

# Lancashire County Council

## Cabinet

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 10th October, 2013 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 Janice Hanson  
County Councillor Marcus Johnstone  
County Councillor Tony Martin  
County Councillor Matthew Tomlinson

County Councillor Albert Atkinson, County Councillor Geoff Driver CBE and County Councillor Bill Winlow were also in attendance under the provisions of Standing Order No. 19(4).

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

None received.

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

None declared.

#### 3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 September 2013

**Resolved:** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

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

County Councillor Bill Winlow, Chair of the Executive Scrutiny Committee, confirmed that the recommendations set out in the reports for consideration by Cabinet had been confirmed without modification or amendment at the meeting of the Executive Scrutiny Committee held on 8 October 2013.

**Resolved:** - That the report of the Chair of the Executive Scrutiny Committee, now presented, be noted.

## **5. Superfast Lancashire - Delivering Digital Inclusion**

Eddie Sutton, Assistant Chief Executive, presented a report setting out a draft Digital Inclusion Strategic Framework, the purpose of which was to focus on enabling citizens across Lancashire to take advantage of Superfast Broadband.

The draft Strategic Framework had been developed with Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool Councils and contained four strategic objectives; improving access; maximising the use of public sector assets; improving employability, skills and life chances; and enhancing personal wellbeing and engagement.

Reference was made to the importance of enabling people to deal with changes brought about by the Government's Welfare Reform agenda and ensuring that all individuals had the same chances and were not disadvantaged when, for example, applying online for jobs.

**Resolved:** - That the draft Digital Inclusion Strategic Framework, set out at Appendix 'A' to the report now presented, be approved.

## **6. Progress with Implementing Investment Proposals Contained in the Budget**

County Councillor David Borrow and George Graham, Deputy County Treasurer, presented a report setting out progress with implementing investment proposals contained in the budget.

The detail of the report set out at Appendix 'A' presented the opportunity for Cabinet to consider the progress made in the context of the objectives set out in the recently approved 'Setting our Strategic Direction' document.

**Resolved:** - That:

- (i) The progress made in implementing the various investment projects included in recent budgets, which have been from the Strategic Investment Reserve, as set out in the report now presented, be noted;
- (ii) That £500,000 from the £1m set aside for Changing Places – Toilet Facilities for People with Disabilities, be transferred to the County Council's downsizing reserve;
- (iii) That the £2.25m remaining uncommitted in respect of Young People's Transport, be transferred to the County Council's downsizing reserve.

## **7. Young People's Transport**

County Councillor John Fillis presented a report setting out proposals to continue the Young People's Transport Scheme from 1 November 2013 until 31 March 2017.

The scheme was first introduced in December 2012 to offer free bus travel within a designated travel area to all young people in the 16-18 age bracket who were classified as NEET (not in education, employment or training) and also included young parents and young carers in the 16-18 age bracket. On 21 March 2013 the Cabinet agreed to extend the current scheme to 31 August 2013 and that was further extended to 31 October 2013 by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport.

**Resolved:** - That:

- (i) The existing scheme for NEETS, young parents and young carers, as set out in the report now presented, be extended until 31 March 2017;
- (ii) NEETS, young parents and young carers participating in the existing scheme will receive an additional three month's free travel on entering full time employment, training or education as from 1 November 2013 until 31 March 2017;
- (iii) The current scheme be extended to include young people in the 16 -18 age bracket that are undertaking an apprenticeship scheme organised by the County Council as from 1 November 2013 until 31 March 2017;
- (iv) Options of further expanding the scheme to include young people undertaking apprenticeships that have not been organised by the County Council will be explored by County Council officers with the Council's economic partners;
- (v) All those involved in the scheme be thanked for their involvement.

**8. Report of Key Decisions taken by the Leader and Deputy Leader of the County Council, Cabinet Members and the Interim Executive Director for Environment**

**Resolved:** - That the report, now presented, on Key Decisions taken by the Leader of the County Council, the Deputy Leader of the County Council, the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Planning and Cultural Services and the Interim Executive Director for Environment, respectively, be noted.

**9. Report on the Waiver of Procurement Rules by the Deputy Leader of the County Council**

**Resolved:** - That the report, now presented, on the Waiver of Procurement Rules by the Deputy Leader of the County Council, be noted.

**10. Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business to be considered.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The Cabinet noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 7 November 2013 at 2.00pm at County Hall, Preston.

Jo Turton  
Interim Chief Executive

County Hall  
Preston