

**Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Executive Committee held
virtually on 25th September 2026 at 5pm.**

Members present:

Pat Hastings, Preston Area
Committee

Alan Neal, Burnley and Pendle Area
Committee

Phil Orme, Wyre Area Committee

Andrew Bell, Burnley and Pendle
Area Committee

Darren Cranshaw, Chorley Area
Committee

Mary Thomas, Burnley and Pendle
Area Committee

Maggy Howells, Ribble Valley Area
Committee

Jacqueline Hampson, Ribble Valley Area
Committee

Glyn Stead, Fylde Area Committee

Luke Trevaskis, Lancaster Area Committee

Howard Thomas, Burnley and Pendle Area
Committee

Mark Jinkinson, Burnley and Pendle Area
Committee

Peter Collins, Fylde Area Committee

Officers Present:

Debra Platt, Chief Officer

Jessica Dibble, Secretary

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed members. The meeting proceeded once the required quorum of ten voting members was present. The Chair explained that the Committee was considering a recommendation for the AGM; the membership would decide whether to adopt the proposed fees.

Apologies were received from:

John Gordon, West Lancashire Area Committee

John Price, Bolton Area Committee

Gordon Smith, Fylde Area Committee

Eunice Houghton, South Ribble Area Committee

Stephen Houghton, Ribble Valley Area Committee

Jan Finch, Wyre Area Committee

A correction was requested to the description of this meeting in the invitation and minutes: it was an extraordinary meeting of the LALC Executive Committee,

rather than an extraordinary general meeting of the Association. The Secretary agreed to use the correct description when issuing the minutes.

2. Draft minutes of the Finance and Management Meeting

Members noted the draft minutes of the Finance and Management Committee meeting of 21st September 2026.

3. Membership fees for 2027/2028

The Chief Officer presented the updated report and the Finance and Management Committee recommendation. The proposal retained the existing method of allocating LALC subscriptions by council size, with a £52 base fee and a £70,000 LALC membership income budget for 2027 to 2028. The report also showed illustrative fees including the separate NALC and area secretary elements, and a draft operating budget.

Members discussed the effect on councils of different sizes, the size of a single Increase after nine years without a rise in the LALC fee, and the need to explain the historical position openly. The Chief Officer explained that a simple per-electoral method had been considered by Finance and Management but would place a markedly greater burden on some larger councils. Individual estimates could be supplied on request, subject to changes in electorate figures.

4. To agree the wording of the motion and the pitch

Members considered the draft explanation for councils. Members asked for a concise, factual account of the fee calculation, the services currently provided, the challenges experienced, and what additional income would support. Discussion included staffing capacity, project delivery, future sector changes, training provision and access to face-to-face training. The Chief Officer said the draft would be revised with input from Finance and Management and Gordon before circulation. Members requested an opportunity for representative input and sight of the final supporting material.

The Chair proposed that the following motion be put to the AGM:

“That the LALC membership budget for 2027/2028 be set at £70,000, with a base membership fee of £52.00”

The motion was carried for submission to the AGM. The spoken tally appears to be eight in favour and four against. The AGM will determine the fee proposal.

5 . Close

The Chair stated that the next scheduled Executive Committee meeting was Saturday 12 December 2026, following the AGM on 14 November. An additional meeting could be arranged if needed. The meeting then closed at 17:44

Minutes drafted by: Jessica Dibble
LALC Secretary
26/09/2026