

Full Council

Thursday, 15th July, 2021 at 2.00 pm in the Council Chamber, County Hall,
Preston

Agenda

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An item of urgent business may only be considered under this heading where, by reason of special circumstances to be recorded in the Minutes, the Chairman is of the opinion that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. Wherever possible, the Chief Executive should be given advance warning of any Member's intention to raise a matter under this heading.

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Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and
Director of Resources

County Hall
Preston

05 July 2021

Agenda Item 3

Questions submitted under Standing Order B28

No.	To be asked by:	Question:	For answer by (Cabinet Member):
1.	CC Oakes	Given the responsibility that Lancashire County Council has for waste disposal, and the issues around capacity at Whinney Hill Landfill Site, could the Leader please advise what plans the county council has for disposal of waste when the current contract there expires in 2024?	CC Turner
2.	CC Gibson	<p>At Prime Minister's Question Time in February, West Lancashire MP, Rosie Cooper, challenged the PM to work with Lancashire County Council to find a permanent solution to the persistent and repeated flooding of the underpasses in Skelmersdale.</p> <p>The Prime Minister responded, confirming that they have the funds available and that they will work with the council to make sure it is done.</p> <p>As the county councillor for one of the worst hit areas, can the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport confirm:</p> <p>(i) When the funds to tackle the problems with the flooded underpasses will be available from Government.</p> <p>(ii) When the work will be done.</p>	CC Edwards
3.	CC Brown	The decision to sell off traveller sites across Lancashire, including the one in Leighton Street, Preston, was particularly short sighted considering the small amounts of money it will save. The community at the site have been long standing residents for years and have been in quite a state of anxiety since the sale was proposed over 18 months ago. Despite the best efforts of Preston City Council to help with the situation it is still unresolved. Considering the small amount of money to be saved, and the responsibilities of the council under equalities legislation, will the Cabinet Member think again and reconsider selling it?	CC Vincent

4.	CC Maxwell-Scott	Given the government's ambitious target for the UK to become carbon neutral by 2050, can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change outline what steps are being taken by this administration to achieve this goal in Lancashire?	CC Turner
5.	CC Dowding	Given the distress caused by the loss of the S24 bus service from the Marsh area for children attending Central High School to take effect from September, and the widespread support for the petition raised by families who will be affected, will the Cabinet Member guarantee today the continuation of this service at least for next term, specifically for the morning bus service, while a longer term solution is found to ensure all children can access school via safe, dry and secure public transport? And has she considered how much money the county council will be saving by withdrawing the service compared to the potential harm to children's attendance and education, especially in light of the forthcoming injection of cash in April 2022 from the national bus strategy?	CC Rear

Minutes

At a meeting of the Full Council held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Preston,
on Thursday, 27th May, 2021

Present:

Mrs Susie Charles (Chairman)

County Councillors

T Aldridge
A Ali OBE
U Arif
T Ashton
N Aziz
R Bailey
S Barnes
L Beavers
J Berry
P Britcliffe
M Brown
P Buckley
J Burrows
A Cheetham
S Clarke
M Clifford
L Collinge
J Couperthwaite
L Cox
A Cullens
M Dad
F De Molfetta
G Dowding
C Edwards
A Fewings
J Fillis
J Gibson

G Gooch
M Goulthorp
M Green
H Hartley
C Haythornthwaite
N Hennessy
S Hind
A Hindle
S Holgate
D Howarth
T Hurn
K Iddon
M Iqbal MBE
S Jones
A Kay
H Khan
N Khan
E Lewis
S Malik
M Maxwell-Scott
J Mein
G Mirfin
D O'Toole
J Oakes
J Parr
L Pate
M Pattison

E Pope
J Potter
J Purcell
J Rear
P Rigby
S Rigby
A Riggott
M Salter
A Schofield
S Serridge
J Shedwick
J R Singleton JP
S Smith
K Snape
A Sutcliffe
R Swarbrick
M Tomlinson
C Towneley
S Turner
A Vincent
D Westley
S Whittam
P Williamson
R Woollam
B Yates

1. Apologies and Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors Alf Clempson, Andrew Gardiner, Alan Hosker, Stuart Morris and Yousuf Motala.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

3. Report of the Returning Officer - Persons Elected County Councillor on 6 May 2021

At the invitation of the Chairman, the Chief Executive and Director of Resources presented a report setting out details of the persons elected as county councillors on 6 May 2021.

Resolved: - That the report, now presented, be noted.

4. Election of Chairman

Former County Councillor Susie Charles, the retiring Chairman of the County Council, presided for this item.

It was moved by County Councillor Michael Green, and seconded by County Councillor Alan Schofield, that County Councillor Barrie Yates be elected Chairman of the County Council.

There being no other nominations, it was:

Resolved: - That County Councillor Barrie Yates be elected Chairman of the County Council until the Annual General Meeting of the Full Council in 2022.

County Councillor Yates then took the Chair and made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

5. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

It was moved by County Councillor Tim Ashton, and seconded by County Councillor Charles Edwards, that County Councillor Peter Britcliffe be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council.

It was subsequently moved by County Councillor Azhar Ali, and seconded by County Councillor Lorraine Beavers, that County Councillor Hasina Khan be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council.

On being put to the vote, the nomination for County Councillor Peter Britcliffe was CARRIED.

Resolved: - That County Councillor Peter Britcliffe be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council until the Annual General meeting of the Full Council in 2022.

County Councillor Britcliffe then made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

6. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 February 2021 and of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 8 April 2021

Resolved: - That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 February 2021 and of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 8 April 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

7. Election of Leader of the County Council

It was moved by County Councillor Graham Gooch, and seconded by County Councillor David O'Toole, that County Councillor Phillippa Williamson be elected Leader of the County Council in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution for the County Council.

There being no other nominations, it was:

Resolved: - That County Councillor Phillippa Williamson be elected Leader of the County Council.

County Councillor Williamson then formally announced the appointment of the following Members of her Cabinet:

County Councillor Alan Vincent – Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader)
County Councillor Peter Buckley – Community and Cultural Services
County Councillor Charles Edwards – Highways and Transport
County Councillor Graham Gooch – Adult Social Care
County Councillor Michael Green – Health and Wellbeing
County Councillor Jayne Rear – Education and Skills
County Councillor Aidy Riggott – Economic Development and Growth
County Councillor Cosima Towneley – Children and Families
County Councillor Shaun Turner – Environment and Climate Change

8. Constitution of the County Council 2021/22

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved a report setting out the county council's Constitution for the year ahead, noting changes made since the Annual General Meeting in 2020.

The following amendment was proposed by County Councillor Azhar Ali, seconded by County Councillor Lorraine Beavers:

After recommendation (iv) add:

(v): Establish an urgent cross-party meeting to discuss ways and means to open up transparency and scrutiny of Council decision making that reports back to the next Full Council meeting in July. This meeting looks at all opportunities including revisiting the decision not to allow Councillors to speak at Cabinet as well as implementing the 'Councillor First' protocol.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST.

The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The changes made to the Constitution since the Annual General Meeting in 2020, as set out in the report, now presented, be noted.
- (ii) Consideration be given to any changes Full Council might wish to make to the Constitution to enable the efficient and effective running of the county council.
- (iii) The Director of Corporate Services be authorised to make any consequential changes to other parts of the Constitution arising from any changes.
- (iv) The Constitution of the county council for the year 2021/22, as set out in the report, now presented, be approved.

9. Membership of Committees and Related Appointments 2021/22

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved a report setting out the membership of committees and related appointments for 2021/22.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The Constitution and membership of the committees of the county council for 2021/22, as set out at a) in the report, now presented, be approved.
- (ii) The appointment of Chairs and Deputy Chairs of those committees for 2021/22, as set out at b) in the report, now presented, and as set out below, be approved.

Committee	Chair	Deputy
Urgency	P Williamson	A Vincent
Overview and Scrutiny		
Internal Scrutiny	D O'Toole	J Shedwick
External Scrutiny	P Britcliffe	R Swarbrick
Education and Children's Services Scrutiny	A Kay	J Berry
Health Scrutiny	D Westley	C Haythornthwaite
Budget Scrutiny Review Panel	D Westley	A Schofield

Other Committees

Development Control	M Maxwell-Scott	P Rigby
Regulatory	S Hind	M Salter
Audit, Risk and Governance	A Schofield	R Swarbrick
Pension Fund	E Pope	A Schofield
Student Support Appeals	A Cheetham	H Hartley
Employment	P Williamson	A Vincent
Conduct	A Vincent	P Buckley
Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board	M Green	<i>Non-CC</i>

10. Report of the Cabinet (Part A) - Community Safety Agreement

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved a report setting out the recommendation of the Cabinet in respect of approving the Community Safety Agreement, as determined by the county council's Policy Framework.

Resolved: - That the recommendation of the Cabinet in respect of approving the Community Safety Agreement, as set out in the report, now presented, be approved.

11. Report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee - Code of Corporate Governance 2021/22

County Councillor Alan Schofield moved a report setting out the recommendation of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee in respect of the updated Code of Corporate Governance for 2021/22.

Resolved: - That the recommendation of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee in respect of approving the updated Code of Corporate Governance for 2021/22, as set out in the report, now presented, be approved.

12. Appointment of Scheme Member Representative to the Lancashire Local Pension Board

County Councillor Eddie Pope moved a report setting out a proposal to appoint Mr Kevin Ellard as Scheme Member Representative to the Lancashire Local Pension Board to fill the current vacancy following the resignation of Mr Keith Wallbank.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The appointment of Mr Kevin Ellard as the Scheme Member Representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board with effect from 27 May 2021 for a period of 4 years, with an option to extend for a further four years in accordance with the terms of reference of the Board, as set out in the report, now presented, be approved.

- (ii) That the London Pensions Fund Authority Board be informed of the decision specified at (i) above.

13. Lancashire Combined Fire Authority - Appointment of County Council Representatives for 2021/22

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of 19 members to serve on the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority for 2021/22 on the basis of 11 Conservative members, 7 Labour members, and 1 member from either the Liberal Democrats or Greens.

It was noted that the nominations from the Conservative Group had not yet been fully confirmed.

Following a brief adjournment, it was:

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The following county councillors be appointed to serve on the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority for 2021/22:

Labour (7)

Liberal Democrat/Green (1)

M Dad

D Howarth

F De Molfetta

N Hennessy

H Khan

J Mein

M Pattison

S Serridge

- (ii) The nominations from the Conservative Group, 11 in total, be approved as soon as practical under the Urgency Committee's Urgent Business Procedure.

14. Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire - Appointment of a County Council Representative for 2021/22

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of the county council's representative, and a substitute representative, to serve on the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire for 2021/22.

County Councillor Vincent proposed that County Councillor Phillippa Williamson be appointed as the county council's representative, and that County Councillor Vincent be appointed as the county council's substitute representative.

Resolved: - That County Councillor Phillippa Williamson be appointed to serve on the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire and that County Councillor Alan Vincent be appointed to serve as the substitute representative for 2021/22.

15. Transport for the North and Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee - Appointment of County Council Representatives for 2021/22

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of the county council's representatives, and substitute representatives, to serve on Transport for the North and Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee for 2021/22.

County Councillor Vincent proposed that County Councillors Aidy Riggott and Matthew Salter be appointed as the county council's representatives, and that County Councillors Charles Edwards and Rob Bailey be appointed as the county council's substitute representatives.

Resolved: - That:

The following Members be appointed to serve on Transport for the North and Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee for 2021/22:

Transport for the North

County Councillor Aidy Riggott
County Councillor Charles Edwards (Substitute)

Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee

County Councillor Matthew Salter
County Councillor Rob Bailey (Substitute)

16. Appointments to the Local Government Association's General Assembly, Boards and Special Interest Groups for 2021/22

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of representatives to serve on the Local Government Association General Assembly for 2021/22; the appointment of representatives to serve on a number of the Local Government Association's Special Interest Groups for 2021/22, and to note the arrangements for appointments to the Local Government Association's Boards.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The representation and appointments to serve on the Local Government Association's General Assembly and Special Interest Groups, as set out in the report now presented, for 2021/22 be approved as follows:

LGA General Assembly (4)

Conservative (3) Labour (1)

G Gooch A Ali
A Vincent
P Williamson

LGA Special Interest Group - Coastal Issues (1)

S Clarke

LGA Special Interest Group - Rural Services Network (1)

S Turner

LGA Special Interest Group - Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum (1)

A Riggott

- (ii) That the County Council's 12 votes be carried by County Councillor Phillippa Williamson.
- (iii) That the arrangements for appointments to the Local Government Association's Boards as set out in the report, now presented, be noted.

17. Appointments to the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of the county council's representatives to serve on the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority until the next county council elections in May 2025.

County Councillor Vincent proposed that County Councillor Stephen Clarke be appointed as one of two county council representatives, with the Labour group proposing County Councillor Jean Parr as the additional county council representative.

Resolved: - That

- (i) County Councillors Stephen Clarke and Jean Parr be appointed to serve on the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority until the next county council elections in May 2025.
- (ii) The Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Leader of the County Council, be authorised to approve any changes to the appointments at (i) above which may become necessary before May 2025.

18. Local Pensions Partnership Ltd - Appointment of a County Council Shareholder Representative

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of the county council's shareholder representative on the Board of the Local Pensions Partnership Ltd until the next county council elections in May 2025.

County Councillor Vincent proposed that County Councillor Alan Schofield be appointed as the county council's shareholder representative.

Resolved: - That

- (i) County Councillor Alan Schofield be appointed to serve as the county council's shareholder representative on the Board of the Local Pensions Partnership Ltd until the next county council elections in May 2025.
- (ii) The Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Leader of the County Council, be authorised to approve any changes to the appointment at (i) above which may become necessary before May 2025.

19. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business to be considered.

20. Report of the Cabinet (Part B)

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved the report of the Cabinet from its meetings on 4 March and 1 April 2021, together with details of urgent Key Decisions taken since the last meeting of Full Council.

Resolved: - That the report of the Cabinet, now presented, be noted.

21(a) The Urgency Committee

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved the report of the Urgency Committee setting out details of the decision taken by the Director of Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer) under the county council's urgent business procedure on behalf of the Urgency Committee.

Resolved: - That the report of the Urgency Committee, now presented, be noted.

21(b) The Audit, Risk and Governance Committee

County Councillor Alan Schofield moved the report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee from its meeting on 26 April 2021.

Resolved: - That the report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee, now presented, be noted.

21(c) The Employment Committee

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved the report of the Employment Committee from its meetings on 8 March and 12 April 2021.

Resolved: - That the report of the Employment Committee, now presented, be noted.

21(d) The Pension Fund Committee

County Councillor Eddie Pope moved the report of the Pension Fund Committee from its meeting on 12 March 2021.

Resolved: - That the report of the Pension Fund Committee, now presented, be noted.

21(e) The Overview and Scrutiny Committees

County Councillor David O'Toole moved the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees from their meetings as follows:

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee - 9 February and 11 March 2021

External Scrutiny Committee - 16 March 2021

Health Scrutiny Committee - 23 March 2021

Internal Scrutiny Committee - 5 March 2021

Resolved: - That the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, now presented, be noted.

21(f) The Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board

County Councillor Michael Green moved the report of the Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board from its meeting on 9 March 2021.

Resolved: - That the report of the Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board, now presented, be noted.

22. Report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority

County Councillor Frank De Molfetta moved the report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority from its meetings on 22 February and 26 April 2021.

Resolved: - That the report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, now presented, be noted.

23. To consider Notices of Motion Submitted under Standing Order B36

The Chairman informed Full Council that the Notice of Motion, submitted by County Councillor Sobia Malik, had been withdrawn and would be re-submitted for the next meeting on 15 July 2021.

County Hall
Preston

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and Director
of Resources

Meeting of the Full Council
Meeting to be held on Thursday, 15 July 2021

Report submitted by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Part A

Electoral Division affected:
None;

Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel - 2021/22 Members' Allowance Scheme

(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)

Contact for further information:

Josh Mynott, Tel: (01772) 534580, Democratic and Member Services Manager,
josh.mynott@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report sets out the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the council's Members' Allowance Scheme for 2021/22, following the Panel's meeting to review the Scheme on 15 June 2021.

Recommendation

The Full Council is asked to:

- (i) Consider the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel, as set out in the report and at Appendix 'A', relating to the county council's Members' Allowance Scheme; and
- (ii) Subject to (i) above, approve the revised Members' Allowance Scheme for 2021/22 and authorise the Director of Corporate Services to make any consequential changes to the Constitution.

Background and Advice

The county council is required to establish an Independent Remuneration Panel and to have regard to its recommendations before any changes are made to its Members' Allowance Scheme. The county council is also required to approve its Members' Allowance Scheme before the beginning of each financial year.

The 2021/22 Members' Allowance Scheme was approved by Full Council at its meeting on 25 February 2021.

A meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel was held on 15 June 2021 to review and make recommendations on the 2021/22 Scheme, following the county council elections in May 2021. The following information was presented to the Panel to assist its review of the Scheme:

- A copy of the existing Scheme and supporting background information, including a summary of the key elements of the Scheme previously considered by the Panel and approved by the Full Council;
- The result and outcome of the county council elections in May 2021;
- A basic comparison of allowances paid to elected members of Lancashire County Council and those paid to elected members of other, similarly sized county councils, including neighbouring Cumbria County Council;
- An overview of Lancashire County Council's political management structure and decision-making bodies;
- A copy of the decision taken by the Leader of the Council on 27 May 2021 to establish two new Cabinet posts, and to amend the portfolios of the Cabinet Members;
- The views and representations submitted by the political group leaders; and
- Officer suggestions to clarify and update certain aspects of the Scheme and to provide supporting guidance.

The minutes of the Panel's meeting held on 15 June 2021 are attached at Appendix 'A'. The Full Council is asked to consider the review and recommendations of the Panel, as set out in the minutes and which are summarised below:

Recommendation (1) to Full Council:

- i) That consideration be given to how greater scrutiny of the work of all Special Responsibility Allowance holders could be carried out to ensure accountability and value for money; and
- ii) That greater transparency of how Special Responsibility Allowances were set and allocated would be welcomed by the Panel, and the Council should consider how this could be delivered.

Recommendation (2) to Full Council: That the Special Responsibility Allowance paid to the Leader of the Council be realigned to three times the Basic Allowance paid to individual councillors, as previously recommended by the Panel, and that all other Special Responsibility Allowances be adjusted accordingly.

The Full Council will note that the uprating of the Special Responsibility Allowances, as recommended by the Panel, would increase the Special Responsibility Allowance

cost by £20,716. Details of the recommended changes to the Special Responsibility Allowances are set out at Appendix 'B'.

The Panel did not recommend changes to any other allowances set out in the 2021/22 Members' Allowance Scheme.

The Full Council is asked to consider the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel, which are set out above and in more detail at Appendix 'A', and approve any changes to the Members' Allowance Scheme for 2021/22.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

The Full Council is required to approve an annual Members' Allowance Scheme having regard to the recommendations made by the council's Independent Remuneration Panel.

Financial

The changes to the Members' Allowance Scheme, as recommended by the Panel, will result in an additional full-year cost of £20,716 and will be funded from the Members' budget. The changes will have effect from the appointment of Special Responsibility Allowance holders at the Council's Annual General Meeting on 27 May 2021.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
Agenda of the meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel	15 June 2021	Hannah Race /(01772) 530655

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

Lancashire County Council

Independent Remuneration Panel

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 15th June 2021 at 10.30 am in Committee Room A (The Tudor Room)

Present:

K Leaver (Chair)
I Divine
L Strapps
T Whitehead

Officers in Attendance:

Paul Bond, Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Kate Lee, Head of Financial Management (Operations)
Josh Mynott, Democratic and Member Services Manager
Hannah Race, Democratic Services Officer

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

No apologies were received, though it was noted that D Mendoros had been unable to join the meeting virtually.

2. Minutes of the meeting held 6 May 2017

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held 6 May 2017 be confirmed as an accurate record.

3. Review of Lancashire County Council Members' Allowance Scheme

The Panel reviewed Lancashire County Council's 2021/22 Members' Allowance Scheme. The following information was presented to the Panel to assist its review of the Scheme following the County Council elections:

- A copy of the existing Scheme and supporting background information, including a summary of the key elements of the Scheme previously considered by the Panel and approved by the Full Council;
- The result and outcome of the County Council elections in May 2021;

- A basic comparison of allowances paid to elected members of Lancashire County Council and those paid to elected members of other, similarly sized county councils, including neighbouring Cumbria County Council;
- An overview of Lancashire County Council's political management structure and decision-making bodies;
- A copy of the decision taken by the Leader of the Council on 27 May 2021 to establish two new Cabinet posts, and to amend the portfolios of the Cabinet Members;
- The views and representations submitted by the political group leaders; and
- Officer suggestions to clarify and update certain aspects of the Scheme and to provide supporting guidance.

The Panel was informed that any decision to amend the 2021/22 Members' Allowance Scheme would be taken by the Full Council at its next meeting on 15 July 2021 and that the Full Council had to have regard to the recommendations of the Panel.

Political Group Leaders' Representations and Comments on the Scheme

The Panel was informed that the Leaders of the four political groups had been invited to attend the meeting to present, or to submit in writing, their views on the Members' Allowance Scheme and to make recommendations with regards to any changes they wished the Panel to consider.

It was noted that the Labour Group had been invited to attend the meeting or submit their views in writing but had chosen not to on this occasion.

County Councillor John Potter, Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, attended the meeting to present the group's views and suggestions on the Members' Allowance Scheme. In summary, County Councillor Potter asked the Panel to consider the following:

- With the addition of two new Cabinet positions since the election, 40 out of 48 Conservative Group members received additional remuneration or a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA). More than 80% of members of the ruling group were receiving extra money, and he queried whether this was fair, appropriate and represented the best allocation of SRAs.
- Outside of the two largest groups, no elected members received an SRA, and this presented a challenge to the smallest political groups. Regardless of their size, all political groups contributed to the scrutiny of council decisions.

- What mechanisms were in place to enable scrutiny and accountability of some SRA holders to ensure the additional remuneration was merited. In particular, the role of Lead Members and Champions and their accountability was challenged.
- Whether the current system was fair and balanced, and especially whether it met the objective of ensuring that there were no barriers put in the way of individuals from all parts of the community. In particular, the impact on younger, working age people was raised.

The Panel gave consideration to the points raised by County Councillor Potter and agreed that the smallest groups were important to the council. It was noted that former versions of the Scheme had allowed for a "group allowance" to be given to all political groups on a proportional basis, but that this was no longer permitted by Regulations.

In response to a question, County Councillor Potter clarified that the carers'/dependents' allowance was unlikely to be a barrier for younger people who may have wished to stand as a councillor. The time of council meetings was likely to be a bigger factor for individuals who were not already retired or who had caring responsibilities, which was beyond the remit of the Panel.

Regarding the SRAs paid to Lead Members and Champions, there was a discussion about how the council monitored and scrutinised value, during which the following points were raised:

- Champions produced an annual report to Cabinet to demonstrate their work, though the same was not requested of Lead Members. Reports to Cabinet were public documents and could be viewed by all councillors. Nonetheless, there was scope for further scrutiny, and it was recognised that the smallest political groups could not ask questions during Cabinet meetings.
- SRAs existed to compensate councillors for the extra time they spent on council business whilst holding a particular role, so it was reasonable to check how this time was being spent.
- The council did not have a direct measurement to assess the value for money of the SRAs, however the Panel was entitled to recommend that regular reporting was carried out to monitor value for money.
- Lead Members and Champions should already have been involved in the overview and scrutiny of their areas of work.

The Panel agreed that outcomes should form part of the process to justify the payment of SRAs to Lead Members and Champions and that there was a public interest in how SRAs were allocated.

With regard to removing barriers that might have prevented individuals from standing as a councillor, the following points were highlighted:

- The council had recently developed a protocol for expectant and new parents, and the move to virtual and hybrid meetings as a result of the pandemic had resulted in improved attendance at council meetings. If permitted to continue in the future, allowing councillors to join meetings virtually in exceptional circumstances would improve accessibility.
- The last 18 months had provided an unusual opportunity to monitor whether councillors with caring responsibilities, for example, were able to attend more meetings when they were held virtually.
- The number of councillors who claimed the carers'/dependents' allowance was low generally, so had been largely unaffected by the shift to virtual meetings since March 2020.
- Although council meetings were beyond the Panel's remit, the Panel was in a position to recommend increased transparency to ensure there were no barriers to standing as a councillor.

Recommendation (1) to Full Council:

- i) That consideration be given to how greater scrutiny of the work of all SRA holders could be carried out to ensure accountability and value for money; and
- ii) That greater transparency of how SRAs were set and allocated would be welcomed by the Panel, and the Council should consider how this could be delivered.

The Panel was informed that the Conservative Group did not wish to attend the meeting, but had requested that the Panel consider whether councillors' attendance at parish council meetings in their division should be considered an Approved Duty, for which a travel and expenses claim could be submitted.

It was noted that Cumbria County Council allowed elected members to make a travel and expenses claim for attendance at parish council meetings, however Cumbria was demographically and geographically different to Lancashire.

The Panel agreed that attendance at local meetings formed part of councillors' roles as elected members for their areas and should not be considered council business.

Resolved: That a change to the Members' Allowance Scheme to include attendance at parish council meetings in the list of approved duties for which a

travel and expenses claim can be submitted should not be recommended to Full Council.

The Panel was informed that the Green Group had submitted their views in writing for the Panel's consideration, as follows:

- "The SRA for Group Whips should now be removed. We understand that this has been removed in other Councils. Whips clearly have a political role. While those who take this on may indeed undertake other administration duties- those should be passed to Group secretaries, who are also remunerated. It is inappropriate for Local Councils to support a political post for parity political practices that are in any case not adopted by all political parties. Councillors are not and should not be encouraged to behave like MPs in relation to their duties.
- Travel expenses. The Council should move to adopt best practice to incentivise use of public transport and EV by Councillors, which should be reflected in the travel re-imbursement rates. Best practice should be followed (from other organisations) to ensure that our commitment to carbon reduction is reflected in the rates of travel behaviour of councillors.
- The suggestion that SRA's should be paid to no more than 50% of councillors is too high. This should be reduced to 40% in the first instance. There is a public perception risk that a ruling group provides too many SRAs for its own members and has the tendency to create roles to financially reward its own members.
- Monthly claims. As many councillors are attending County Hall infrequently – and may have only one or two travel or carers claim per month – this is an inefficiency – creating high levels of admin for small amounts of money. There should be an option to claim quarterly – for example if there is are 3 or fewer claims for a month. Claims should be allowed to be rolled over for two months to a quarterly deadline."

The Panel agreed that it did not have a view on the SRA payment to Group Whips.

Regarding travel allowances, the Panel was informed that HMRC did not distinguish between petrol/diesel vehicles and electric vehicles. In part, an incentive was already provided because electric vehicles were cheaper to run. It was agreed that, whilst interesting from an environmental perspective and clearly something that should be encouraged and supported (for example, by providing charging infrastructure at County Hall), this issue did not fall within the remit of the Panel.

It was noted that the Panel had already discussed the payment of SRAs and made recommendations to Full Council accordingly.

In relation to the claiming system, the Panel agreed that quarterly claiming could cause difficulties from a finance perspective and did not wish to recommend any changes.

Resolved: That changes to the travelling allowances and changes to the process for submitting claims on a monthly basis should not be recommended to Full Council.

It was highlighted to the Panel by officers that a discrepancy had emerged since 2017 between the intended and actual SRA paid to the Leader of the Council. It had previously been recommended by the Panel, and agreed by Full Council, that the SRA paid to the Leader of the Council should be three times the Basic Allowance paid to individual councillors. As per the 2021/22 Members' Allowance Scheme, the Leader currently received £31,322 which was approximately £1,600 less than three times the current Basic Allowance.

The Panel agreed that the discrepancy should be resolved and that the SRA paid to the Leader should be realigned to three times the Basic Allowance paid to individual councillors.

The Panel was advised that this change would result in the SRA paid to the Leader increasing to £32,907, which in turn would have implications for the other SRAs set out in the Members' Allowance Scheme, as all other SRAs were determined as a percentage of the Leader's. As a consequence, the total paid to councillors in one year would increase by approximately £20,000.

Recommendation (2) to Full Council: That the SRA paid to the Leader of the Council be realigned to three times the Basic Allowance paid to individual councillors, as previously recommended by the Panel, and that all other SRAs be adjusted accordingly.

Resolved: That, subject to recommendations 1 and 2 above, the Panel does not wish to make any other recommendations to amend the 2021/22 Members' Allowance Scheme.

4. Any Other Business

None.

5. Date of Next Meeting

The Panel agreed that no further meetings were needed to discuss the 2021/22 Members' Allowance Scheme.

The Panel requested that, rather than meeting to discuss in person, the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel and the recommendations to Full Council be shared with the Panel via email for approval.

Resolved: That the meetings of the Independent Remuneration Panel, due to be held on Wednesday 16 June 2021 and Tuesday 22 June, be cancelled. The date of the next meeting to be confirmed.

The Chair thanked members of the Panel and officers for their attendance and contributions.

L Sales
Director of Corporate Services

County Hall
Preston

Appendix B

Recommended changes to the Members' Allowance Scheme

(Schedule 'B' – Special Responsibility Allowances)

Position	% of Leader	Current SRA (£)	Recommended SRA (£)
Leader	100.00	31,322	32,907
Deputy Leader	70.00	21,925	23,035
Cabinet Members (8)	55.00	17,227	18,099
Lead Members (5)	27.50	8,613	9,049
Champions (6)	17.50	5,482	5,759
Chairs (11)	25.00	7,830	8,227
O&S Deputy Chairs (4)	47.00 (% of Chair)	3,681	3,867
Majority Group Secretary	15.00	4,699	4,936
Majority Group Whip	15.00	4,699	4,936
Opposition Group Leader	55.00	17,227	18,099
Opposition Group Deputy	27.50	8,613	9,049
Opposition Group Secretary	10.00	3,133	3,291
Opposition Group Whip	10.00	3,133	3,291

Current Special Responsibility Allowance budget: **£409,378**

Recommended Special Responsibility Allowance budget, to accommodate the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel: **£430,094**

Meeting of the Full Council
Meeting to be held on Thursday, 15 July 2021

Report submitted by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Part B

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Report of the Cabinet (Part B)

Contact for further information:
Craig Alker, Tel: 01772 537997, Business Support Officer,
craig.alker@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The report of the Cabinet from its meeting on 10 June 2021.

This report also presents details of urgent key decisions taken since the last meeting of Full Council, in accordance with Standing Order C22.

Recommendation

That the report of the Cabinet, as now presented, be noted.

Background and Advice

The agenda and minutes of the meetings below may be viewed at:
<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=122>.

10 June 2021

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

- **The County Council's Financial Position - 2020/21 Outturn**

Resolved: That;

- The council's final revenue and capital outturn position for 2020/21 be noted; and
- The transfer of the 2020/21 revenue underspend to the transitional reserve be approved.

- **Appointments to Outside Bodies**

Resolved: That;

- i. The representation and appointments to serve on the outside bodies as listed in Appendix 'A' of the report and as presented at the meeting be approved until the next Lancashire County Council elections in May 2025; and
- ii. A request be submitted to the Political Group Secretaries to co-ordinate the nomination of members to fill any vacancies and any in-year changes, and, in consultation with Democratic Services and the Deputy Leader of the County Council, notify the Director of Corporate Services who will approve any in-year changes or appointments under the Scheme of Delegation to Heads of Service.

- **Procurement Report**

Resolved: That, the commencement of procurement exercises for the following be approved:

- i. Supply of Liquid Fuels;
- ii. Provision of Fostering Agency Placements Flexible Agreement; and
- iii. IT Hardware, Commercial Off-the-Shelf Software, ICT Infrastructure Software and other associated Software Support Services.

- **Lancashire County Council (Bent Lane, Colne, Pendle Borough) (Revocation and Prohibition of Waiting) Order 202***

Resolved: That, the making of the Traffic Regulation Order as detailed in the report and as set out in the Notice of Proposal, Plan and Statement of Reasons at Appendices 'A' to 'C' of the report, be approved.

- **Lancashire County Council (Bury Road, Haslingden, Kay Street, Rawtenstall, and King Street, Bacup, Rossendale Borough) (Revocation and Electric Vehicle Charging Place) Order 202***

Resolved: That, the proposal to make minor revisions to the provisions that are already in place for Electric Vehicle Charging Points in Bury Road, Haslingden, Kay Street, Rawtenstall and King Street, Bacup as detailed within the report and as set out in the Notice of Proposal (Appendix 'A'), Plans (Appendices 'B' to 'D') and Statement of Reasons (Appendix 'E'), be approved.

- **Lancashire County Council (Various Roads, Burnley and Hyndburn Boroughs, and Lancaster City) (Revocation, Prohibition of Driving and Bus Lanes) Order 202***

Resolved: That, the making of the Traffic Regulation Order as detailed in the report and as set out in the Modified Draft Order (Appendix 'F'), Plans (Appendices 'B' to 'D' & G) and Statement of Reasons (Appendix 'E'), be approved.

- **Lancashire County Council (Various Roads, Various Locations, Chorley, Pendle, Preston, South Ribble, West Lancashire and Wyre) (Revocations, 20mph, 30mph, 40mph and 50mph Speed Limits, February 2020 (No1)) Order 202***

Resolved: That, the proposals for speed restrictions on various lengths of road within the Chorley, Pendle, Preston, South Ribble, West Lancashire and Wyre Districts as detailed within the report and as set out in the Modified Draft Order (Appendix 'J'), Plans (Appendices 'C' to 'I') and Statement of Reasons (Appendices 'K' and 'L'), be approved.

- **Proposed 2021/22 New Start Road Safety and Cycle Safety Programmes**

Resolved: That, the proposed 2021/22 New Start Road Safety and Cycling Safety programmes funded by 2021/22 Integrated Transport Grant set out as projects at Appendices 'A' and 'B' of the report, be approved.

- **Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders and Toucan Crossing on Golden Hill Lane and Chapel Brow, Leyland**

Resolved: That, the proposals to introduce amended parking restrictions on Chapel Brow, a no right turn at the top of Chapel Brow onto Golden Hill Lane, part conversion of Chapel Brow to two-way traffic and a new Toucan Crossing across Golden Hill Lane as set out in the plans at Appendix 'A' of the report, be approved.

- **Manchester Road and Church Avenue, Baxenden, Cycle Track with Right of Way on Foot, No Waiting at Any Time and Toucan Crossing**

Resolved: That, the following be approved:

- i. Removal of the footway status on Manchester Road and Church Avenue, as shown in Appendix 'A' of the report, pursuant to section 66(4) of the Highways Act 1980;
- ii. Construction of cycle tracks with right of way on foot on Manchester Road and Church Avenue, pursuant to section 65(1) of the Highways Act 1980, including reduction in width of carriageway, as shown in Appendix 'A' of the report;
- iii. The introduction of No Waiting at Any Time restrictions in Manchester Road, and Church Avenue as shown in Appendix 'A' of the report; and
- iv. The construction of a toucan crossing located on Manchester Road, as shown in Appendix 'A' of the report.

- **Various Roads, Preston City Centre, UCLan Area, Preston City (Revocations, Amendments to Permit Parking Provisions and Various Parking Restrictions) Order 202***

Resolved: That, the making of the Permit Parking Provision and Various Parking Restriction Order at Appendix 'B.2' of the report, which introduces parking restrictions on the recently modified Adelphi Junction and associated revocations on

the affected side roads as shown on the plans at Appendix 'A' of the report, be approved.

- **Revision of Foster Care Allowances 2021/22**

Resolved: That, the increase in the current scale of Foster Care Allowances as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report, be approved.

- **Approval to Carry Out a Wider Consultation on the SEND Home to School Transport Policy**

Resolved: That, the draft SEND Home to School Transport Policy as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report be approved for a wider consultation.

- **Feedback on Stage 1 Consultation to Provide Additional Primary Places in Clitheroe and Next Steps**

Resolved: That;

- i. The commencement of a period of consultation to extend the age range of Ribblesdale High School to provide a 4-16 age all through school, by utilising the Higher Standen site to provide 210 primary school places from September 2023 be approved;
- ii. The progress of the design and procurement of a new primary school building at Higher Standen estate, Clitheroe, be approved; and
- iii. The estimate of costs to be funded through Basic Need Grant and developer contributions, as detailed in the Schools Capital Strategy, be approved.

- **Procedures for the Consideration of the Appointment and Removal of Local Authority Governors**

Resolved: That, the revised procedures for the consideration of the appointment and removal of Local Authority Governors, as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report, be approved.

- **The Government's Channel Duty Guidance 2020 - Recommended Amendment to the County Council's Scheme of Delegation**

Resolved: That, the delegated authority be given to Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council to act as 'Channel Supervisor' on behalf of the upper tier authorities (Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Cumbria County Council), in accordance with the provisions set out in Section 36 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act.

Part II (Not Open to Press and Public)

- **Savick Library**

Resolved: That, the recommendations as set out in the report, be approved.

- **South Lancaster Growth Catalyst**

Resolved: That, the recommendation as set out in the report, be approved.

- **Update on The Samlesbury Enterprise Zone**

Resolved: That, the recommendations as set out in the report, be approved.

Urgent Key Decisions

It is a requirement of Standing Order C22 that any urgent Key Decision taken under the provisions of Standing Order C21 must be reported to Full Council for information. The following urgent Key Decision was taken since the last meeting of Full Council:

The following urgent Key Decision was taken by the Leader of the County Council and the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth on 17 June 2021:

- [Community Renewal Fund - Submission of Application](#)

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		

Meeting of the Full Council
Meeting to be held on Thursday, 15 July 2021

Report submitted by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Part B

Electoral Division affected:
None;

The Urgency Committee

Contact for further information:
Craig Alker, Tel: (01772) 537997, Business Support Officer,
craig.alker@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The report sets out details of the decisions taken by either the Chief Executive and Director of Resources (S151), or the Director of Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer) under the county council's urgent business procedure on behalf of the Urgency Committee.

Recommendation

That the report of the Urgency Committee, as now presented, be noted.

Background and Advice

Since the last meeting of Full Council, the following decisions have been taken by either the Chief Executive and Director of Resources (S151), or the Director of Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer) under the county council's urgent business procedure on behalf of the Urgency Committee.

Lancashire Combined Fire Authority - Conservative Appointments for 2021/22

The following decision was taken on 28 May 2021:

The Director of Corporate Services approved the Conservative appointments to the Combined Fire Authority for 2021/22 as set out below:

- County Councillor Peter Britcliffe
- County Councillor Stephen Clarke
- County Councillor Carole Haythornthwaite

- County Councillor Keith Iddon
- County Councillor Andrea Kay
- County Councillor Stuart Morris
- County Councillor David O'Toole
- County Councillor Paul Rigby
- County Councillor John Shedwick
- County Councillor John Singleton
- County Councillor Ron Woollam

Lancashire Combined Fire Authority Membership, Transport for the North and Deputy Chair of the Student Support Appeals Panel

The following decision was taken on 10 June 2021:

The Chief Executive and Director of Resources (S151) approved the appointments as set out below:

- County Councillor Ged Mirfin to replace County Councillor Carole Haythornthwaite as a Conservative Group member of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority for 2021/22.
- County Councillor Charles Edwards to replace County Councillor Aidy Riggott as the county council's representative on the Board of Transport for the North for 2021/22.
- County Councillor Aidy Riggott to replace County Councillor Charles Edwards as the county council's substitute representative on the Board of Transport for the North for 2021/22.
- County Councillor Sue Hind to replace County Councillor Howard Hartley as Deputy Chair of the Student Support Appeals Panel for 2021/22. (Note that County Councillor Hartley remains a member of the panel).

Appointment of County Council Representatives to the County Councils Network for 2021/22

The following decision was taken on 18 June 2021:

The Director of Corporate Services approved the appointment of County Councillors Phillippa Williamson, Alan Vincent, Graham Gooch and Azhar Ali to serve as the county council's representatives on the County Councils Network for 2021/22.

The following decision was taken on 18 June 2021:

The Director of Corporate Services approved the appointment of County Councillors Phillippa Williamson, Alan Vincent, Graham Gooch and Azhar Ali to serve as the county council's representatives on the County Councils Network for 2021/22.

Lancashire Combined Fire Authority Membership Change

The following decision was taken on 5 July 2021:

The Director of Corporate Services approved the appointment of County Councillor Lorraine Beavers to serve as a Labour Group member of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority for 2021/22 in place of County Councillor Frank De Molfetta.

Consultations

These decisions were taken following consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Urgency Committee.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

There are no risks associated with the proposals set out in this report.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		

Meeting of the Full Council
Meeting to be held on Thursday, 15 July 2021

Report submitted by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Part B

Electoral Division affected:
None;

The Employment Committee
(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:
Hannah Race, Tel: (01772) 530655, Democratic Services Officer,
hannah.race@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The report of the Employment Committee from its meeting held on 7 June 2021 is attached at Appendix 'A'.

The agenda, reports and minutes of the meeting are available to view [here](#).

Members can also contact the officers specified in each report for further information about each item.

Recommendation

That the report of the Employment Committee, as now presented, be noted.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

Meeting of the Full Council - 15 July 2021

Report of the Employment Committee Meeting held on 7 June 2021

Chair: County Councillor Phillippa Williamson

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Constitution, Membership and Terms of Reference

The committee considered a report detailing the membership, Chairmanship and Terms of Reference for the 2021/22 municipal year.

Resolved: That

- i) The appointment of County Councillor P Williamson as Chair and County Councillor A Vincent as Deputy Chair of the Employment Committee for the 2021/22 municipal year be noted;
- ii) The membership of the committee, following the county council's annual meeting on 27 May 2021 be noted; and
- iii) The Employment Committee Terms of Reference be noted.

Revised Travel & Expenses Policy and Procedure

The committee considered a report presented by Deborah Barrow, Head of Service Human Resources, which provided an update on the Human Resources policy review programme and the revised Travel & Expenses Policy and Procedure.

Resolved: That the revised Travel & Expenses Policy and Procedure, as presented, be approved.

Part II (Not Open to Press and Public)

Lancashire Renewables Ltd Annual Pay Review and Update to Employee Terms and Conditions

(Not for Publication – Exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 and 4 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 private and confidential report presented by Paul Brindle, General Manager of Lancashire Renewables Limited, which outlined the company's

proposals for the annual pay review and amendments to the employee terms and conditions of employment.

Resolved: That, in accordance with the company's Articles of Association,

- i) The implementation of the pay proposal as detailed within the report, effective from 1 January 2021, be approved; and
- ii) The proposed changes to the employee terms and conditions of employment, as detailed within the report, be approved.

Meeting of the Full Council
Meeting to be held on Thursday, 15 July 2021

Report submitted by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Part B

Electoral Division affected:
None;

The Pension Fund Committee
(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:
Mike Neville, Tel: (01772) 533431, Senior Democratic Services Officer,
mike.neville@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The report of the Pension Fund Committee from the meeting held on 18 June 2021 is attached at Appendix 'A'. The agenda, part I reports and minutes of the meeting are available to view [here](#).

Recommendation

That the report of the Pension Fund Committee from the meeting held on 18 June 2021, as set out at Appendix 'A' to this report, be noted.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

Meeting of the Full Council - 15 July 2021

Report of the Pension Fund Committee meeting held on 18 June 2021

Chair: County Councillor Eddie Pope

Part I (Open to the press and public)

Appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Committee

The Committee noted the appointment of County Councillor E Pope as Chair of the Committee and County Councillor A Schofield as Deputy Chair by full Council on the 27th May 2021.

Constitution, Membership and Terms of Reference

Decision taken:

1. That the current membership of the Committee, as set out below, is noted.

County Councillors (12)

M Brown	M Pattison
J Burrows	E Pope (Chair)
M Clifford	A Schofield (Deputy Chair)
F De Molfetta	S Smith
G Dowding	D Westley
M Goulthorp	R Woollam

Voting co-opted members (7).

Councillor R Whittle – Blackburn with Darwen Council
Councillor M Smith – Blackpool Council
Councillor D Borrow – Borough and City Councils
Councillor M Hindley – Borough and City Councils
Ms J Eastham – Further Education and Higher Education Institutions.
Mr P Crewe – Trade Unions
Vacancy – Trade Unions

2. That a copy of the current Terms of Reference of the Committee is set out in the Minute Book.

External Audit 2020/21

The Committee considered a report from Grant Thornton on the plan for the 2020/21 external audit of the Lancashire County Pension Fund, which would give an opinion on whether the financial statements represented an accurate view of the financial position/performance of the Fund as at 31st March 2021, and that the

accounts had been prepared in accordance with proper accounting practice. The Committee received clarification on the background to various audit fees referred to in the Appendix to the report, particularly associated with working remotely during the pandemic and noted that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government was consulting on additional public sector funding to meet the anticipated rise in audits.

Decision taken: That the 2020/21 external audit plan for the Lancashire County Pension Fund, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report presented, is noted.

Lancashire County Pension Fund - 2020/21 budget monitoring report

The Committee considered a report on the financial performance of the Fund for the year ended 31st March 2021, with a comparison to budget and previous year results, and noted the adverse variance against budget for the financial year. The Committee also discussed the key variances set out in the report, particularly around prepayments of employer contributions and increased fees.

Decision taken:

1. That the financial performance of the Lancashire County Pension Fund for the year ended 31st March 2021, as set out in the report presented, is noted.
2. That in light of the comments of the Committee the Head of Fund review the 2021/22 budget and, if appropriate, bring an updated report to the next meeting of the Committee.

Lancashire County Pension Fund and Lancashire County Council Annual Governance Statement

The Committee considered a report on the draft Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21 which had been produced following a review of the governance arrangements for the Fund. During consideration of the report it was suggested that the Committee would benefit from being able to see how the Fund was performing compared to its peers and whether expectations were being met or exceeded and the Head of Fund confirmed he would look to provide such information in relation to 2021/22.

Decision taken:

1. That the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement for the Lancashire County Pension Fund, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report presented, is approved.
2. That the Statement referred to at 1 above be incorporated into the single Annual Governance Statement to be presented to the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee on the 26th July 2021.

Lancashire Local Pension Board 2020/21 Annual Report

The Committee considered a report on the 2020/21 Annual Report of the Local Pension Board and was informed by the Chair of the Board that following discussions with the Local Pensions Partnership he had agreed to amend the wording of a paragraph under 'Activities' in the Annual Report. The amended wording was read out to the Committee and the Chair stated he would confirm the wording of the amendment before it was included in the Annual Report.

Decision taken:

1. That the second paragraph under the heading 'Activities' in the Annual Report presented at Appendix 'A' be replaced with the following wording 'The separation of LPP's administration and investment functions into two units, Local Pensions Partnership Administration (LPPA) and Local Pensions Partnership Investments (LPPI), has led to some changes. The Board is supportive of the decision to create two more focused entities under the Local Pensions Partnership (LPP) and believes it will benefit the Fund through more efficient service provision on both sides. However, we will remain alert to the need to assure ourselves that the Fund receives value for money from the new arrangements.'
2. That, subject to the amendment specified at 1 above, the 2020/21 Annual Report of the Lancashire Local Pension Board, as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report presented, is approved for inclusion in the Lancashire County Pension Fund Annual Report.

Lancashire County Pension Fund - Inter-valuation contribution review policy/Admission and Termination Policy

The Committee was informed that following the consultation with employers in the Fund referred to at the previous meeting the inter-valuation contribution review policy and the Admission and Termination policy had both been finalised and were presented for approval.

Decision taken: That the inter-valuation contribution review policy and the Admission and Termination policy, as set out respectively at Appendices 'A' and 'B' to the report presented, are approved.

Investment Strategy Statement

The Committee considered a report from the Investment Panel regarding the sale of a legacy investment and how the proceeds would be allocated equally into the Global Equities, Credit and Infrastructure asset classes. The Panel also recommended that the target allocation within the Strategic Asset Allocation be updated as set out in the report.

The Committee discussed direct investment in Lancashire, the level of Fund investment in Global Equities and the impact of Covid-19 on investments as the country emerged from the pandemic.

Decision taken:

1. That the changes to the Strategic Asset Allocations, as recommended by the Investment Panel on the 29th April 2021 and set out in the report presented, together with the updated Investment Strategy Statement (Appendix 'A') are approved.
2. That the Committee be given a briefing on the post pandemic impact on the Fund investment portfolio in the future.

2020/21 Training Record and feedback from members of the Committee on pension related training.

The Committee considered a report on training which members had participated in since the last meeting together with a copy of the 2020/21 Training Record. The Committee was also informed that details of training on the 23rd June 2021 for the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee on the Statement of Accounts would be circulated after the meeting.

Decision taken: That the report and feedback given at the meeting regarding training received by individual members of the Committee is noted.

Responsible Investment Report

The Committee considered a detailed report on responsible investment activity during Q1 (January to March 2021) which included a statement on the Fund's position and longer-term ambition in relation to portfolio decarbonisation and a response regarding a campaign for LGPS pension funds to embargo investment in companies active in occupied Palestine. The Committee discussed shareholder engagement, divestment and the proposed legislation to prevent public bodies from imposing their own approach/views on international relations and preventing boycott, divestment or sanctions campaigns against foreign countries.

With regard to the review of the Responsible Investment Policy of the Fund the Chair proposed that a Task and Finish Group comprising 4 members of the Committee be established and nominations were received from the following:

County Councillor D Westley
County Councillor A Schofield
County Councillor M Brown
County Councillor G Dowding
Co-opted member - Ms J Eastham
Co-opted member - Councillor M Smith

Decision taken:

1. That a Task and Finish Group comprising four members of the Committee (to be drawn from the nominations made at the meeting) be established to review the current Responsible Investment Policy for the Lancashire County Pension Fund and recommend any amendments to the Committee in November 2021 for consideration.
2. That the update on responsible investment activity during Q1, as set out in the report presented, is noted.

The Chair introduced Mr M O'Higgins, the Chairman of the Local Pension Partnership Board, who was to step down from that position at the end of June 2021. The Chair, Deputy Chair and Councillor Borrow thanked Mr O'Higgins for his contribution to the success of the Partnership since its inception and wished him well for the future.

Date of Next Meeting - 10.30am on the 17th September 2021 at County Hall, Preston.

Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That the press and 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, as indicated against the heading of each item. It is considered that in all the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Annual Administration Report 2020/21

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It was considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Committee considered a detailed report on the performance of the pension administration service against standards and targets during 2020/21 and noted that overall performance in excess of 98% had been achieved against measured service standards, which maintained the performance level for the previous year and exceeded the overall target level of meeting 95% of key performance indicators. Elapsed times and the helpdesk performance figures relating to call handling were also discussed.

Decision taken: That the performance of the pension administration service against standards and targets during 2020/21, as set out in the report, is noted.

Internal Audit Assurance

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It was considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Committee considered a report on internal audit assurance work relating to the Fund during 2020/21 and planned for 2021/22 and noted the findings of the internal audits, the associated levels of assurance given and proposed actions around future service improvements.

Decision taken: That the summary of internal audit assurance work relating to the Lancashire County Pension Fund during 2020/21 and planned for 2021/22, as set out in the report presented is noted.

Local Pensions Partnership Update

Exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It was considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Committee considered a report on activity by the Local Pensions Partnership Group which included an update on strategic objectives performance for Year 1 of the 5-year strategy, financial performance across the LPP Group to 31st March 2021 together with updates on administration/investments performance to 31st March 2021.

Decision taken:

1. That the updates on the activity and financial position of the Local Pensions Partnership, as set out in the report presented, are noted.
2. That an update on the East Cliff development in Preston be presented to the next meeting.

Investment Panel Report

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It was considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Committee considered a report on various macro-economic factors which influenced the investment market in which the Lancashire County Pension Fund operated and noted that the investment portfolio of the Fund was considered resilient and well placed to keep pace with inflation.

Decision taken: That the report from the Investment Panel is noted.

Lancashire County Pension Fund - Performance Overview

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It was considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Committee considered a report on the performance of the Lancashire County Pension Fund up to the end of March 2021 which included details of the total portfolio return over different periods, asset allocations and the current funding level. It was noted that Investment Panel was in the process of carrying out a Service Based Review of Local Pensions Partnership Investments and would report back to the Committee towards the end of the 2021.

Decision taken: That the summary of the Fund's performance up to the 31st March 2020, as set out in Appendix 'A' to the report presented is noted.

Lancashire County Pension Fund Risk Register

Exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It was considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Committee considered a report on the Fund Risk Register and specific Covid-19 related Risk Register which had both been updated following a review by County Council Officers in consultation with the Local Pensions Partnership and Lancashire Local Pension Board. It was noted that the format of the Risk Register was being reviewed in conjunction with the Local Pension Board and an update report would be presented to a future meeting.

Decision taken: That the current risk summary document and risk registers for the Lancashire County Pension Fund, as set out in the Appendices to the report presented, are noted.

Meeting of the Full Council
Meeting to be held on Thursday, 15 July 2021

Report submitted by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Part B

Electoral Division affected:
None;

Report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority
(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:
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dianebrooks@lancsfirerescue.org.uk

Executive Summary

Appendix 'A' sets out a summary report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority following its meeting on 28 June 2021. This is now presented to Full Council for information.

Recommendation

That the report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, as now presented, be noted.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		

REPORT OF THE LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY (CFA) HELD 28 JUNE 2021

1. COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY ANNUAL MEETING

The meeting held 28 June was the Authority's Annual Meeting and Members appointed County Councillors D O'Toole and J Shedwick as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Authority respectively for 2021/22. The Chairman took the opportunity to recognise the work of the outgoing Chairman, County Councillor Frank De Molfetta who had been an excellent Chairman to work with over the past 8 years and the Authority Members applauded. County Councillor Nikki Hennessy also took the opportunity to thank County Councillor De Molfetta for his support to the Authority particularly his enthusiasm and commitment to the residents of Lancashire.

2. COMPOSITION OF THE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

The Composition of the Combined Fire Authority for 2021/22 included 8 new Members from Lancashire County Council: Keith Iddon, Ged Mirfin, Stuart Morris, John Singleton, Ron Woollam, Munsif Dad, Jennifer Mein and Sean Serridge and 1 new Member from Blackburn with Darwen Council: Councillor Jean Rigby.

3. RE-APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSON

As required by the Localism Act 2011, the Authority had a duty to promote and maintain high standards of Members which included the appointment of one or more Independent Persons. Following consideration, the Authority re-appointed Mrs Hilary Banks as its Independent Person for a further period until the CFA Meeting in February 2022 which allowed for a period of time to make arrangements for a replacement.

4. UNWANTED FIRE SIGNAL POLICY (UWFS) – PROPOSALS FOR CHANGE

The Authority received a report and presentation which provided an overview of the current policy relating to fire engine attendance at False Alarms caused by Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA) actuations and the high proportion of these which were subsequently categorised as Unwanted Fire Signals (UWFS). It was noted that the March 2021 Performance Committee meeting considered the implications of the current policy and the resultant performance, endorsing two options for change which were presented for full Fire Authority consideration. The two options were framed around i) non-attendance to non-sleeping risk premises; and ii) the development of a new policy relating specifically to domestic false alarms (which were growing at pace due to increased use of Telecare in Social Care provision for the most vulnerable).

The proposals would bring Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) into greater alignment with other North West services and with the Fire Sector direction of travel. False alarm mobilisations consistently accounted for approximately 50% of all LFRS attendances, compared to 42% nationally. This disparity was noted by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) in their last inspection. It was reasonable therefore to expect further scrutiny in this area during the next round of HMICFRS inspections later in 2021.

The Authority endorsed both proposals for public consultation.

5. ANNUAL SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2020/21

The Authority noted that the Service had again seen a very positive year in terms of overall safety, health and environment performance. Covid 19 had been a significant challenge to the Service during 2020/21 which had required significant focus across all areas to ensure that operational response and safety critical community work continued to be carried out safely for both staff and members of the public. While the vaccination programme was providing a route out of the restrictions, the Service would continue to comply with Covid 19 workplace safety requirements which would be reviewed as restrictions changed.

In April 2021 the auditor from British Assessment Bureau carried out a virtual audit against health and safety standard ISO 45001:2018 and environment ISO 14001:2015. The scope for both standards was 'The Provision of Fire, Rescue and Supporting Services across Lancashire'. This included all operational activity with virtual visits to five fire stations that operated different duty systems and to a number of supporting departments. Continued certification was granted without any non-conformance. During 2020/21 there were 57 accidents, 117 near misses and 9 RIDDOR events. The report provided a summary of the total accident and ill-health statistics for 2020/21. A comparison against previous performance showed an overall downward trend from absence following work related injury/illness and demonstrated a positive increase in near miss reporting. The focus for health and wellbeing had been on supporting staff, colleagues, families, and friends in response to the Covid 19 pandemic with a range of material developed to support staff through this difficult time. The Carbon Management Plan 2010 included a target of 40% carbon emission reduction by March 2030 from a baseline of 4352 tonnes of CO² in 2007/08. The Service had achieved an overall reduction of 23% by March 2021 which equated to 1020 tonnes of CO².

DAVID O'TOOLE
Chairman

LFRS
Fulwood

Notices of Motion submitted under Standing Order B36

1. By County Councillor O'Toole

This council recognises the invaluable contribution the Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service has made, and is continuing to make, during the Pandemic. Volunteer firefighters have helped at both test and vaccine centres across the County.

Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Chief Fire Officer to show our appreciation and gratitude to Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service staff.

2. By County Councillor Clarke

This council commends Her Majesty's Government for the support it has given to the reinstatement of the rail link between Fleetwood and Poulton-Le-Fylde and resolves that the Chief Executive writes to the Prime Minister, asking him to continue to give the project his personal support to ensure it comes to fruition as soon as possible.

3. By County Councillor Dowding

Lancashire to Lead Carbon Reduction Plan

Last month the Government announced that companies bidding for major central government procurement contracts should have a carbon reduction plan in place that reflects the government's carbon reduction targets from September 2021. (See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0621-taking-account-of-carbon-reduction-plans-in-the-procurement-of-major-government-contracts>).

Lancashire County Council resolves to match the Government requirement by requiring companies bidding for significant Lancashire County Council contracts, including through frameworks, to commit to Carbon Reduction Plans in line with the aspirations of Lancashire's Climate and Environment Programme.

