.</p>	<p>The newly created Blaby Tourism Growth Plan will be delivered throughout the year. The plan will bring together partners from across the district to maximise the opportunities for growth in visitor numbers and increase the overall economic impact of tourism.</p>	<p>Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects</p> <p>Expected completion: 31/03/26</p>	<p>The Tourism service has delivered strong outcomes focused on economic growth, partnership working and increased visitor engagement. The Tourism Growth Plan was successfully launched in March 2025, supported by an active Tourism Partnership now comprising 72 local partners and aligned with the wider Economic Development Framework. The district has seen measurable growth over recent years, with the latest data showing visitor spend rising to over £231 million and more than 3.1 million visits recorded in the district.</p> <p>Marketing and promotion activity has performed strongly, with Visit Blaby achieving a 50% increase in website traffic over the summer period and high levels of engagement with events content. Key campaigns delivered in partnership with Visit Leicester, including promotion of the Victory Show, generated significant footfall and online reach.</p>

Keeping You Safe & Healthy

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Active Travel Strategy	This Strategy will set out plans for enabling further active travel in the district.	Executive Director (Place)	Active Travel remains a key priority for the district. The recent launch of new cycle routes, to encourage residents and visitors to get active using safe routes, is a great example of this. Work will continue into next year to shape the design of active travel infrastructure and to create more opportunities for people to be active by cycling or walking across the district

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Improvement of Infrastructure	The key focus for this year is working with partners to identify and apply for funding opportunities to improve active travel infrastructure across the district.	Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects Expected completion: 31/03/26	We have continued to play a key and valued role as a partner in the Lubbethorpe to City Walk and Ride project, supporting the delivery of improved, safe and accessible active travel routes that align with wider health, sustainability and connectivity objectives for both residents and visitors. This partnership approach will continue in 2026/27, enabling remaining sections of the scheme to be delivered.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Community Safety Strategy	The strategy sets out the work that will be undertaken to meet our statutory duties under the Community Safety requirements	Executive Director (Communities)	The objectives laid out in the work plans of the Community Safety Partnership have been delivered

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Delivery of the Community Safety Partnership Action Plan	The key focus for this year is improving the survivors of domestic abuse, tackling serious violence and reducing the intentional self-harm rates.	Group Manager - Environmental Health, Housing & Community Service Expected completion: 31/03/26	The objectives laid out in the work plans of the Community Safety Partnership have been delivered and the 2026/27 Strategy Planning event has taken place, identifying the key actions for addressing the key focus and statutory duties. All male members of SLT became ambassadors for the White Ribbon Campaign and delivered a comprehensive and proactive campaign and awareness programme, across local schools and the Council.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Contaminated Land Strategy	The Contaminated Land Strategy sets out how the authority approaches the management, mitigation and monitoring of contaminated land within the district.	Executive Director (Communities)	Progress has been made against the Contaminated Land Strategy with ongoing monitoring and management as required.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Delivery of Contaminated land initiatives	We will continue to deliver management operations on identified contaminated land sites.	Group Manager - Environmental Health, Housing & Community Service Expected completion: 31/03/26	The work undertaken to monitor and manage the sites, has resulted in the risk levels and levels of intervention needed being reduced and has become business as usual. The team have proactively engaged with all new development sites at an early stage ensuring that safe management and consideration of risk has been proactively considered.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Leisure Provision</p>	<p>Identification of Leisure provision in the district to promote access to sports and fitness opportunities</p>	<p>Executive Director (Place)</p>	<p>The Leisure offer across the district continues to attract people from Blaby District and beyond. As the number of users of Enderby Leisure Centre continues to grow, the recent opening of the centre's extension has been met with enthusiasm from members. The new facilities offer a wide range of weight and fitness equipment, catering for the changing demands of users. This has led to over 4000 additional gym visits between January and March 2026 compared to the same time last year.</p> <p>Options for improving the facilities and usage of the Huncote Leisure Centre continue to be explored with wider community and sport participation being considered. Most of the fields at the rear of the centre have now been opened for the public to access following the closure and safe removal of the BMX track.</p>

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Progress the scoping of the Lubbesthorpe leisure offer</p>	<p>Work with the Developer, Sport England, Football Foundation, Lubbesthorpe Parish Council and any other relevant stakeholders to scope the design for a leisure offer at Lubbesthorpe and to commence the planning arrangements.</p>	<p>Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects</p> <p>Expected completion: 31/03/26</p>	<p>An appraisal was undertaken with specialist consultants to assess and identify viable options for leisure provision, providing a robust foundation for detailed future design. The outcomes of this work have been shared with the developer and partners, with further progress anticipated during 2026/27 as proposals continue to be developed.</p>

Ambitious & Well-Managed Council, Valuing our People

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Local Government</p> <p>Re-organisation and Devolution</p>	<p>This work programme contains the actions required to enable Blaby District Council to be at the heart of the LGR and Devolution Agenda for Leicester and Leicestershire and ensure that our residents and staff are supported, empowered and represented.</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>LGR has been a dominant workstream this year, involving the establishment of different workstreams and leads with our culminating in our final proposal being submitted in November 2025. Work continued from this point with LLR workstreams being established and a collaborative focus on 'no regrets' to prepare for the decision in July 26. We are pleased that we submitted a great proposal, engaged with partners based on a preventative approach recognising the importance of localised provision.</p>

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Submission of LGR Proposal</p>	<p>Develop with Partners the Proposal for Local Government Re-organisation in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Expected completion: 28 November 2025</p>	<p>Our LGR proposal was submitted in November 2025, it was produced in collaboration with all the District Councils in Leicestershire and with Rutland County Council. The engagement with the public was a huge success and shaped the content of the proposal, and there was a high level of engagement and support for the North City South proposal. There is significant strength in the partnership approach and the whole geography begin covered with our submission. We hosted MHCLG representatives earlier in the year talked through our proposal and toured Leicestershire to show them the rural and urban elements as well as our strong economic development offer.</p>

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
External and Internal Communication Strategies	Delivery of External and Internal communication plans to ensure that messages are disseminated in an accurate and timely manner to minimise anxiety and maximise engagement in the LGR and Devolution agenda.	Group Manager - Corporate Services & Monitoring Officer Expected completion: 31 March 2026	The established LGR Communications workstream continues to meet weekly to support the delivery of coordinated internal and external communications and reports to the Chief Executive's Group. At Blaby District Council, this has included the development and delivery of clear, timely messaging to staff, members and residents at key milestones to raise awareness, minimise uncertainty and support engagement. Blaby District Council has led on the public engagement activity, supported the development of the NCS proposal, and cascaded agreed communications through corporate channels. This has included promoting and amplifying the government's consultation on the three proposals for the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland area.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Human Resource Capacity	Providing staff with support, skills and tools to adapt to change and prosper in a new organisation, as well as sustainable recruitment and retention	Group Manager - ICT & Transformation Expected completion: 31 March 2026	Through constructive early engagement with neighbouring authorities, we are laying the foundations for collaboration that will strengthen workforce resilience, capability and value for money in the context of Local Government Reform and Devolution. Our continued focus on recruitment and retention, combined with ongoing review of systems, processes and wider workforce engagement offers, reinforces our commitment to sustaining a diverse, skilled and future-proofed workforce. The decision to invest in additional in-house capacity and specialist expertise across recruitment, retention, learning and organisational development is a clear signal of our ambition and readiness for the journey ahead. Collectively, these actions position the Council well to support our people, respond confidently to change and continue to be one of many great places to work in Blaby District.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Councillor Capacity	Engagement with external partners such as the Planning Advisory Service to equip our Councillors with the knowledge and skills	<p>Group Manager - Corporate Services & Monitoring Officer</p> <p>Expected completion: 31 March 2026</p>	Over the past year the Council has continued to work closely with key sector partners and agencies to support and deliver the training programme approved by the Member Development Steering Group. During this period, a wide range of development opportunities for Members have been delivered, including leadership and finance programmes, chairing skills, wellbeing and mental health training, data and performance management sessions, and residential leadership development, as well as support to help Members prepare for the implications of Local Government Reorganisation.

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Financial Sustainability for Blaby District Council</p>	<p>This work programme contains the actions required to demonstrate the Council's ability to fund its current and future services, including the adequacy of reserves, and the approach to identifying savings to close the forecast budget gap.</p>	<p>Executive Director (S151)</p>	<p>The Final Local Government Settlement announced in February 26 introduced the long awaiting Fair Funding and Business Rate Reset changes. The revision of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy alongside the annual review of the adequacy of reserves, reported to Council in February, ensured that Members were kept apprised of the financial position of the Council.</p>

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy</p>	<p>Revising the MTFS to reflect the Local Government Funding Reform and Business Rate Reset expected. Linking to our key strategies such as transformation and commercialisation, the plan will clearly articulate how to address the budget gap within our budgets and the expected growing demands for our services.</p>	<p>Group Manager – Resources</p> <p>Expected completion: 31 March 2026</p>	<p>The final version of the MTFS was produced following the financial settlement announcing on 9th February and approved at Council on 24th February 2026. The settlement had changed significantly from the initial draft settlement announced on the 18 December 2025 due to MHCLGs change to the approach of treatment relating to Business Rates and Income from the Business Rates Pool. The MTFS covers a 5-year period. Due to increasing demand on Homelessness services and uncertainty around Government funding, the MTFS will be revised during 2026/27 to ensure the MTFS remains accurate and as up to date as possible.</p>

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Transforming Blaby Together</p>	<p>Transforming Blaby Together is our over-arching response to the challenges that we face as a council. This Strategy and it's associated work programme is to enable the authority to adopt a culture of continuous improvement to facilitate opportunities and different ways of working to drive operational effectiveness and build in cost effective efficiencies. This is particularly important as we move into Local Government Reorganisation.</p>	<p>Executive Director (S151)</p>	<p>Transforming Blaby Together continues to be an effective and coherent response to the strategic challenges facing the Council. The initiative is steadily embedding a culture of transformation and continuous improvement, supported by a committed Transformation and Projects Team. Through collaborative working, digital innovation and an explicit focus on more efficient and effective ways of working, the strategy is enabling tangible operational improvements while empowering staff to take ownership of change. As the Council looks ahead to Local Government Reform and Devolution, Transforming Blaby Together provides a strong, adaptable framework through which we can respond proactively, deliver cost-effective efficiencies and ensure the organisation is well positioned to operate successfully in a reconfigured local government landscape.</p>

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Enhance Data Intelligence</p>	<p>Embracement of emerging technologies such as MS Power BI and AI to identify improvements and drive effectiveness.</p>	<p>Group Manager - Corporate Services & Monitoring Officer</p> <p>Expected completion: 31 March 2026</p>	<p>The implementation of Microsoft Power BI within many of our key service areas has significantly improved insight and awareness of our data, allowing us to maintain its quality and improve service delivery. It has also driven efficiency by speeding up data reporting and performance analysis.</p> <p>Additionally, our adoption of Artificial Intelligence has also been progressed, with colleagues now having clear guidance and process to follow to ensure the safe and complaint use of AI. This has allowed us to gain from its huge potential to drive further efficiency by speeding up the completion of manual and laborious tasks and processes, allowing officers to focus on service delivery and enhancement. Because of these accomplishments, this project is now complete.</p>

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Commercial Strategy	Planned activities that sit within the priority action plan contained within our Commercial Strategy.	Executive Director (Place) Executive Director (S151)	Delivery of the Council's Commercial Strategy remains a priority. Maximising the resources and assets of the Council to ensure we can allocate funds to support our residents is important. This is demonstrated by the progression of the sale of land at South Drive and the Council's continued promotion of the Hayes Gardens site, in partnership with Santander.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	Deliver projects funded from year 4 UKSPF allocation.	Executive Director (S151) Expected completion: 31 March 2026	Approval was given by Full Council for the UKSPF to be used towards the Purchase of Temporary Accommodation. 35 properties are currently in the process of being purchased, utilising UKSPF funds as a contribution towards the purchase. Heads of Terms have been agreed, and contracts are currently being drafted.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Progress Strategic Asset management approach	Continue to develop the Hayes Gardens site proposal, in partnership with Santander, seeking its inclusion in the Local Plan. Progress the sale of South Drive in line with Council's decision.	Group Manager - Assets and Major Projects Expected completion: 31 March 2026	During 2025/26, the Council continued to progress its strategic asset management priorities, working closely in partnership with Santander and specialist consultants to further develop the Hayes Gardens site proposal. Evidence has been prepared and submitted to support the site's inclusion as part of the Regulation 19 Local Plan site allocation process, representing a key milestone in promoting the site for future development. Confirmation on whether Hayes Gardens has been allocated within the Local Plan is expected in summer 2026. Progress has also continued to advance the sale of South Drive in line with the Council's approved decision.

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
Disposal of Assets	Continue with programme to sell or transfer land in line with the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.	<p>Group Manager - Neighbourhood Services</p> <p>Expected completion: 31 March 2026</p>	<p>Progress has continued with the programme of land disposals supporting the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy and the objectives of long-term sustainability and local stewardship. Following Council approval, land at Glen Hills Nature Area, Jubilee Park, Southey Close Recreation Ground, High Street Whetstone, and Narborough Park has progressed through the statutory disposal process, with no objections or adverse representations received. During the year, alternative legal representation was appointed to ensure effective progression of the transactions. All heads of terms and pretransfer requirements have been agreed with the respective Parish Councils, and the disposals are now at the final conveyancing stage, with solicitors on both sides progressing completion. Subject to standard legal formalities, the transfers are expected to conclude shortly, supporting local ownership, community stewardship, and delivery of the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.</p>

Objective	Description	Lead Officer	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>ICT Service Provision Improvement</p>	<p>To ensure that ICT provision for Blaby District Council is robust, reliable and the infrastructure is fit for purpose. In addition, the Blaby ICT provision should support Blaby to realise future digital ambitions.</p>	<p>Executive Director (S151)</p>	<p>BDC has made significant successful progress against our corporate objective to ensure the ICT provision at Blaby District Council is robust, reliable and fit for purpose, while also enabling our future digital ambitions. The successful transition to an in-house ICT service marks a critical milestone, providing the Council with the assurance, influence and strategic control required to underpin transformation and service modernisation. Despite the challenges inherent in establishing a new service, the dedication and professionalism of the in-house team have been instrumental in moving the organisation from initial stabilisation toward a sustainable steady state. This progress gives confidence that ICT will continue to evolve as a resilient, secure and enabling function—supporting the delivery of the Blaby District Plan, accelerating digital transformation, and positioning the Council strongly for the opportunities and demands of future change, including Local Government Reform and Devolution.</p>

Priority Project/s	Description	Lead Officer / Expected Completion	Closing Summary of Progress for 2025/26
<p>Ensure Our ICT Provision Meets the Needs of the Business</p>	<p>Continue the transition to an in-house service and identify and implement service improvements</p>	<p>Group Manager - ICT & Transformation</p> <p>Expected completion: 31 March 2026</p>	<p>Following the successful transition to an in-house ICT service on 1st July 2025 the Council entered a critical period of stabilisation and continuous improvement. A clear steady-state action plan is in place, with progress to date against that providing confidence that the foundations have been firmly established to move BDC from transition to a mature, resilient service. As delivery continues, the focus on embedding robust operating practices and implementing targeted service improvements will ensure the in-house ICT function continues to strengthen, supporting organisational performance, digital ambition and the Council's wider Transforming Blaby Together initiative.</p>