

Lancashire County Council

Cabinet

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 9th October, 2014 at 2.00 pm in Cabinet Room 'B' - County Hall, Preston

Present:

County Councillor Jennifer Mein

Leader of the Council
(in the Chair)

Cabinet Members

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 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

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Azhar Ali and County Councillor Albert Atkinson.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 September 2014

Resolved: - That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2014 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 7 October 2014.

5. Proposed New Employee Structure for Lancashire County Council

Jo Turton, Chief Executive, presented a report setting out details of the proposed new structure for the County Council for posts at, or above, Grade 11. The report also set out

the principles upon which it was proposed appointments to the new structure would be made, together with governance issues relating to the proposed recruitment process.

It was highlighted that the proposed new structure would ensure greater flexibility and support new ways of working across the County Council. The Chief Executive referred to the amount of work that had been undertaken by a number of officers, who themselves were now facing uncertainty as a result of the proposals, to design the proposed new structure, and wished to place on record their considerable contribution.

The Leader of the County Council thanked the Chief Executive, her management team and all those involved in the design of the proposed new structure which would allow the County Council to move forward with a greater degree of flexibility and in a more cost effective manner.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The contents of this report, now presented, be noted;
- (ii) The proposed new structure for the County Council for posts at, or above, Grade 11 set out at Appendix 'A' to this report, now presented, be approved;
- (iii) The principles for making appointments to the new County Council structure for all posts, including those at, and below, Grade 10, set out at Appendix 'B' to this report, now presented, be approved;
- (iv) The establishment of an Employee Welfare function, comprising one post at Grade 11 and three posts at Grade 10, be approved with immediate effect, appointments to be made as soon as possible to support the transformation process;
- (v) The Urgency Committee be recommended to agree:
 - (1) that, for the purposes of the Transformation process only, and subject to statutory requirements, the Employment Committee be responsible for appointments to the posts of:
 - (a) Corporate Director Commissioning and Deputy Chief Executive;
 - (b) Corporate Director Operations and Delivery;
 - (c) Director of Development and Corporate Services;
 - (d) Director of Adult Services;
 - (e) Director of Children's Services;
 - (f) subject to applications being received from staff holding an appropriate professional qualification allowing them to also be appointed as the Council's Monitoring Officer or S.151 Officer, the Director of Governance, Finance and Public Services; and
 - (g) Subject to the appointment of the Monitoring Officer or S.151 Officer at (f) above, the Director of Financial Resources and/or the Director of Legal and Democratic Services, the successful applicant being appointed as the Monitoring Officer or S.151 Officer;
 - (2) that all other appointments be delegated to the Head of the Paid Service;
 - (3) that all appointments be made in accordance with the principles referred to in paragraph (iii) above and that the role of the Employment Committee in future appointments to senior posts then be reviewed;
 - (4) that all appointments to the Council's structure at all grades, including Director grades and above, will be made on the basis of Lancashire County Council Terms and Conditions of Employment, and that this principle also be applied to the Chief Executive on the basis set out in the report;

- (5) that a Chief Officer Car Leasing Scheme be implemented based on the same entitlements/costs as at present, the details of the Scheme to be finalised and approved by the Chief Executive;
- (6) to approve the Appeals Procedure set out at Appendix 'C' to this report, now presented.
- (vi) The Chief Executive, Management Team, and officers involved in the design of the new structure, be thanked for their work.

6. Approval of the County Council's Procurement Strategy

The Deputy Leader of the County Council and Lisa Kitto, Deputy County Treasurer, presented a report setting out, for approval, a draft Procurement Strategy for the County Council.

The draft strategy was the culmination of the work undertaken, following the return of responsibility to the County Council for procurement matters. A draft strategy had previously been published and during the two month consultation period, over 50 responses had been received. The responses highlighted that partners either strongly agreed, or tended to agree, with the proposed approach and, in response to the consultation, the sections of the draft strategy relating to sustainability and the Living Wage had been strengthened.

It was reported that a Procurement Board had been established and had met a number of times and a Service Implementation Plan was being developed which would be monitored by the Cabinet Committee on Performance Improvement, with the first report due to be considered by the Cabinet Committee at its meeting on 11 December.

The Leader of the County Council welcomed the draft strategy which would assist the County Council in achieving its objectives.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The results of the consultation on the draft Procurement Strategy, which involved public, private and third sector organisations, now presented, be noted;
- (ii) The final Procurement Strategy, set out at Appendix 'A' to the report, now presented, which includes the amendments made to reflect the feedback received during the consultation process, be approved;
- (iii) That the Deputy County Treasurer and her team be thanked for the work undertaken on the draft strategy.

7. Approval to Adopt the West Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan

County Councillor John Fillis, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, and Hazel Walton, Transport Planning Manager, Environment Directorate, presented a report setting out the West Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan for adoption. County Councillor Fillis welcomed the involvement of all those who had responded to the consultation and highlighted that, as a result, a number of key areas, e.g. cycling provision, had been strengthened.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The publication of the West Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan, presented at Appendix 'A' to the report, now presented, and the delivery of the strategies that will allow the masterplan to be taken forward be approved;
- (ii) As part of the masterplan, the rescinding of the route protection on the line currently protected for an Ormskirk Bypass be approved.

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

Resolved: - That the report, now presented, on Key Decisions taken by the Deputy Leader of the County Council, the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, and the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, respectively, be noted.

9. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business to be considered.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The Cabinet noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 6 November 2014 at 2.00pm at County Hall, Preston.

Jo Turton
Chief Executive

County Hall
Preston