



**How can you get
more involved in
your local area?**

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This key gives an indication of both the amount of time and influence you will have when getting involved with the schemes below:



Direct decision making and scrutinising council services



Involvement in shaping and developing council services



Accessing information and feeding back on services



A few hours each month



Less than 2 hours per month



No longer than half an hour per month

Advice Link

Advice Link brings together local organisations to promote the availability of local advice services and take up of benefits and services. Advice Link is also available to all Blackpool residents as a signposting service, pointing people in the right direction for advice specific to their needs as well as providing information about benefit entitlements. If you would like to sign up for the Advice Link newsletter to hear about all the most up to date information get in touch via advicelink@blackpool.gov.uk or ring 01253 476843.

Allotment Federations



Blackpool allotments give local residents the chance to grow their own fresh vegetables, fruit and flowers at a fraction of shop prices, as well as reaping the additional rewards of keeping fit, meeting new people, exchanging gardening tips and knowledge and just being out in the fresh air! Each site has a representative and his/her role is to liaise between the Council and plot holders. In addition to the site representative plot holders, if they wish, can join the Allotment Association in order to gain further help, advice or support.

The Allotment Federation can be contacted on 01253 764840 or via blackpoolfederation@gmail.com.

Allotments:

- Layton – *Beckway, Blackpool*
- David Slack – *Newton Drive East, Blackpool*
- Lawson Road – *Stanley Park Area, Blackpool*
- Oxford – *Whitegate Drive, Blackpool*
- Bridges Farm – *Hawes Side Lane, Marton*
- Cherry Tree – *Cherry Tree Road, Blackpool*
- Acre Gate – *off Highfield Road, Blackpool*
- Scotswood – *South Shore, Blackpool*

Area Forums

The area forums are designed to give the residents of Blackpool a regular platform to air their views and opinions as well as raise important local issues. A number of council officers and councillors are present at each meeting, as well as information stalls from a range of council services and local organisations. The forums are open to everyone. If you would like to find out more about your next area forum contact Customer First on 01253 477477 or email customer.first@blackpool.gov.uk

There are 7 area forums in Blackpool comprising of 2 or 3 wards in each:

Cherry Tree

Clifton, Hawes Side, Marton

Beacon

Warbreck, Greenlands, Ingthorpe

Sandhurst

Norbreck, Bisham, Anchorsholme

Parklands

Layton and Park

Revoe

Bloomfield, Waterloo

South Shore

Highfield, Squires Gate, Stanley

Gateway

Talbot, Bloomfield, Brunswick, Claremont.

Attend PACT meetings

PACT stands for 'Police and Communities Together', an excellent initiative providing you with the opportunity to meet your Community Beat Manager to express your policing concerns in the area where you live. A PACT Panel will decide which 3 issues raised will be dealt with as a priority for the following month. PACT meetings occur on a monthly basis and are organised by your Community Beat Manager. If you would like to meet your Community Beat Manager, you could attend a monthly PACT Meeting. For more information contact the Western Division Police on 01253 293933.

For information on Disability PACT meetings contact Elann Smith at Western Division on 01253 607261.

Attend your Councillors' surgery

Each of the 21 wards in Blackpool has 2 Councillors, who represent each ward. These Councillors represent different political parties. Currently, Blackpool

mainly consists of Labour, Conservative and Liberal Democrat.

Many local councillors hold advice surgeries for people in their ward area who want to obtain information or advice.

Here is a directory of contacts for each Blackpool Ward: (Colour coded relating to Current Political Party they represent - **Labour/Conservative/Liberal Democrat**.)

Anchorsholme

- Cllr Tony Williams 01253 867055
- Cllr Paul Galley 01253 826679

Bispham

- Cllr Don Clapham 01253 593858
- Cllr Henry Mitchell 01253 827099

Bloomfield

- Cllr Graham Cain 07843 902572
- Cllr John Jones 07981 495307

Brunswick

- Cllr Gary Coleman 01253 764080
- Cllr Simon Blackburn 01253 760877

Claremont

- Cllr Ivan Taylor 01253 392682
- Cllr Mrs Sylvia Taylor 01253 392682

Clifton

- Cllr Joan Greenhalgh 01253 408771
- Cllr Adrian Hutton 01253 767636

Greenlands

- Cllr Chris Ryan 01253 593549
- Cllr Christine Wright 07779 817271

Hawes Side

- Cllr Norman Hardy 01253 692528
- Cllr Val Haynes 01253 353769

Highfield

- Cllr Mrs Lilly Henderson MBE
01253 403964
- Cllr Chris Maughan 07814 658920

Ingthorpe

- Cllr Kath Rowson 01253 356866
- Cllr Amy Cross 07722 360478

Layton

- Cllr Martin Mitchell 01253 753827
- Cllr John Boughton 079700 94589

Marton

- Cllr Debbie Coleman 01253 764080
- Cllr Jim Elmes 01253 315152

Norbreck

- Cllr Maxine Callow 01253 761116
- Cllr Peter Callow 01253 761116

Park

- Cllr Brian Doherty 01253 304087
- Cllr Gillian Campbell 07772 756780

Squires Gate

- Cllr Douglas Green 01253 347022
- Cllr Christian Cox 07880 653873

Stanley

- Cllr Peter Evans 01253 472937
- Cllr Andrew Stansfield 01253 838973

Talbot

- Cllr Mark Smith 01253 530201
- Cllr Sarah Riding 07887 867589

Tyldesley

- Cllr Eddie Collett 01253 344486
- Cllr Allan Matthews 01253 691911

Victoria

- Cllr Fred Jackson 01253 313176
- Cllr David Owen 01253 399311

Warbreck

- Cllr Tony Brown 01253 353771
- Cllr Joyce Delves 01253 508403

Waterloo

- Cllr Tony Lee 01253 400961
- Cllr David O'Hara 07880 767650

See centre spread for ward map.

Being on the electoral register



To be able to vote in elections you need to be included on the Council's electoral register. The Electoral Register is a record of everyone who lives within a borough and is eligible to vote. To keep our records as up to date as possible we send registration forms out to every property in the autumn of each year. The names of all citizens who are 18 years old or over, British, Commonwealth, Irish and European Union **MUST** be included on the form.

In order to be able to vote you must be:

- 18 years or older
- a British, Commonwealth, Irish or EU citizen and
- living in the Blackpool Borough.

Register either by completing the registration form delivered to your household each autumn, or requesting a form by contacting Electoral Services on 01253 477477. Alternatively you can visit Queen Street Central Library, Corporation Street Customer First Reception for a copy of the Registration Form.

Blackpool Community Sports Council



The council consists of representatives from sports clubs, associations and leagues in Blackpool. They consider issues that affect the voluntary sector in relation to sport and physical activity, and are also responsible for organising annual sports awards as well as awarding grant aid to locally based elite athletes. You can be nominated onto the council through your local sports club, association or league. The council meets four times a year. Ring Nigel Hough on 01253 347357 for more information.

Blackpool's Young People Council



Blackpool Young Peoples Council (BYPC) provides a platform for young people to meet, discuss their opinions about their town and make real change in the services within Blackpool. The council meets with decision

makers to represent the views of young people and help in the design and development of youth services. Members are aged 11-19 and all young people within this age group either living or educated in Blackpool are welcome to come and share their views and influence life in Blackpool. Find out more about getting involved with the BYPC via:

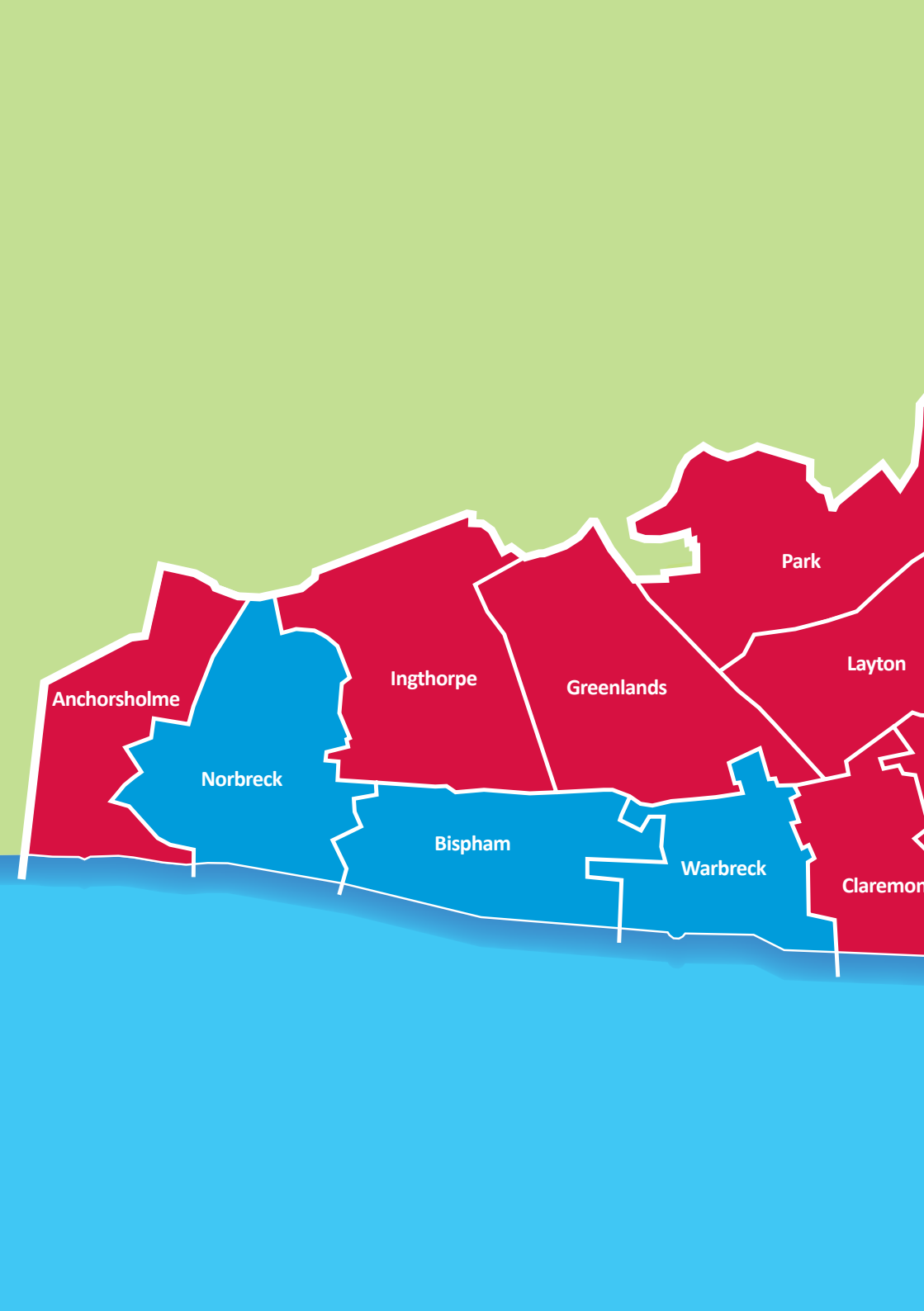
W: www.rubothered.co.uk

E: rubothered@blackpool.gov.uk

T: 01253 477401

Civic Trust

Blackpool Civic Trust is a grass-roots member of the National Civic Voice and is also part of the North West Association of Civic Trusts and the Lancashire Federation of Civic Societies. The trust is involved in a wide range of projects and events throughout the year including looking after listed buildings and conservation areas, as well as keeping Blackpool's heritage alive with numerous visits to places of interest and has a wide variety of talks covering the history and future development of Blackpool walks and talks in the local area. If you would like to get involved with the work of the civic Trust you can email bct2006-civic@yahoo.co.uk or ring Jean Mildren on 01253 347849.



Anchorsholme

Norbreck

Ingthorpe

Bispham

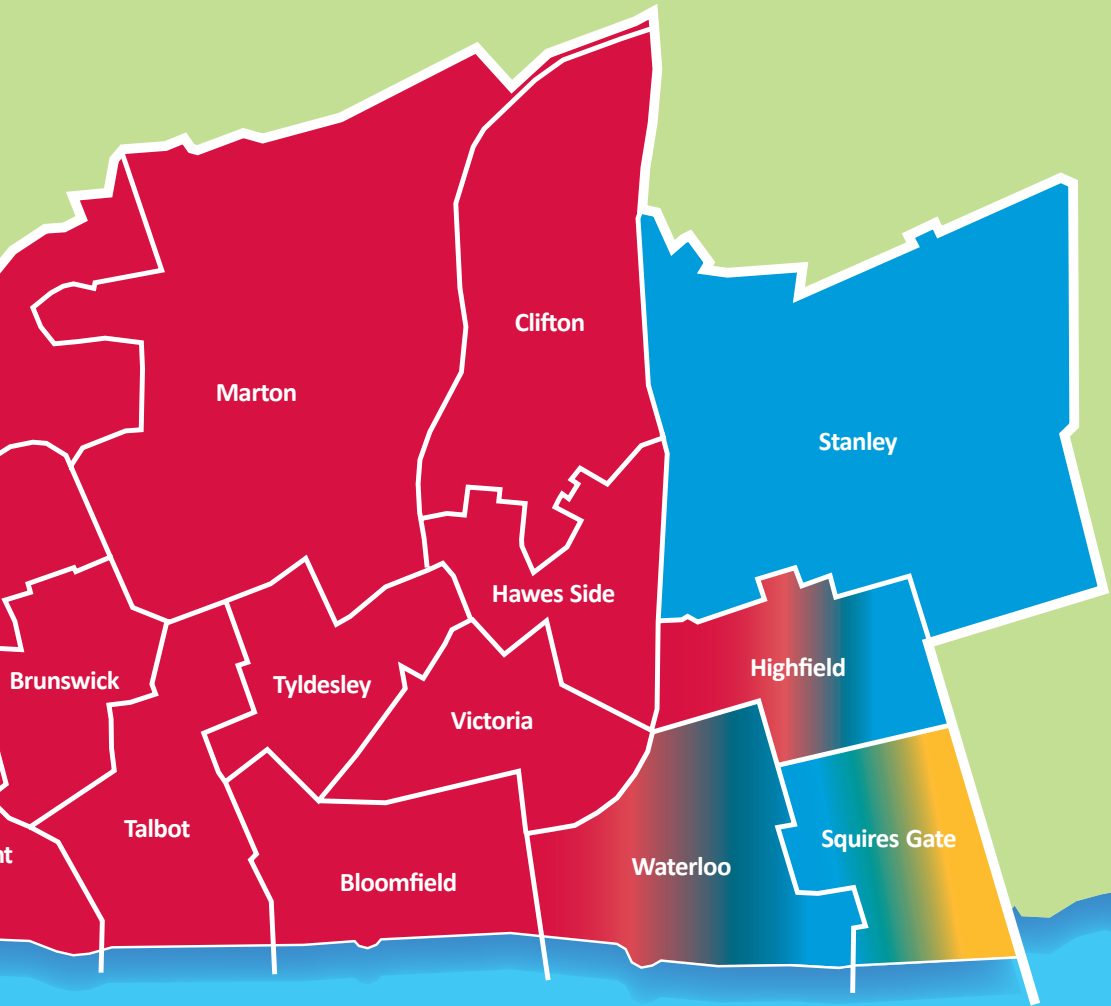
Greenlands

Warbreck

Park

Layton

Claremont



Equality Forums

There are a number of different forums and panels which you can get involved in. These forums challenge existing council services, make suggestions and decisions about new or improving services and help to organise events in the local area.

- Equalities Forum
- Faith Forum
- LGBT Forum
- Race Equality Forum

If you would like to join one of the following forums please call Customer First on 01253 477477.

Fairness Commission



Blackpool Fairness Commission was launched in May 2012 in response to the growing number of Fairness Commission's which have been developed nationally. The Commission aims to look at issues surrounding barriers to fairness in the town and devise ways to overcome these and bring about a greater feeling of cohesion, fairness and positivity in the town. If you work or volunteer for a local organisation you can apply to be a Commissioner by emailing fairness@blackpool.gov.uk if you would like to follow the progress of the Commission you can keep in touch via the following:

W: www.blackpool.gov.uk/fairness

f www.facebook.com/blackpoolfairness

t [Bpool_Fairness](https://twitter.com/Bpool_Fairness)

Friends of parks

Blackpool has a number of parks and green open spaces, all of which are open to the public. There are a number of different friends groups that you can join where you can get involved with all sorts of different activities such as helping to organise social and wildlife events, maintain the flower beds and green spaces, and help to make decisions about the local area. To find out how you can join one of the parks groups call Customer First on 01253 477477.

Friends groups:

- Cavendish Road Recreation Ground
- Devonshire Rock Gardens
- East Pines Park
- Mossom Field
- Highfield Park
- Kinncraig Lake
- Kingscote Park
- Layton Cemetery
- Louie Horrocks Recreation Ground
- Marton Burial Ground
- Marton Mere Local Nature Reserve
- SANDS Section, Carleton Cemetery
- Stanley Park & Salisbury Woodland
- Watson Road Park

Join a local political party or start a new one



A political party is a group of people who share the same ideas about the way the country should be governed. Each party has their own policies, beliefs, aims and target audience to gain votes towards their political campaigns.

In Blackpool, the current political make-up of the Council is:

- Labour – 27 councillors
- Conservative – 14 councillors
- Liberal Democrat - 1 councillor

For information including links to political party websites and guidance on registering political parties can be obtained from the Electoral Commission (a national independent body) on 020 7271 0616 or email pef@electoralcommission.org.uk.

Join or start a lobby group



Lobbying (also lobby) is the act of attempting to influence decisions made by officials in the government, most often legislators or members of regulatory agencies. Lobby groups may concentrate their efforts on the legislatures, where laws are created, but may also use the judicial branch to advance their causes.

In Blackpool there is a registered charity, CVS, which works with Communities, Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector organisations and Charities across Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde.

Here is a link to a directory of local projects within Blackpool and links on how you can join and get involved: www.cvsbwf.org/directory.

To find information on setting up a lobby group/project in your local area, please visit the VCFS Outreach Development Project at www.cvsbwf.org/funding/.

Join or start a tenants or residents association



Tenant and Resident Associations are local groups made up of council tenants and residents living in an area. They work in partnership with Blackpool Coastal Housing and other agencies to help develop and improve the housing services you receive. They are an opportunity to improve your local environment, have your say in the community and with Blackpool Coastal Housing.

Areas of associations (and contact information):

- **Bostonway Residents Association** - Contact Sandy at the Customer Involvement Team on 01253 477911.
- **Ingthorpe North Tenants and Residents Association** - Contact Kath Rowson on 01253 356866.

- **Grange Park Residents Association**
- Contact Suzanne at the Customer Involvement Team on 01253 477911.
- **Munster Avenue Residents Association** - Contact Jen at the Customer Involvement Team on 01253 477911.
- **Melbourne, Brisbane and Hobart (Mbh) Residents Association** - Contact Sandy at the Customer Involvement Team on 01253 477911.
- **Molyneux Drive Friends and Neighbours** - Contact Sandy at the Customer Involvement Team on 01253 477911.

Live in an area where there is no Tenants and Residents Association? Why not think about getting together with your neighbours to form a group? Contact the Blackpool Coastal Housing Customer Involvement Team on 01253 477911 or email: customerinvolvement@bch.co.uk for more information.

Public speaking at a Council/Executive/Scrutiny Committee/Planning Committee meeting



Council meetings are held five times a year and are chaired by the Mayor. Members of the public can apply to speak at Council meetings. If your request is accepted you will be given not less than three clear working days' notice before the meeting. Each member of the public requesting to speak will be asked to speak for no longer than five minutes.

Members of the public can apply to speak on planning applications that go before the Council's Planning Committee. This Committee meets every three weeks on a Monday at 5.00pm. For more information on Planning Committee meetings please telephone 01253 477153 or e-mail: democracy@blackpool.gov.uk

For information on applying, or additional information about these meetings, please contact a Democratic Services Adviser on (01253) 477034.

School Governors / Parent-Teacher Association



Are you interested in shaping a better education for the children of Blackpool?

You can get a great deal of personal satisfaction from becoming a School Governor with the knowledge that you have played a part in improving children's education and given support to the school's staff.

Being a school governor also gives you an opportunity to:

- develop new skills and to practise existing ones, such as chairing meetings.
- help other members of the team, perhaps because they are not used to Committee work or need help in learning about the school and about School Governance.

Social media - Facebook and Twitter

You can easily keep up to date with news relating to the council or the town in general by following us on our social media sites. Blackpool Council updates Twitter and Facebook a number of times a day, all the latest news, advice and information is posted on here, so it's a quick way to find out what's happening in your town.

You can also send us your comments and questions via these sites and we will do our best to find out the answers to your questions and give you a speedy reply.

 @bpool_fairness

 @bpoolcouncil

 www.facebook.com/blackpoolfairness

 www.facebook.com/bpoolcouncil

Stand as a Councillor



Blackpool Council comprises 42 elected members, otherwise called 'councillors'. There are two councillors for each of the 21 wards, serving for a period of four years. Councillors can represent a political party or stand independently. Ward councillors represent the local community and can raise issues affecting the area in which they serve ranging from faulty street lights to campaigns for a new community centre. They serve on the Council and its committees and can also act as representative for the Council on other bodies.

For information on becoming a local councillor please visit www.beacouncillor.org.uk.

Take part in consultation exercises

Blackpool Council consults with its residents and service users through regular surveys. Surveys play an important role in helping the council to understand what people think about local services - what's working and what isn't. Surveys also provide valuable data about how local services are seen to change over time, including people's preferences and expectations.

To participate in a survey and let your voice be heard, visit the Blackpool Council news page, where you will see links to any surveys we are collecting responses from.

The Blackpool Council news page can be found by inputting this URL into your internet browser: www.blackpool.gov.uk/news.

Volunteer Centre

Interested in Volunteering but not sure what it might involve? Do you work with volunteers and would like to know more about supporting and mentoring?

Blackpool's Volunteer Centre provides support, training and opportunities for all Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde residents who would like to get involved with helping a range of good causes.

To find out more ring Jane on 01253 301004 or email vcenquiries@yahoo.co.uk

To ensure our services are accessible to all, documents prepared by Blackpool Council are available in large print, Braille, on audio-cassette or computer disk upon request.

We can also provide help for British Sign Language users and provide information in other languages. Please ask for details or telephone 477117.

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Contact us

Customer First

Town Hall,
Blackpool, FY1 1AD

T: (01253) 477477

E: customer.first@blackpool.gov.uk

W: www.blackpool.gov.uk

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