

# Meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board

## 13 November 2024

**Chair:** County Councillor David Westley  
**Support Officer:** Gary Halsall

### Part I (Open to Press and Public)

#### 2024/25 Quarter 1 Financial Monitoring Report

The Board was presented with a copy of the 2024/25 Quarter 1 Financial Monitoring Report as presented to Cabinet at its meeting held on 5 September 2024. The report provided an update on the 2024/25 revenue and capital financial position, as at the end of June 2024.

**Resolved:** That the Scrutiny Management Board welcomed the proposal to align the timing of the Corporate Performance and Financial Monitoring reports presented to Cabinet and this Board.

#### Medium Term Financial Strategy Update 2025/26 - 2026/27

The Board was presented with a copy of the Medium Term Financial Strategy Update 2025/26 - 2026/27 for review.

**Resolved:** That the Medium Term Financial Strategy Update 2025/26 – 2026/27 be noted.

#### Budgeted Savings Tracker

The Board was presented with a report on the tracking and delivery of savings agreed by Full Council in the current and previous financial years.

**Resolved:** That the savings tracker and progress with delivery be noted.

#### Mental Health in the Construction Industry - Rapporteur Report

County Councillor John Fillis introduced the report on the activity, findings and suggested recommendations on the implementation of a scored component concerning mental health, on all construction tenders following his investigation on behalf of the Scrutiny Management Board.

**Resolved:** That:

- i. County Councillor John Fillis, Marie Demaine, Paul Fairclough, Gary Halsall, and Lee Harrington be thanked for their work in producing the report and formulating the recommendations.



- ii. The findings and next steps outlined in the report be noted.
- iii. The suggested recommendations proposed by County Councillor John Fillis be supported and submitted to the Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader) for formal written response.

### **Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee - Joint Health Scrutiny**

The Board was provided with a report from the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee to agree 'in principle' the establishment of a potential joint health scrutiny committee with Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council to review proposals arising from the NHS Shaping Care Together Programme.

**Resolved:** That in considering the report, the establishment of a joint health scrutiny committee with Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council be agreed 'in principle'.

### **Request from Full Council – Banking Hubs**

The Board received a request from Full Council to set up a working group to consider how best to liaise with banking organisations with a view to devising a model plan to accelerate delivery of banking hubs in the worst affected areas in Lancashire.

**Resolved:** That the request for a working group on Banking Hubs to be established be agreed and assigned to the Scrutiny Management Board to report on its activity.

### **Request from Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee - SEND Strategy 2025-2028 Deep Dive Session and Working Group**

The Board considered a request from the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee to establish a deep dive session and working group on the emerging SEND Strategy for 2025-2028.

**Resolved:** That:

- (i) A Deep Dive session to discuss the emerging themes and give input into the development of the SEND Strategy 2025-2028 be agreed.
- (ii) The establishment of a working group for the purposes of providing long term input into the SEND Strategy be agreed subject to the terms of reference being reviewed by the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Board.



# Meeting of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee 6 November 2024

**Chair:** County Councillor Sue Hind

**Support Officer:** Hannah Lysons

## Part I (Open to Press and Public)

### Development of a SEND Strategy 2025-2028

The committee were presented with a report that provided an update on the development of the SEND Strategy 2025-2028. It was noted that at the last meeting of the committee, it was agreed that the SEND Strategy 2025-2028 would be provided to the next meeting of the committee and members would be given the opportunity to contribute and agree the proposed timescales, including what further scrutiny or wider member engagement of the strategy could be undertaken.

**Resolved:** That:

- i. The Scrutiny Management Board be asked to consider establishing a Deep Dive day to discuss the emerging themes as outlined in the report and give input into the development of the SEND strategy 2025-2028.
- ii. The Scrutiny Management Board be asked to consider establishing a Task and Finish Group for the purpose of providing long term input into SEND Strategy.

The following recommendation be shared with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

- iii. Further information relating to the co-production SEND model be circulated to the Committee.

### 0-3 Years Offer & Family Hubs

The committee were presented a report that provided an overview of the role and contribution of Family Hubs in supporting children aged 0-3 years. It also reviewed how Family Hub services had evolved to meet the needs of this age group and highlighted the early impact of those efforts on improving outcomes for young children.

**Resolved:** That the following recommendations be shared with the Cabinet Member for Children and Families:

- i. That further figures relating to the take up of Family Hubs as well as the most recent Family Hubs Dashboard be circulated to the committee.

### Principal Social Workers Report



The committee received a report which set out the progress made against the annual plan of the Principal Social Worker, as well as the progress made with regards to developing a highly skilled and stable workforce that could safeguard the children of Lancashire.

**Resolved:** That the following recommendation be shared with the Cabinet Member for Children and Families:

- i. That the committee supported the ongoing work of the Principal Social Worker and invited them to return to give an update to the committee on an annual basis.



# Meeting of the Community, Cultural and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

## 31 October 2024

**Chair:** County Councillor Ged Mirfin  
**Support Officer:** Bryan Magan

### Part I (Open to Press and Public)

#### Workforce Matters

The committee received a report on the insights on the wider sector workforce, including providing an overview on specific pieces of work undertaken over the last year that would help the county council to further develop a culture of performance and accountability at leadership level.

**Resolved:** That;

- (i) Reports on the following matters be presented at a future scheduled meeting of the Community, Cultural, and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee:
  - a. A report providing information on posts that are difficult to recruit to.
  - b. A report on proactive actions taken to retain staff.
  - c. A report providing information on live staffing issues, including long term sickness absence, maternity, paternity, caring responsibilities and for the report to cover employee assistance factors such as phased returns/reintegration, remote working and maintaining professional competency.
- (ii) Information on lowest paid posts in the Growth, Environment, Transport and Health and Resources Directorates be shared with the Committee.
- (iii) Briefing notes on the following matters be provided to the Committee:
  - a. An update on the National Graduate Management Trainee programme at the county council.
  - b. A note on the definition of lean and agile in public sector and for this to cover aspects of culture and behaviour change.



# Meeting of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee

## 24 October 2024

**Chair:** County Councillor Rob Bailey  
**Support Officer:** Gary Halsall

### Part I (Open to Press and Public)

#### Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure

The committee received a report on Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure in Lancashire. It covered provision, likely future demand, and the emerging programme of delivery through the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) fund to scale up local provision, particularly supporting those residents who did not have access to off-street parking.

**Resolved:** That:

- (i) A breakdown of charge points by district be circulated to all members of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- (ii) The proposals for potential locations be shared with all members of the Committee.
- (iii) The Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change gives consideration to utilising all commercial opportunities available to the council in finalising the technical specification to procure an operator.

#### Skills, Interventions and Initiatives led by the Skills and Employment Hub

The committee received a report that provided information on Skills Bootcamps funded by the Department for Education under the National Skills Fund. A total of £1.2m was allocated to Lancashire under Wave 3 for financial year 2022/23, £3m under Wave 4 in 2023/24 and £6.4m under Wave 5 (2024/25). It outlined the policy intent and features of the Skills Bootcamp programme, and progress against Waves 4 and 5 in Lancashire.

**Resolved:** That:

- (i) Relevant information and social media links to help county councillors promote Skills Bootcamps be provided.
- (ii) Data on where interventions had taken place by district be circulated to all members of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- (iii) The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills gives consideration to:



- a. Expanding the out of hours provision.
- b. Where possible, utilising local community centre venues to deliver training.
- c. Linking training with local labour market intelligence.



# Meeting of the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee 30 October 2024

**Chair:** County Councillor David Westley

**Support Officer:** Samantha Parker

## Part I (Open to Press and Public)

### Adult Social Care Waiting Lists

The committee received a report that provided an overview on the number of people in Adult Social Care waiting for an assessment or review, the report also provided information on the nine areas with the longest wait times, operational challenges, and remedial actions. It was noted that out of these nine areas there were several performing well including safeguarding, carers assessments, financial assessments, and mental health.

**Resolved:** A progress report on work undertaken to reduce assessment waiting list numbers across the nine assessment categories, to include comparator data against current information reported to the committee, be provided to the committee ahead of the upcoming CQC inspection.

