

## **Items Raised by Members of the Forum**

### **a) Walton Arms Junction Update**

Speed surveys have been carried out on the approaches to the junction. Analysis did not suggest that speeds were of concern on the approach to the junction. Considering this and the full collision history at this junction, the County Council would not be in a position to recommend prioritising this junction for the substantial investment that would be needed to reconfigure it.

### **b) Combined Authorities**

The use of 'combined authorities' in areas such as Liverpool and Manchester, where two or more local authorities form a single body with membership from each local authority in its area, to work in partnership in relation to transport and economic development functions and submit joint bids for funding in relation to large scale strategic schemes.

The prospect of a combined authority for Lancashire - with neighbouring councils pooling certain responsibilities and budgets - is one the county council is keen to explore with partners, with a view to ensuring Lancashire communities are able to capitalise on the benefits of more local decision making in future. Discussions are taking place between council Leaders.

### **c) Primary School Free Meals**

A report on how the County Council intended to respond to the requirement for free school meals to be available for all primary school children. The report to also address any impact which the move may have had in relation to budgets connected with pupils with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities.

Briefing note attached at Annex 1

### **d) A report on whether the use of selective licensing had led to an improvement in housing.**

Briefing note attached at Annex 1a

**e) Update on Onshore Gas and Oil Operations**

An overview of developments across Lancashire with regard to the extraction of shale gas using the 'fracking' method and any specific proposals for such activities within the Borough.

Briefing note attached at Annex 2

**f) Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) Pilot**

A report regarding on activities to support people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and also in relation to the 'Troubled Families' initiative.

Briefing note attached at Annex 3

**g) Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Lancashire**

An overview of child sexual exploitation within Lancashire, including published statistics and details of the procedures for reporting concerns/incidents.

Briefing note attached at Annex 4