

Meeting of the Full Council – 23 May 2013

Report on the Scrutiny Committee Meetings held on 8 February and 15 March 2013

Chair: County Councillor P Britcliffe

The agenda and minutes of the meetings may be viewed on the County Council's web site at the following link:

<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=120>

8 February 2013

Regional Growth Fund: Business Support Funding Streams

The Committee received a report on "Regional Growth Fund: Business Support Funding Streams".

The Committee welcomed the £26.6 million invested into Lancashire through the Regional Growth Fund and the local work that has gone into helping to secure it.

It also agreed that at its next meeting, the Committee would consider a proposal for a task group to explore a range of issues around support to economic development. A draft terms of reference would be based on the issues that members had already highlighted as needing further exploration and consideration. The task group would report back after the local elections.

15 March 2013

Approach to Corporate Property

The Committee received a report on the approach to corporate property. The report provided an overview of Corporate Asset Management. All the property that the county council held was seen as a corporate asset.

The principle objectives were:

- To have a property portfolio which was fit for purpose and fully supported the delivery of services to the people of Lancashire;
- To reduce revenue expenditure by rationalisation of the property portfolio, and;
- To realise capital receipts and/or wider economic benefits from the disposal/re-use of the County Council's surplus property.

A programme of area based cross-Directorate reviews had been agreed at the Corporate Asset Management Group and was phased for completion over the next 18 months.

The Committee welcomed the report and it was agreed that the Corporate Property Management Team would bring forward suggestions as to how to increase Member involvement.

Road Safety

A report on Road Safety was presented to the Committee.

The Cabinet Member had approved the new Lancashire Road Safety Strategy in January 2012. The strategy aimed to build on the progress made in reducing road casualties in recent years and supported the priorities set out in the County Council's Local Transport Plan. The strategy was informed by detailed analysis of the causes of accidents, their distribution and other factors such as the type of transport involved and the age of people involved. These determined the appropriate actions in each district.

It was agreed that comments and ideas of Members recorded in the minutes be submitted to the Cabinet Member. It was also agreed that following the elections, the Committee bring to the attention of all Members the role that elected councillors can play in supporting the county council's Environment Directorate in their work in improving road safety, in particular their work with schools and local communities.