

Lancashire County Council

Cabinet

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 11th June, 2020 at 2.00 pm in Virtual Meeting - Skype

Present:

County Councillor Geoff Driver CBE

Leader of the Council
(in the Chair)

Cabinet Members

County Councillor Keith Iddon
County Councillor Albert Atkinson
County Councillor Michael Green
County Councillor Phillippa Williamson
County Councillor Peter Buckley
County Councillor Graham Gooch
County Councillor Shaun Turner

County Councillors Azhar Ali and John Fillis were also in attendance under the provisions of Standing Order No. C14(2).

The Leader of the Council paid tribute to Ricky Bonsato, a care worker for the council, who lost his life to Covid-19, and to other county council colleagues who had sadly died with the virus. Cabinet held a minute's silence in their memory.

1. Apologies for Absence

None.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

County Councillor Michael Green declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 6 – Promoting the Lancashire Economic Offer at MIPIM - as a Director of Marketing Lancashire.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 May 2020

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Proposed Apportionment of Additional Capital Funding for Highway Maintenance

Cabinet considered a report requesting approval of the proposed apportionment of the additional £5 million of capital funding approved by Full Council on 13 February 2020 for highway maintenance.

In considering the report, Cabinet noted that the figure in the report relating to non-urgent work should read £2,825,049, not £3,363,192 as stated in the papers.

Resolved: That:

- i. the proposed apportionment of the additional £5 million of capital funding approved by Full Council on 13th February 2020 for highway maintenance be approved.
- ii. the detailed programmes of work relating to the Footways, ABC and Urban unclassified programmes be approved, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport and that those schemes next in priority that did not make the 'draw the line' for inclusion in the 2020/21 Capital Programme that are deliverable in light of the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions be included.

5. Process for Commissioning a New School, Including Potential New Primary School for Clitheroe

Cabinet considered a report on the process and decision making arrangements for commissioning a new school, including an update to the assessment framework, (last agreed by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools in September 2014) taking into account the most recent guidance from the Department for Education.

The report also sought permission to commence the consultation process with regard to the commissioning of a new primary school on the Higher Standen Farm site in Clitheroe.

Resolved: That:

- i. the information contained within the report and appendices be noted.
- ii. the use of the updated Department for Education 'Establishing a New School: Free School Presumption' guidance and associated framework be approved.
- iii. the undertaking of a consultation on the establishment of a new primary school in Clitheroe be approved, in accordance with the process and framework contained within this report.

6. Promoting the Lancashire Economic Offer at MIPIM

Cabinet received a report setting out the proposed approach to future involvement with the MIPIM property and investment event, including commissioning Marketing Lancashire to deliver the strategy on behalf of Lancashire at MIPIM going forward, and the intention to secure private sector funding and support.

Resolved: That:

- i. the contents of the report be noted.
- ii. the funding proposals as set out be approved
- iii. Marketing Lancashire be commissioned to work with the Executive Director of Growth, Environment, Transport and Community Services to deliver the Lancashire at MIPIM event going forward.

7. Archive Service Accreditation: Service Policies

Cabinet received a report requesting approval of the key policy documents required for Lancashire Archives to re-apply for Archive Service Accreditation, the standard held by Lancashire Archives since 2014.

Resolved: That the key policy documents necessary to retain the Archive Service Accreditation standard, as set out in the report, be approved.

8. United Kingdom Resettlement Scheme

Cabinet considered a report on Lancashire's participation in the Government's refugee resettlement programme, the United Kingdom Resettlement Scheme. This scheme was designed to resettle refugees from many different nationalities and consolidate a number of existing programmes. It was noted that Lancashire County Council is already working with other local authorities in Lancashire to deliver the Syrian Resettlement Programme and the Vulnerable Children Resettlement Scheme, through which over 600 refugees had been resettled in Lancashire in the past four years.

Resolved: That:

- i. The county council continues in its role of lead authority, and coordinates the delivery of the United Kingdom Resettlement Scheme in Lancashire.
- ii. The county council continues to work with the Home Office and regional partners in order to seek additional pledges from local authorities, so Lancashire can resettle a proportionate number of refugees within the Government's overall commitment to refugee resettlement.
- iii. The county council continues to commission projects and services, using central Government funding, that aim to develop a sustainable infrastructure for refugee integration into our communities.

9. Urgent Decisions taken by the Leader of the County Council and the relevant Cabinet Member(s)

There were no urgent decisions.

10. Urgent Business

There were two items of urgent business.

10(a) Combined Authority for Lancashire with an Elected Mayor

This decision was taken as an item of urgent business to enable Cabinet to make a recommendation to Full council and establish the council's position as soon as possible in order to proactively engage with other Lancashire Councils and government.

Cabinet received a report setting out the current position on devolution, combined authorities and options for future joint working with the other Lancashire local authorities, in order to identify a preferred option for consideration by Full Council.

Resolved: That

- i. the principle of a Combined Authority and Elected Mayor for Lancashire be supported
- ii. Full Council be asked to support this option.

10(b) Lancashire Outbreak Control Plan

This decision was taken as an item of urgent business to ensure Lancashire was able to put in place further appropriate outbreak control measures as soon as possible.

Cabinet received a report setting out proposals for the development of a robust and effective Outbreak Control Plan, including how it will be developed with the involvement of partners and stakeholders, and the structures which must be in place to ensure its effectiveness.

Cabinet supported the proposal that arrangements for the creation of the Local Outbreak Engagement Board would be the responsibility of the Health and Wellbeing Board, and stressed the importance of the involvement of district council representation in whatever final arrangements the Health and Wellbeing Board agreed.

Resolved: That:

- i. the principles set out in the report for the development of the Lancashire Outbreak Control Plan be approved
- ii. the Director of Public Health be authorised to approve the final plan, in consultation with the Director of Corporate Services, the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing
- iii. expenditure required under the plan be approved by the relevant officers in accordance with the delegation provided by the Leader of the Council in relation to urgent Covid-19 related matters, following consultation with the Leader of the Council;
- iv. the requirement for a Local Outbreak Engagement Board be noted, and support given to the proposal that the Health and Wellbeing Board be empowered to make the necessary arrangements.
- v. the decision be implemented immediately for the purposes of Standing Order C29 as any delay could adversely affect the execution of the county council's responsibilities.

11. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of Cabinet would be held at 2pm on Thursday 9 July 2020 as a virtual meeting.

12. Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

Cabinet noted the Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private and that no representations had been received.

13. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the

grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as indicated against the heading to the item.

14. Former Skelmersdale College (Westbank Campus)/Skelmersdale Rail Link

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Cabinet considered a report on the former Skelmersdale College (Westbank Campus) site and the Skelmersdale Rail Link. In considering the report, Cabinet noted a change to the financial allocation required.

Resolved: That the recommendation set out in the report, as amended, be approved.

15. A New Fleet Management System for Fleet Services

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Cabinet considered a report on a new Fleet Management System for Fleet Services.

Resolved: That the recommendation set out in the report be approved.

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and
Director of Resources

County Hall
Preston