

# Lancashire County Council

## Cabinet

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 19th January, 2017 at 2.00 pm in Cabinet Room 'B' - The Diamond Jubilee Room, County Hall, Preston**

### Present:

County Councillor Jennifer Mein

Leader of the Council  
(in the Chair)

### Cabinet Members

County Councillor Azhar Ali

County Councillor David Borrow

County Councillor John Fillis

County Councillor Marcus Johnstone

County Councillor Tony Martin

County Councillor Matthew Tomlinson

County Councillors Albert Atkinson and Bill Winlow were also in attendance under the provisions of Standing Order No. 19(4).

### 1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from County Councillor Geoff Driver CBE

### 2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

There were no interests declared

### 3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 December 2016**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair

### 4. **Executive Scrutiny Committee - Report of the Chair**

County Councillor Bill Winlow, Chair of the Executive Scrutiny Committee, reported that the recommendations set out in the reports for consideration by Cabinet had been confirmed with no amendments or additional recommendations

### 5. **The Annual Audit Letter for Lancashire County Council - Year Ended 31 March 2016**

Karen Murray, Director, Grant Thornton, presented a report setting out the external auditor's Annual Audit Letter for Lancashire County Council for the year ended 31 March 2016. The report presented the audit of the Council's accounts, those of the Pension Fund,

and also provided a Value for Money conclusion. It was noted that the report in full would be considered by the Audit and Governance Committee on 30 January, although it represented a summary of issues and reports already considered by that committee.

**Resolved:** That the key messages set out in the Annual Audit Letter for Lancashire County Council for the year ended 31 March 2016 be noted

## **6. Money Matters - The Financial Strategy**

Cabinet received a report providing an update of the forecast outturn Financial Position for 2016/17 on revenue and capital, the County Council's updated Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for the period 2017/18 to 2020/21, reflecting the provisional settlement for 2017/18, and the position with regard to application of current reserves.

The continuing unprecedented financial challenge facing local authorities was noted, with attention of the Cabinet being drawn to the proposal being made by Surrey County Council for a 15% council tax increase.

**Resolved:** That

- i. the current forecast underspend of £15.298m on the revenue budget in 2016/17 be noted
- ii. the revised funding gap of £153.389m covering the period 2017/18 to 2020/21 as set out in the revised financial outlook forecast for the Council be noted.
- iii. the additional budget adjustments for 2017/18, and following years' increases, included in the revised MTFS following the financial settlement, be approved.
- iv. Cabinet recommend to Full Council on 9th February 2017 the Band D Council Tax for 2017/18 reflecting a 3.99% increase including 2% to be used for social care as per the new flexibilities.
- v. Note the contents of the County Council's Reserves position at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 be noted
- vi. the specific capital programme as presented be approved
- vii. the increase in prudential borrowing identified within the Capital Programme report be approved.
- viii. the advice of the Director of Financial Resources in relation to the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves be noted.

## **7. Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000: Annual Report to Cabinet**

Cabinet received a report presenting an updated Regulation of Investigatory Powers 2000 (RIPA) corporate policy for consideration. The report also requested Cabinet to consider related policies in relation to non RIPA surveillance; the use of social media and the internet in investigations; and a new draft CCTV Policy incorporating the codes of practice issued by the Surveillance camera Commissioner and the Information Commissioner.

**Resolved:** That

- i. the updated corporate policy on RIPA be approved with immediate effect
- ii. the updated corporate policies on:
  - a. Non-RIPA surveillance
  - b. The use of Social Media and the Internet in investigations

- c. Use of CCTV  
be approved with immediate effect
- iii. the role of CCTV Manager be undertaken by the Head of Service, Legal and Democratic Services

**8. Report of Key Decisions taken by the Leader of the County Council, the Deputy Leader of the County Council and Cabinet Members**

**Resolved:** That the report of the Key Decisions taken by the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members be noted

**9. Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Cabinet would take place at 2pm on Thursday 9 March 2017 at County Hall, Preston

Jo Turton  
Chief Executive

County Hall  
Preston