

Lancashire County Council

Executive Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 6th October, 2015 at 2.00 pm in Cabinet Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston

Present:

County Councillor Bill Winlow (Chair)

County Councillors

A Barnes	S Holgate
D Clifford	J Oakes
Mrs F Craig-Wilson	D O'Toole
B Dawson	N Penney
G Dowding	J Shedwick
G Gooch	D T Smith

County Councillors Craig-Wilson, Shedwick, Gooch and Smith replaced County Councillors Driver, Charles, Green and Atkinson at this meeting.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interests

None.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 8 September 2015

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2015 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4. Reports for decision by Cabinet

The Committee considered the following decisions due to be taken by the Cabinet.

a. Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2014/15

The Committee considered the Annual Report of the Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board for 2014/15.

It was reported that the production of this report fulfilled a statutory requirement and its contents were, to a large extent, determined by the legal framework. A

group of young people were currently working on an alternative version with a target audience of children and young people themselves.

It was noted that the report recorded a number of positive indications that some areas of risk had reduced and identified a number of strengths in respect of the Board itself. There remained however, a number of key areas for further consideration.

It was agreed that the Board should be asked to amend its report to include 'reported' in the following list of positive indications set out on page 14 of the annual report:

- "No3. - A reduction in the number of 'reported' incidents of domestic violence where a child is reported to live at the address" and
- "No.4 – A decrease in the 'reported' number of children going missing from home"

It was also noted that the word 'Royal' should be deleted from the 'Royal College of Policing' as mentioned on page 19 of the annual report

The Committee was informed that a child death overview panel looked at every child death and a detailed report was presented to the Board. It was agreed that a copy of the report would be made available to members.

A concern was expressed about the police not enforcing the ban on smoking in a car when a child was present. It was agreed that this matter should be raised with the constabulary and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Resolved: That the recommendations set out in the report to the Cabinet be noted and that apart from the above, no additional comments or suggested alternative recommendations be made.

b. Lancashire Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2014/15

The Committee considered a report on the Lancashire Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report for 2014/15.

It was reported that there were a number of strong indications that some previously identified areas of risk had reduced and the report also acknowledged a number of strengths in respect of the Board itself.

It was agreed that a list of the Board's members would be circulated to members of the Committee.

Resolved: That the recommendations set out in the report to the Cabinet be noted, and that no additional comments or suggested alternative recommendations be made.

c. **Contribution to the Lancashire Environmental Fund**

The Committee considered a report on the proposed continuation of an annual contribution to the Lancashire Environment Fund (LEF).

The LEF funding provided grants to community organisations in Lancashire to carry out locally identified, environmental improvement and community projects. The Committee welcomed and fully supported this proposal.

Resolved: That the recommendation set out in the report to the Cabinet be noted, and that no additional comments or suggested alternative recommendations be made.

5. **Forthcoming Individual Cabinet Member Key Decisions**

The Committee considered the following Key Decisions due to be taken by individual Cabinet Members as indicated.

a. **LEADER Rural Funding - Approval in Principle**

The Committee considered a report on the award of £4.65m to the County Council to deliver funding to businesses and organisations located within rural areas to support employment and jobs growth over the period 2015 to 2020.

The report set out the details of the LEADER programme in Lancashire and the need to enter into legal agreements with the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs and the Rural Payments Agency to deliver the LEADER funding.

It was agreed that members would be added to the communications distribution list to keep them informed of progress on the delivery of the programme.

Resolved: That the recommendations set out in the report to the Leader of the County Council be noted, and that no additional comments or suggested alternative recommendations be made.

b. **Regulation 10 Penalty Charge Notices**

The Committee considered a report on a proposal to address problems relating to short term parking habits where motorists consider that the likelihood of receiving a penalty charge was minimal.

Members commented on the need for greater consistency in the penalty charge notice operating arrangements across the county. It was felt that many motorists particularly in rural areas often escaped punishment.

Resolved: That the recommendations set out in the report to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport be noted, and that no additional comments or suggested alternative recommendations be made.

c. **Development of Commissioning and Procurement Arrangements for the Mental Health Care and Support Market**

The Committee considered a report on proposals to develop a specialist framework for Care and Support services for people with mental health issues.

It was reported that the Framework would focus on rehabilitation and improved outcomes for individuals through better planning and co-ordination of support services.

Resolved: That the recommendations set out in the report to the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services be noted, and that no additional comments or alternative recommendations be made.

d. **Defra Small Scheme Pathfinder Funding**

The Committee considered a report on a proposal to add a project to investigate a number of options to reduce flood risk in 6 small areas of the Upper Irwell in Rossendale to the County Council's 2015/16 Capital Programme.

The funding for the project would be fully met by the government from the Defra Small Scheme Pathfinder fund.

Resolved: That the recommendation set out in the report to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Planning and Cultural Services be noted, and that no additional comments or alternative suggestions be made.

6. Urgent Business

None.

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday 3 November 2015 at 2.00 p.m. at County Hall, Preston.

8. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: - That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, indicated against the heading to the item. It was considered that in all the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

9. Forthcoming Individual Cabinet Member Key Decisions

The Committee considered the following Key Decisions due to be taken by individual Cabinet Members as indicated.

a. Award of Framework Contracts for the Provision of Servicing, Repair and Maintenance of Mechanical and Electrical Equipment

(Not for Publication – Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interests in disclosing the information)

The Committee considered a report on the proposed award of framework contracts for the provision of servicing, repair and maintenance of mechanical and electrical equipment.

Resolved: That the recommendation set out in the report to the Deputy Leader of the County Council be noted, and that no additional comments or alternative suggestions be made.

b. The Supply of Liquid Fuels for Lancashire County Council

(Not for Publication – Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interests in disclosing the information)

The Committee considered a report on a proposal to formally access the Crown Commercial Framework for the supply of liquid fuels (heating oils and biodiesel).

Resolved: That the recommendation set out in the report to the Deputy Leader of the County Council be noted, and that no additional comments or alternative suggestions be made.

I Young
Director of Governance, Finance
and Public Services

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Preston