

Meeting of the Full Council – 3 October 2013

Report on the Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 12 July

Chair: County Councillor Bill Winlow

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?CommitteeId=120>

12 July 2012

Position Statement on Flood Risk Management Related Issues - Land Drainage Management, Development in Flood Plains, and Coastal Flooding Responsibilities

The Committee received an update report setting out the County Council's current position on the following three flood risk management issues:

- Land drainage management
- Development in flood plains, and
- Coastal flooding responsibilities

It was agreed that:

- i. Consideration be given at a future meeting on the merits of establishing a task group to explore specifically the effectiveness of current consultation mechanisms to inform district council planning application decisions. There may be merit in timing any such activity to follow the introduction of the County Sustainable Urban Drainage System Approval Body role currently expected in April 2014.
- ii. United Utilities be requested to attend to a future meeting of Scrutiny Committee and answer questions with regards their performance and responsibilities on both flood risk management issues and bathing water quality.

Cross Boundary Looked After Children

The Committee received an update following publication in September 2011, of its report, "Who Cares? Cross Boundary Looked After Children", which dealt with a range of issues related to the placement into Lancashire into the independent residential care sector of children and young people looked after by the local authorities.

At its meeting on 14 June 2013, the Scrutiny Committee resolved to consider:

- a final Executive Response to the report, detailing the actions taken in accordance with the recommendations made and the impact and added value the report had had on local practices;

- the full breadth of feedback and comments from bodies and agencies other than the County Council Executive.

It was now agreed that the Committee determine related topics for future scrutiny to include on the Committee's work programme, with a view in particular to consideration of:

- the Lancashire Improving Futures initiative, which aims to prevent /avoid care placements; and
- the role of the County Council in supporting the Government's commitment to a programme of reform and improvement in children's residential care home provision.

Work Plan and Task Group Update

A statement of the current status of work being undertaken by the Committee was presented.

Members suggested a task group be set up to do with flooding and the consultation on planning applications. It was also requested that district councillors be asked to sit on this task group. This was agreed by the Committee