Lancashire County Council

Cabinet

Thursday, 20th January, 2022 at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 'A' - The Tudor Room, County Hall, Preston

Agenda

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

No. Item

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are asked to consider any Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests they may have to disclose to the meeting in relation to matters under consideration on the Agenda.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 December 2021

(Pages 1 - 6)

4. Questions for Cabinet

To answer any verbal questions and supplementary questions from a county councillor, about any matter which relates to any item under Part I on the agenda for this meeting under Standing Order C35(7).

To submit a question to Cabinet, click here.

There will be a maximum of 30 minutes for the questions to be asked and answered.

Matters for Decision:

The Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader) - County Councillor Alan Vincent

5. Procurement Report

(Pages 7 - 20)



The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport - County Councillor Charles Edwards

- 6. Lancashire County Council (Alder Lane, Parbold Hill (Pages 21 38) and Sparrow Hill, Parbold, Crow Orchard Road and Hall Lane, Wrightington, West Lancashire Borough) (Revocation, Red route Clearway and Prohibition of Waiting) Order 202*
- 7. Proposed Speed Cushions, Chain Lane & Staining (Pages 39 44) Road, Staining
- 8. Station Road, Bamber Bridge Bus Stop Clearways (Pages 45 52) and On Street Parking Amendments

The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills - County Councillor Jayne Rear

9. Schools Budget 2022/23 (Pages 53 - 72)

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change - County Councillor Shaun Turner

10. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Pages 73 - 82)
Flood and Coastal Erosion Grant in Aid Capital
Funding - Flood Risk Management Works and
Studies

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth - County Councillor Aidy Riggott

11. Kirkham Town Centre Projects (Pages 83 - 86)

Please note that Appendix 'A' to this report is in Part II and appears as Item No. 22 on the Agenda.

The Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services - County Councillor Peter Buckley

12. Domestic Abuse - Proposed Approach to Address (Pages 87 - 94)
Statutory Responsibilities and Protection /
Prevention

Matters for Information:

13. Urgent Decisions taken by the Leader of the County Council and the relevant Cabinet Member(s)

The following urgent decisions have been taken by the Leader of the County Council and the relevant Cabinet Member(s) in accordance with Standing Order C16(1) since the last meeting of Cabinet, and can be viewed by clicking on the relevant link(s):

- Councillors' ICT Support Provision
- Contract Variation: Children's Residential Block Contract
- <u>National Bus Strategy Enhanced Bus</u> Partnership

14. Urgent Business

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 Chair of the meeting 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.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Cabinet will be held on Thursday 3 February 2022 at 2.00pm at County Hall, Preston.

16. Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

No representations have been received.

Click <u>here</u> to see the published Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private.

17. Exclusion of Press and Public

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, it considers that the public should 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 I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as indicated against the heading to the item.

Part II (Not Open to Press and Public)

The Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader) - County Councillor Alan Vincent

18. Request for Waiver of Procurement Rules - Independent Investment Advisor Pension Fund

(Pages 95 - 98)

Exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The report contains information relating to any individual; information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader) - County Councillor Alan Vincent and The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care - County Councillor Graham Gooch

19. Procurement Schedule Update

(Pages 99 - 110)

Exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the local Government Act 1972. This report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader) - County Councillor Alan Vincent and The Cabinet Member for Children and Families - County Councillor Cosima Towneley

20. Where Our Children Live - Property Programme of Works

(Pages 111 - 116)

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport - County Councillor Charles Edwards

21. Transforming Cities Fund Preston City Region Programme

(Pages 117 - 126)

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth - County Councillor Aidy Riggott

22. Appendix A of Item 11 - Kirkham Town Centre Projects

(Pages 127 - 134)

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. Appendix 'A' contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and Director of
Resources

County Hall Preston

Lancashire County Council

Cabinet

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 2nd December, 2021 at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston

Present:

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson Leader of the Council (in the Chair)

Cabinet Members

County Councillor Alan Vincent

County Councillor Peter Buckley

County Councillor Charles Edwards

County Councillor Michael Green

County Councillor Jayne Rear

County Councillor Aidy Riggott

County Councillor Cosima Towneley

County Councillor Shaun Turner

County Councillor Mrs Sue Whittam

County Councillors Azhar Ali OBE and Lorraine Beavers were also in attendance under the provisions of Standing Order No. C14(2).

1. Apologies for Absence

County Councillor Sue Whittam attended on behalf of County Councillor Graham Gooch for this meeting.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 November 2021

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Questions for Cabinet

One question was asked by a county councillor at the meeting and one question was asked by a county councillor to receive a written response. The questions and responses are attached to the minutes.

5. Adult Social Care Winter Plan 2021/22

Cabinet considered a report on the Lancashire County Council Adult Social Care Winter Plan which had been updated for 2021/22. The plan reflected the services in place, and the social care planning and response to the winter pressures.

It was noted that that the winter was anticipated to be more challenging than ever, and the plan included information about various actions being taken across the winter period.

In presenting the report, members expressed thanks to all the officers involved in producing the report.

Resolved: That;

- i. The Lancashire County Council Adult Social Care Winter Plan for 2021/22, as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report, be approved; and
- ii. Support be given to the ongoing work of Adult Social Care to ensure people who need social care support across the winter period, coupled with the continuing pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges across the care sector, get the right support for them at the right time.

6. Future of Wennington Hall School

Cabinet considered a report on the future of Wennington Hall School and to consider the responses received to stage one of the consultation on the proposal to close the school.

Resolved: That:

- i. The consultation arrangements that were undertaken and the responses that were received in respect of the authority's proposal, be noted; and
- ii. Approval be given for the council to publish a Statutory Notice of its proposal to close Wennington Hall School, with implementation commencing from 31 August 2022.

7. Lancashire Education Strategy 2022-2025

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval for the Lancashire Education Strategy 2022-2025.

It was noted that the Education Strategy was set out at Appendix 'A' of the report and set out the priorities in Lancashire for Education over the next three years.

Resolved: That, the following be approved;

- i. The Lancashire Education Strategy 2022-2025 and to support the priorities set out within it;
- ii. The implementation of the Team around the Schools and Settings model for school improvement; and
- iii. That an annual report on the Education Strategy be submitted to the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.

8. Proposal to Extend the Age Range at Ribblesdale High School, Clitheroe

Cabinet considered a report proposing to extend the aged range of pupils at Ribblesdale High School, Clitheroe.

In presenting the report, it was noted that if a decision was not to be made within two months of the end of the representation period, then the proposal and any representations about the proposals would be passed to the schools' adjudicator for decision.

Resolved: That;

- Approval be given to extend the age range at Ribblesdale High School, Clitheroe to provide aged 4-16 places. This will be achieved by providing 210 primary places on the neighbouring Higher Standen Farm site in a new building, commencing with an intake of 30 reception pupils for September 2023; and
- ii. Approval be given for an appropriate statutory decision letter to be sent out, as specified under legal requirements, to give the reasons for the decision to those who are to be informed of them.

9. School Place Provision Strategy 2022 to 2025

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval for the School Place Provision Strategy for 2022 to 2025.

Resolved: That, after consideration of the priorities for improvement and areas for action referred in the draft School Place Provision Strategy 2022-25, as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report, the adoption of the School Place Provision Strategy 2022-25 be approved.

10. Urgent Decisions taken by the Leader of the County Council and the relevant Cabinet Member(s)

It was noted that no urgent decisions have been taken on behalf of Cabinet since the last meeting.

11. Urgent Business

It was noted that there was one item of urgent business in relation to the revised Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

11(a) Health and Wellbeing Board Revised Terms of Reference

Cabinet considered a report on the revised Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board. It was agreed to accept the report as an urgent item in order to ensure that the changes requested could be considered by Full Council intime for implementation in January.

In presenting the report, it was noted that to ensure the Health and Wellbeing Board remained focussed and effective in tackling health inequalities in Lancashire, it was proposed to reduce the membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board to the statutory

members plus two additional councillors and four representatives from the district councils, three councillors and a District Chief Executive. The full list of the proposed membership was set out at Appendix 'A' of the report.

Resolved: That, Full Council be recommended to consider and approve the proposed changes to the membership of Health and Wellbeing Board, as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report.

12. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of Cabinet would be held at 2pm on Thursday 20 January 2021 at County Hall, Preston.

13. Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

Cabinet noted the Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private and that no representations had been received.

14. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as indicated against the heading to the item.

15. Former Skerton High School Site, Lancaster

Exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The report contains information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Cabinet considered a report on the site of the former Skerton High School in Lancaster.

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

16. Adult Social Care - Procurement of Consultancy Support Specialist

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Cabinet considered a report on the procurement of a Consultancy Support Specialist for Adult Social Care.

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

17. New Sporting Campus in Central Lancashire

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Cabinet considered a report that provided an update on the new sporting campus in Central Lancashire.

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

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and
Director of Resources

County Hall Preston

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 20 January 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Procurement

Part I

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:

Delivering better services;

Procurement Report

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Rachel Tanner, Tel: (01772) 534904, Head of Service - Procurement, rachel.tanner@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

In line with the county council's procurement rules, this report sets out a recommendation to approve the commencement of the following procurement exercises:

- (i) Supply of Water and Wastewater Retail Services
- (ii) Programme of Insurance Policies for the County Council
- (iii) Carers Assessment and Support Service
- (iv) Provision of Extra Care Services at Greenbrook House
- (v) Lancashire Infant Feeding, Breastfeeding Peer Support Service

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the requirements of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the commencement of the procurement exercises as set out in Appendix 'A'.

Detail

Appendix 'A' sets out the detail of the procurement exercises and the basis upon which it is proposed to carry out the process including:

The description of the service



- The procurement route proposed
- The estimated contract value
- The proposed basis for the evaluation of the tender submissions

Where approval has been received from Cabinet to undertake a tender process which is deemed to be a Key Decision, the subsequent award of the contract on the satisfactory completion of the tender exercise shall not be deemed to be a Key Decision and can be approved by the relevant head of service or director.

On conclusion of the procurement exercise, the award of the contract shall be made under the county council's scheme of delegation to heads of service and in accordance with the council's procurement rules.

Consultations

Relevant heads of service and key operational staff have been consulted in drawing up the proposals contained within this report.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Financial

The estimated value of the contracts will be contained within the funding arrangements as set out in Appendix 'A'. If significant variations should result from this position a further report to Cabinet will be required.

The contract awards in the report are covered by budgetary provision in the respective revenue budgets.

List of Background Papers

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

Procurement Title

Procurement for the Supply of Water and Wastewater Retail Services

Procurement Option

Call off contract from North East Procurement Organisation (NEPO) Water Retail Services Framework NEPO311 via direct award.

New or Existing Provision

Existing – current contract end date 31st March 2022

Estimated Contract Value and Funding Arrangement

£5,574,500 per annum, consisting of approximately:

£5,319,000	Lancashire County Council and Lancashire Schools (LCC)
£136,500	Lancashire Renewables Limited (LRL)
£119,000	Lancashire County Developments (Property) Limited (LCDL)

£22,298,000 over a maximum term of four years.

The Water Retailer Fee accounts for approximately £322,000 of the £5,574,500 total per annum, which is approximately £1,288,000 over a four year period.

In addition, if the council takes up the option of automatic meter reading (AMR) services, an additional value of up to £353,000 over a five year period will be applicable.

Funding will be met by operational budgets.

Contract Duration

Initial period of 24 months with an option to extend the contract beyond the initial term for a further 24 months.

AMR element of the contract 48-60 months depending on the option taken.

Lotting

Not applicable - the NEPO framework is a single-supplier framework with water and wastewater services delivered by a single supplier.

Evaluation

Not applicable – direct award from NEPO framework.

The framework was competed utilising an 80% quality, 20% price split.

Contract Detail

From the 3 April 2017, businesses in England have been able to choose their supplier of water and wastewater retail services. Retail services are all the customer facing services that a water company provides and includes billing, handling payments, reading meters, and customer services (e.g., call centres, query resolution). Water retail services accounts for approximately 6-7% of a sites overall water bill.

The procurement is for a contract to supply water and wastewater retail services for the following contracting bodies:

Lancashire County Council and Lancashire Schools (approx. 815 sites) Lancashire County Developments (Property) Ltd sites (2 sites) Lancashire Renewables Ltd sites (2 sites)

The current supplier for all three contracting bodies is Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd trading as Wave. The current contracts are due to expire 31 March 2022 and require renewing.

The desired outcome of the procurement exercise is to appoint a single supplier for all sites. Contracting arrangements will be administered individually across the County Council, LCDL, and LRL in order to maintain a level of separation between the organisations.

It is recommended that the council use the NEPO 311 Water Retail Services framework to direct award to Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd trading as Wave. The contract will be for an initial period of two years (1 April 2022 to 31 March 2024) with the option to extend for up to a further two years (maximum end date 31 March 2026).

The NEPO framework provides a route to contracting that is compliant with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

The benefit of this approach is a seamless transfer onto the new contract avoiding any cost of change that would be applicable if changing supplier. Additionally, there is a commitment by Wave to assist the council in reducing water usage over the contract term.

As part of the NEPO framework proposal, Wave have also provided an option for the council to obtain automatic meter reading (AMR) services.

AMR offers improvement to billing accuracy through the ongoing provision of data. Not only does this deliver savings through improved billing, using actual reads rather than estimated reads, but it also enables the identification of elevated consumption quickly, allowing potential leaks to be investigated before they can have a significant impact on consumption.

Following installation of the devices, meter read data is used to quickly highlight spikes in consumption or unusual trends by:

- reviewing consumption data and setting agreed high and low-level alarms, within 30 days of installation.
- monitoring alarms and issuing alerts to customer within one working day of trigger.

An email alert when consumption exceeds a set tolerance level is received and also alerts Wave's Water Efficiency Services Team. The device communicates this to the Council based on alarm programming. Alarm programming can be set according to individual site preferences. This identifies high consumption immediately, enabling a quicker response time.

The pricing options proposed for AMR is for leasing the device over a four or five year period. A one-off wholesaler third party logging fee that is collected as a lump sum prior to installation is also included in the price.

The council manages approximately 272 sites and it is proposed that AMR is utilised for all these sites where possible. However, some sites may not be suitable for AMR installation or be compatible with the AMR devices. Wave will work with the council to identify such sites and these will be omitted from the AMR services.

As the final number of sites cannot be determined at present, Cabinet is recommended to delegate the final decision regarding AMR services to the Head of Service Asset Management.

Procurement Title

Programme of Insurance Policies for Lancashire County Council

Procurement Option

Above Threshold Open Tender.

New or Existing Provision

Existing – current contracts end on 31st May 2022. This includes contracts for the council's Property Insurance, Casualty including Public and Employers Liability Insurance and Motor Insurance.

Estimated Contract Value and Funding Arrangements

Property Insurance: £600,000 per annum with a potential total value of £3,000,000 over the maximum term.

Casualty including Public and Employers Liability Insurance: £1,220,000 per annum with a potential total value of £6,100,000 over the maximum term.

Motor Insurance: £600,000 per annum with a potential total value of £3,000,000 over the maximum term.

The total estimated value of the contracts is £12,100,000 to cover an initial term of 36 months with the option to extend the contracts beyond the initial term for a further 24 months, allowing for potential increases in premiums over the term of the agreement.

Premiums are paid by the Insurance Team and are funded by revenue budgets recharged across the council.

Contract Duration

Initial term contracts of 36 months with the option to extend the contracts beyond the initial term for a further 24 months (in 12-month increments). Whilst a contract term is agreed, the premiums of the policy will be reviewed annually to ensure these provide value for money to the council.

Lotting

The Insurance Programme will be split into 3 lots.

Lot 1 Property including Money

Lot 2 Casualty including Public and Employers Liability

Lot 3 Motor including General and Leased vehicles.

Evaluation

Quality Criteria 50%	Financial Criteria 50%
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The quality criteria will be scored against the tenderer's ability to meet the requirements of the specification and the tenderer's response to individual quality questions.

Social Value has not been included within the evaluation criteria due to the nature of the contracts and the limited scope for the insurance companies to contribute to the council's Social Value objectives.

Premium Volume Discount: Insurers will be invited to offer a 'package' discount in the event they win more than one lot.

Contract Detail

The Insurance Programme covers high value insurance policies for the council (LCC). The Insurance Programme will be split into 3 lots (policies):

- 1. Property (including money) Provides cover for loss or damage to council buildings and contents. May include subcategories such as General (council properties excluding schools and archives), Archives, Bus and Rail interchanges, Schools etc.
- 2. Casualty (including public & employer's liability) Provides the council with cover against its legal liabilities to pay compensation to aggrieved parties. Includes Employers Liability, Public Liability, Libel & Slander, and Official Indemnity.
- 3. Motor Vehicles (General & Leased vehicles) Provides 'Comprehensive' motor insurance cover for vehicles operated by the council.

The current Insurance Programme was procured by way of an open OJEU tender in 2017 with a start date of 1 June 2017. The current agreements expire on 31 May 2022.

An annual premium is paid to insurers to cover each policy. To assist in keeping the premium as low as possible, the council pays an excess (e.g., up to £1m on Casualty insurance) this is known as annual deductibles. The council also agrees with insurers to an Annual Stop Loss (ASL) figure. This ASL is the agreed value at which the council's total value of claims, made within the deductible, is the maximum value to be paid over the course of a year. Anything over the ASL will be paid by the insurer or refunded to the council. This applies to the three insurance policies covered in this tender.

The Insurance team will review premiums annually, within the term agreements, and where the insurers premium renewal price is not consistent (advised by the council and the broker) the council reserves the right to source alternative cover if deemed necessary. Prices are subject to fluctuation due to the nature of insurance linked to the activity within the previous year and any influences on the market.

The council uses a contracted insurance broker (Gallagher Insurance Brokers) for consultation and brokerage services relating to any policies for LCC. Gallaghers will lead on the production of tender documentation, evaluation, and completion of award alongside the service area (Insurance Team). Gallaghers will also advise on suitable lotting of insurance classes. The Procurement Service will provide governance advice concerning the procurement process.

Procurement Title

Provision of a Carers Assessment and Support Service

Procurement Option

Above threshold Open Tender

New or Existing Provision

Existing. The current Carers Assessment and Support Contract end date is 30th June 2022.

Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements

The potential annual contract value of up to £2,530,000. Total estimated value over the duration of the contract is up to £10,120,000.

There is currently a hospital discharge pilot in operation. If after evaluation of the pilot it is decided that this should be implemented on a longer-term basis additional funding would need to be provided for the tenderer for them to be able to support the delivery. The additional funding the tenderer would require is between £125,000 and £200,000 per year. The funding source will be determined once the evaluation of the pilot is completed. Further details of this pilot can be found below in 'Contract Detail'

Contract Duration

The initial contract period will be for 2 years with an option to extend the contract by any number of defined periods provided that the total contract period does not exceed 4 years. Each contract will have a break clause allowing the contract to be terminated at any time giving 6-month notice.

Lotting

A single provider will be sought for this Service to ensure the availability, and consistency of service across the County, as well as allowing for greater focussed contract management and monitoring. The Invitation to Tender documents will provide information to tenders about how they are able to form a consortium to submit a bid for this tender.

Evaluation

Quality Criteria 60%	Financial Criteria 40%

Social Value

10% of the award criteria will be allocated to Social Value. For the Carers Assessment and Support Service the objective focus will be upon providing volunteering opportunities and supporting the people of Lancashire to access training and employment.

Contract Detail

The Care Act (2014) introduced a number of statutory responsibilities for Local Authorities relating to supporting carers. These include providing carers' assessments to assess a carer's needs for support, providing information and advice, and providing or arranging for services, facilities or resources which may prevent, delay, or reduce a carer's needs for support. The newly procured service will lead on the delivery of statutory carers' assessments and support planning for adult carers, together with providing carers with support. This contract will support Lancashire County Council to fulfil its statutory duties in respect of adult carers under the Care Act 2014. This Carers' Assessment and Support Service will promote the resilience of local Carers and ensure they are able to meet their caring responsibilities and lead fulfilling independent lives. The successful service provider will support adult carers countywide throughout the administrative area of the council.

This Service will also provide support for carers in planning for emergency situations that may arise which prevent the carer from providing care and may put the cared for person at risk. The Service will deliver a range of other Services that will support Carers, such as Peer Support groups, Online Social Networks, locally based Carers group, Social events, and activities, learning opportunities and emotional support. The successful Provider will also provide information and advice to carers as well as promote this service in the local community and to Carers from under-represented groups.

There is currently a hospital discharge pilot in operation, which may be included on a longer term basis if it is determined to be successful pilot. One of the aims of the hospital discharge pilot is to support carers to enable them to support family or friends to return home or remain at home to recover and recuperate. The aim is that this will not only support carers but will reduce length of stays in hospitals for patients who are medically optimised for discharge to enable them to return home quicker and recover at home.

Procurement Title

Provision of Extra Care Services at Greenbrook House

Procurement Option

Above Threshold Open Tender

New or Existing Provision

Existing – The current contract end date is 30th July 2022.

Estimated Contract Value and Funding Arrangements

The following figures are based on the maximum contract length of 5 years.

Adult and Community Services Budget:

Greenbrook House – between approximately £1,307,025 and £3,848,925

The profile of people living within the scheme in terms of their care and support needs can vary significantly, consequently there is a significant range in terms of the possible contract values. Both the lowest and highest figures are estimates as there is no quarantee of any planned care hours

Contract Duration

For each contract the initial period of 36 months with an option to extend the contract beyond the initial term for any period(s) up to a maximum of a further 24 months.

Lotting

The procurement will not be split in to lots as one provider is required to deliver the required services at the Greenbrook House Scheme.

Evaluation

Quality Criteria 60%	Financial Criteria 40%
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Social Value will form 10% of the quality criteria and will focus on the following objectives:

- Promote training and employment opportunities for the people of Lancashire
- Raise the living standards of residents

Contract Detail

Extra Care Housing offers a real alternative to residential care by providing self-contained flats, communal facilities and on-site domiciliary care and support which is available to all tenants. Extra Care Housing offers independent living by providing services and support that are tailored to be flexible and responsive to people's changing needs. Greenbrook House is an Extra Care scheme located in Whitworth, East Lancashire with 24-hour care services. The scheme has 42 flats.

The council recognises the unique nature of Extra Care Housing and the need to ensure that there is a 24 hour staff presence on site. This will be provided via a core/background service which is available to all individuals. This service is intended to be flexible and able to respond to the unplanned needs of tenants, to contribute to meeting wider wellbeing needs and to develop the community aspects of the scheme.

Service Users in the Extra Care Scheme will also have individual eligible care needs which will be met via a planned care service. The council envisages that a number of individuals who require care will choose to receive it from the onsite provider of the core/background service, where the services that are being offered are high quality, flexible and personalised. However, service users are able to choose any provider to deliver their planned care.

Consequently, the budgetary spend for the new contracts spend will be split into two parts:

- the block purchase arrangement
- spot contracts for the planned care.

Procurement Title

Lancashire Infant Feeding Breastfeeding Peer Support Service.

Procurement Option

Above threshold Open Tender

New or Existing Provision

Existing provision with a contract end date of 31st March 2023.

Estimated Contract Value and Funding Arrangements

£369,987 per annum with a total value of £1,849,935 which is secured funding from Public Health Grant.

A potential total uplift of 6.76%, which equates to an annual uplift of 1.69% across 5yrs may apply subject to the availability of additional funding from the Public Health Grant. In the event that annual uplifts are applied, the potential total contract value over 5 years could be £1,974,968.55.

Contract Duration

Initial period of 36 months with an option to extend the contract beyond the initial term for up to a further 24 months.

Lotting

The tender will be for a single Lancashire lot to promote equitable delivery across the County. Service delivery will compliment aims of promoting children's health and wellbeing, specifically contributing to improving breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks.

Evaluation

Quality Criteria: 80% Financial Criteria: 20%

The quality criteria will be weighted at 80% to promote importance of quality care delivery and includes the evaluation of social value. The financial criteria are weighted at 20%.

Contract Detail

The current service provision expires on 31st March 2023.

The emotional, physical, and social benefits of breastfeeding for baby and mother are well-evidenced in both the short and the long term. (. Breastmilk is unique to the needs of a baby, providing immunity against infection in the early weeks, reducing risk of gastrointestinal infection and changing its composition as baby grows. It can also promote bonding between mother and baby, having a positive effect on early attachment. Supporting strong early attachment can have positive benefits on a child's cognitive and psycho-social development. Babies who are breastfed have a significantly reduced risk of allergies, diarrhoea, and respiratory infections during infancy and have a lower risk of developing.

In the longer term it has the potential to benefit the health and social care system reduce the health inequalities which can arise in the perinatal period and reduce the risk of chronic conditions developing later in life including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and obesity amongst others. The benefits for the mothers include a longer-term reduction in the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, post-natal depression, and some cancers..

The World Health Organisation recommends exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months as breastmilk is the optimal nutrition for a baby. However, in the UK only, 2% of babies are reported to being breastfed at 6 months with the largest drop off rate occurring in the first 2 weeks after a baby is born.

In 2018/19 in England 67.4% of babies born had breastmilk as their first milk, and at 6-8 weeks this had fallen to 46.2%. In Lancashire in the same year, although 79.2% of the babies had breastmilk as their first feed, there was discrepancies across the CCG areas. East Lancashire had the highest initiation rate at 96.1% compared to West Lancashire at 57.5 % (which is below the England average). Local data indicates that the 6-8-week prevalence rates would be below both the England average and those of our statistical neighbours.

Looking at the evidence of what support to provide for breastfeeding, mothers report the support provided by a peer supporter is preferred to that of a professional. Mothers, report that they prefer to speak to someone who has had a similar experience as it helps them to build trust, as the peer supporters can understand their needs. In addition, the peer supporters are able to encourage hope that they will be able to breastfeed and support the provision of a community culture for breastfeeding.

The Infant Feeding Breastfeeding Peer Support service model will align to best practice highlighted by UNICEF and Public Health England and contribute towards Lancashire's Gold re-accreditation and any subsequent re-accreditation.

The aim of the service will be to support mothers in the early days of breastfeeding. Local mothers will be recruited and trained to provide appropriate care to support families with breastfeeding. A variety of flexible support options will be available for mothers to further address their individual and preferred needs. Support will be available through the provision of a helpline, an offer of a home visit, community peer support groups, access to virtual support and raise awareness of places in local communities who are breastfeeding friendly. Evaluation will take place as the contract progresses to measure the impact on breastfeeding continuation rates and evaluate service user satisfaction.

The Service will contribute towards public health priorities of Lancashire County Council by aligning with the vision and purpose of the Children's and Young People's Partnership Board and Best Start in Life Priority and Early Years Strategy.

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 20 January 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Highways

Part I

Electoral Divisions affected: Skelmersdale East; West Lancashire East;

Corporate Priorities:

Delivering better services;

Lancashire County Council (Alder Lane, Parbold Hill and Sparrow Hill, Parbold, Crow Orchard Road and Hall Lane, Wrightington, West Lancashire Borough) (Revocation, Red route Clearway and Prohibition of Waiting) Order 202* (Appendices 'A' – 'D' refer)

Contact for further information:

Kevin Parkinson, Tel: 01772 530250, Highway Regulation – Highways and Transportation kevin.parkinson@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

Following observations undertaken by highway officers in conjunction with information provided as a result of Lancashire Constabulary enforcement activity for the area, officers propose to introduce a 'Red Route' Clearway along a section of the A5209 Parbold to Wrightington to combat the steep increase in highway parking that has occurred resulting in serious road safety concerns for both vehicles and their occupants, as well as other road users of this busy section of the A5209.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the proposals for the Red Route Clearway along the section of the A5209 as set out in this report and the attached appendices.

Detail

National movement restrictions in place during 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the increased popularity of local beauty spot locations throughout the county and has resulted in continued popularity since. One such location, Fairy Glen, is situated on the A5209 at Wrightington which forms part of the main A road network for traffic connecting from the M6 to the surrounding local communities of Burscough, Rufford, Ormskirk and Skelmersdale.



Due to the absence of dedicated parking facilities within the Fairy Glen, visitors have resorted to parking within the highway on the approaches to the facilities entrance. Since 2020, the location began attracting a vast amount of visitors from further afield, this has expanded to a level which has prompted concerns from local residents, West Lancashire Borough Council and the Lancashire Constabulary. The parking of the vehicles on the highway with fast moving traffic along this national speed limit section of road and the entry/exit from the vehicles by the occupants, represented a general danger to other road users.

Observations undertaken by officers at the location during the latter part of 2020, in conjunction with information provided from Lancashire Constabulary relating to enforcement activity for the area, confirmed that there had been a huge increase in highway parking. The manner in which vehicles were parked and the entry/exit from vehicles by occupants represented a potential road safety concern both for the vehicles and occupants involved as well as other road users of this busy section of the A5209.

As a result, officers proposed a reduction in speed to 40mph to align this remaining national speed limit section with comparable sections along the route which have previously benefited from a speed limit reduction and a carriageway clearway to prohibit the occurrence of parking activity within the highway. Following consideration of the area layout, and the observation of parking within both the verge and footway areas, it was determined that, in view of their now expanded national availability, the installation of a Red Route clearway would represent a more suitable solution as, unlike standard clearways, this incorporates a prohibition of parking for the entirety of the highway area not just the main carriageway but also includes footways and verges, by default.

Consultations

Formal consultation was carried out between 28 July 2021 and 25 August 2021 and advertised in the local press. Notices were displayed prominently along the route. Divisional county councillors were consulted along with the council's usual consultees and the consultation documents posted on the council's website.

During the consultation period, 3 objections were received to the proposals from local residents and the Parish Council which highlighted:

- Three surrounding areas being potentially affected by the displaced parking.
- The effect on daily operations for local establishments, for example the churches; and;
- Concerns related to enforceability of the order for vehicle owners who may consider parking fully off the carriageway acceptable.

The specific areas of concern along with officer responses are set out below in more detail.

1. Concern:

A concern was raised that the proposed order as it stands will push cars to park on Glenside, Sprodley Lane and Stoneygate Lane which also feature entrance points to Fairy Glen.

Officer response:

The current proposal aims to remove parking along the section of the main A5209 route through the area where this represents a potential increased hazard to road users because of higher traffic flows. As part of this process officers will undertake an assessment of how any relocation of parking will impact the surrounding area and where this is found to contravene highway code directions the provision of additional restrictive measures will be considered. Unfortunately, clearway restrictions such as the proposed Red Route are not considered appropriate for lower traffic areas, such as within housing estates and, therefore, additional restrictive measures will predominantly take the form of traditional yellow line restrictions where it is identified that parking results in either a hazard or unnecessary obstruction to other road users.

2. Concern:

A concern was raised that enforcing a 'clearway' along the stretch of the road past Fairy Glen will simply lead to visiting drivers parking completely across the footway and verge, rather than partially as they do now.

Officer response:

In this instance the implementation of a Red Route clearway has been chosen due to the unambiguous definition that coverage is for the full extent of the highway which includes footways and verges by default without the requirement to add this element as a supplement which is the case for normal clearway restrictions. This, in conjunction with the clearer, more perceptible, signage, is anticipated to reduce any misunderstanding for drivers and allows for the potential use of more effective methods of enforcement activity such as camera cars in the future.

3. Concern:

The layby on top of Parbold Hill is part of the highway and within the area concerned but the problems highlighted by the parish council over many years have not been addressed at all.

Officer Response:

The layby at the top of Parbold Hill forms a dedicated parking area for the local beauty spot and where used correctly, within the rules of the Highway Code, operates as an area where vehicles can exit the main highway and park in a safe manner. The Highway Code does contain clear directions for overnight vehicle parking, particularly involving larger vehicles, and where this is not adhered to enforcement is available via the Police who can be contacted directly via either the non-emergency 101 number or online at https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk/, with, where possible, a record of the registration numbers of the vehicles. In conjunction with the introduction of the Red Route a proposal for a reduction in the current speed limit along this section to 40mph is also being progressed to correspond with other sections along the route which present a similar surrounding configuration.

4. Concern:

Can you please clarify if this order would prevent vehicles such as wedding cars and hearses parking on the road outside Christ Church, Douglas-in-Parbold?

Officer response:

Red routes are a new restriction recently opened up for use outside of main city areas, and whilst initially it was considered that in line with more traditional restrictive measures, the requested short-term waiting at the entrance to Christ Church Douglas-in-Parbold Church would be permitted. However, on receiving further direction from the county council's legal team based on Department for Transport guidance this is not the case and Red Route clearways are more precise in their prohibition and, in line with their objective of retaining a clear traffic route, do not incorporate the potential for an exemption for this purpose.

As a result, the current proposal for a red route clearway will not permit the requested short-term parking within the highway for vehicles attending the church. For general attendees this is not envisaged to result in decreased accessibility due to the expansive, off highway, car parking facilities immediately adjacent the premises; however, it was accepted that the change in level present between the car park and church entrance would represent a concern when undertaking the transfer of caskets into the premises for funerals.

Therefore, as the church is positioned within the lower 30mph speed limit section at the western extremity of the identified area of concern it has been considered that a reduction of the overall extent of the clearway to exclude the 30mph section would be acceptable. This is not predicted to result in any reduction to the effectiveness of the proposal in resolving the current Police identified parking related concerns in the vicinity of the Fairy Glen site.

In light of the above, a further public consultation was undertaken to establish levels of opposition or support for the amended extent which would limit the restriction to the more rural area subject to the higher 40mph speed limit. This was carried out between 28 October and 18 November 2021 and did not result in the receipt of any additional responses of either support or opposition.

In view of the above amended proposal, and absence of any additional responses, officers are recommending that the Traffic Regulation Order featuring the revised western extent (detailed in the plan at Appendix 'D') continues to completion.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Financial

The costs of the Traffic Regulation Order will be funded from the 2021/22 highways budget for new signs and lines at an estimated cost of £6,000.00.

Risk management

This proposal aims to add additional controls to parking activity along the A5209 which has been identified to represent a potential hazard to both vehicles and occupants involved. This will assist in alleviating potential road safety implications for all highway users in this area.

List of Background Papers

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

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 PPENDIX A

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(PARBOLD HILL AND SPARROW HILL, PARBOLD, CROW ORCHARD ROAD AND HALL LANE, WRIGHTINGTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (REVOCATION AND RED ROUTE **CLEARWAY) ORDER 202***

The County Council of Lancashire ("the Council") in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2 and 4 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended ("the Act") and of all other enabling powers, after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act, hereby make the following Order: -

1. <u>Definitions and Interpretation</u>

For all the purposes of this Order the terms described in this Article shall have the meanings specified:

- a) "Bus" means motor vehicles constructed or adapted to carry more than 8 passengers (exclusive of the driver); and Local Buses not so constructed or adapted;
- b) "Bus Stop Clearway" means an area of carriageway intended for the waiting of Buses which is comprised within and indicated by a road marking complying with the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016;
- c) "Centreline" means the centre line of a highway as shown on Ordnance Survey graphical information systems at the time that the Order was prepared;
- d) "Civil Enforcement Officer" means a person authorised by or on behalf of Lancashire County Council in accordance with Section 76 of the Traffic Management Act 2004;
- e) "Disabled Person's Vehicle" means a Vehicle displaying a Disabled Person's Badge in the circumstances prescribed in Regulations 13, 14, 15 or 16 of The Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (England) Regulations 2000;
- "Disabled Person's Badge" means a badge which was
 - i) issued, or has effect as if issued, to a disabled person or an institution under The Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (England) Regulations or under regulations having effect in Scotland or Wales under Section 21 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970; and
 - ii) has not ceased to be in force.
- g) "Local Bus" means a Public Service Vehicle used for the provision of a Local Service not being an excursion or tour as defined in the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016:
- h) "Local Service" has the meaning given in Section 2 of the Transport Act 1985:
- "Lay-by" means any area of Carriageway intended for the waiting of Vehicles and bounded by road marking in accordance with diagram 1010 of Schedule 11 to the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions, 2016 and partly by the outer edge of that Carriageway on the same side of the road as that on which the road marking is placed;
- j) "Parking Disc" means a device which
 - i) is 125 millimetres square and coloured blue, if issued on or after 1st April, 2000 or orange if issued before that date:
 - ii) has been issued by a local authority and has not ceased to be valid; and

- iii) is capable of showing the quarter hour period during which a period of waiting has begun.
- k) "Penalty Charge Notice" means a notice served by a Civil Enforcement Officer pursuant to the provisions of section 78 of the 2004 Act and supporting regulations;
- I) A Vehicle displays a Disabled Person's Badge or Parking Disc in the "Relevant Position" if
 - i) the badge/disc is exhibited on the dashboard or fascia of the Vehicle; or
 - ii) where the Vehicle is not fitted with a dashboard or fascia the badge/disc is exhibited in a conspicuous position on the Vehicle, so that the front of the badge/disc is clearly legible from the outside of the Vehicle.
- m) "Public Service Vehicle" has the meaning given in Section 1 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981;
- n) "Taxi" means a Vehicle licensed under section 37 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847;
- "Vehicle" means a motor vehicle, a passenger vehicle, a dual-purpose vehicle, a goods vehicle, a motorcycle or an invalid carriage or any other vehicle of any description whether drawn or propelled along a road by animal or mechanical power.

2. Revocations

- a) The "Lancashire County Council (Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, West Lancashire Borough) (Prohibition of Waiting and Loading/Unloading) Order 2012" is hereby revoked in full.
- b) Those parts of the "Lancashire County Council (West Lancs Area) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Consolidation Order 2009", as set out in Schedule 1 to this Order, are hereby revoked.

3. Red Route Clearway

Save as is hereinafter provided, no person shall, except upon the direction or with the permission of a police constable in uniform or Civil Enforcement Officer, cause or permit any Vehicle, to stop or wait at any time, on any day, in the lengths of road set out in Schedule 2 to this Order.

4. General Exemptions

Nothing in Articles 3 of this Order shall render it unlawful to cause or permit any Vehicle to wait in the lengths of road referred to therein for so long as may be necessary to enable:-

- a) if it cannot conveniently be used for such purpose in any other road to be used in connection with any of the following:
 - i) building, industrial or demolition operations;
 - ii) the removal of any obstruction to traffic;
 - iii) the maintenance, improvement or reconstruction of the said lengths of road;
 - iv) the laying, erection, alteration or repair in or near land adjacent to the said lengths of road of any sewer or of any main, pipe or apparatus or the exercise of any other statutory power or duty for the maintenance and supply of gas, water or electricity or of any telecommunications system as defined in Section 4 of the Telecommunications Act 1984;
- b) the Vehicle to be used for the purposes of a local authority in pursuance of statutory powers or duties if it cannot conveniently be used for such pyrpose in any other road;

- c) the Vehicle to be used for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes in pursuance of statutory powers or duties;
- d) a Royal Mail liveried Vehicle engaged in the collection and/or delivery of letters in accordance with the statutory provisions as defined in the Postal Services Act 2000.

5. Exemptions to Article 3

Nothing in Article 3 of this Order shall render it unlawful to cause or permit any Vehicle to wait in the lengths of road referred to therein for so long as may be necessary to enable:-

- a) for the purpose of opening or closing a gate or other barrier at the entrance to premises to which the Vehicle is being driven or from which it has emerged if it is not reasonably practicable to cause the Vehicle to stop elsewhere for the purpose;
- b) a Disabled Person's Vehicle which displays a Disabled Person's Badge in the Relevant Position to stop for so long only as may be required to enable a disabled person to board or alight the Vehicle:
- a Taxi to stop or wait only for so long as may be required to enable the picking up and setting down of passengers;
- d) a Public Service Vehicle providing a Local Service to stop or wait in a Bus Stop Clearway;
 - i) maintain a published timetable provided that the bus is not stopped within the Bus Stop Clearway for a period exceeding two minutes;
 - ii) enable passengers to board or alight; or
 - iii) enable the crew of the bus to be changed.
- e) a learner bus driver, to stop or wait to simulate the picking up and setting down of passengers in a Bus Stop Clearway;
- f) A Vehicle to be left so that every part of the Vehicle is within the limits of a signed Lay-by.

6. Emergency Exemptions

Nothing in this Order shall render it unlawful to cause or permit any Vehicle to wait in the lengths of road referred to therein when the person in control of the Vehicle:

- a) is required by law to stop;
- b) is obliged to stop in order to avoid an accident; or
- c) is prevented from proceeding along the road due to circumstances beyond his/her control.

7. Miscellaneous

The prohibition imposed by this Order shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any restrictions or requirements imposed by any regulations made, or having effect as if made, under the Act or by or under any other enactment.

Failure by a person to comply with any prohibition or restriction contained within this order or any subsequent orders shall constitute a contravention of the same and shall result in the issue by Lancashire County Council and/or its agents of a Penalty Charge Notice which shall be payable by such persons in accordance with the legislation.

9. Commencement of Order

This Order shall come into force on the ******** and may be cited as the "Lancashire County Council (Parbold Hill And Sparrow Hill, Parbold, Crow Orchard Road And Hall Lane, Wrightington, West Lancashire Borough) (Revocation And Red Route Clearway) Order 202*".

Dated this ** day of ***.

THE COMMON SEAL of the Lancashire County Council was hereunto affixed pursuant to the Scheme of Delegation to Chief Officers OR following a decision made on **/**/**** by The Cabinet

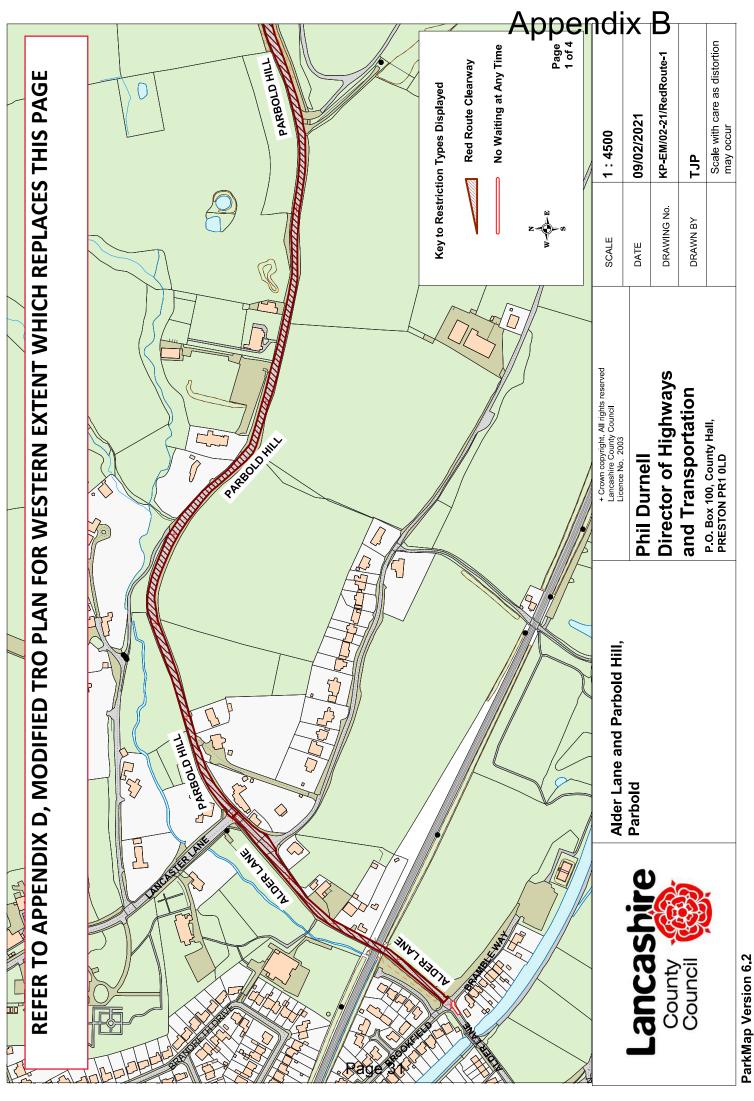
Authorised Signatory

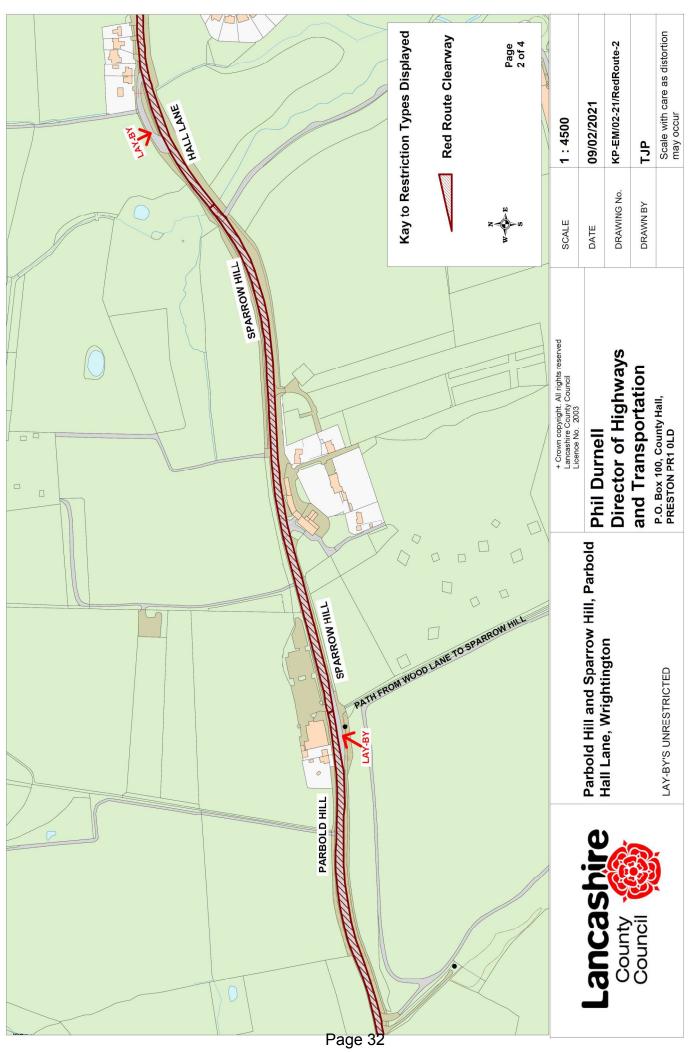
Schedule 1 – Revocation

Items (87), (180)a), (180)b)(i) and (180)b)(ii) of Schedule 10.01.

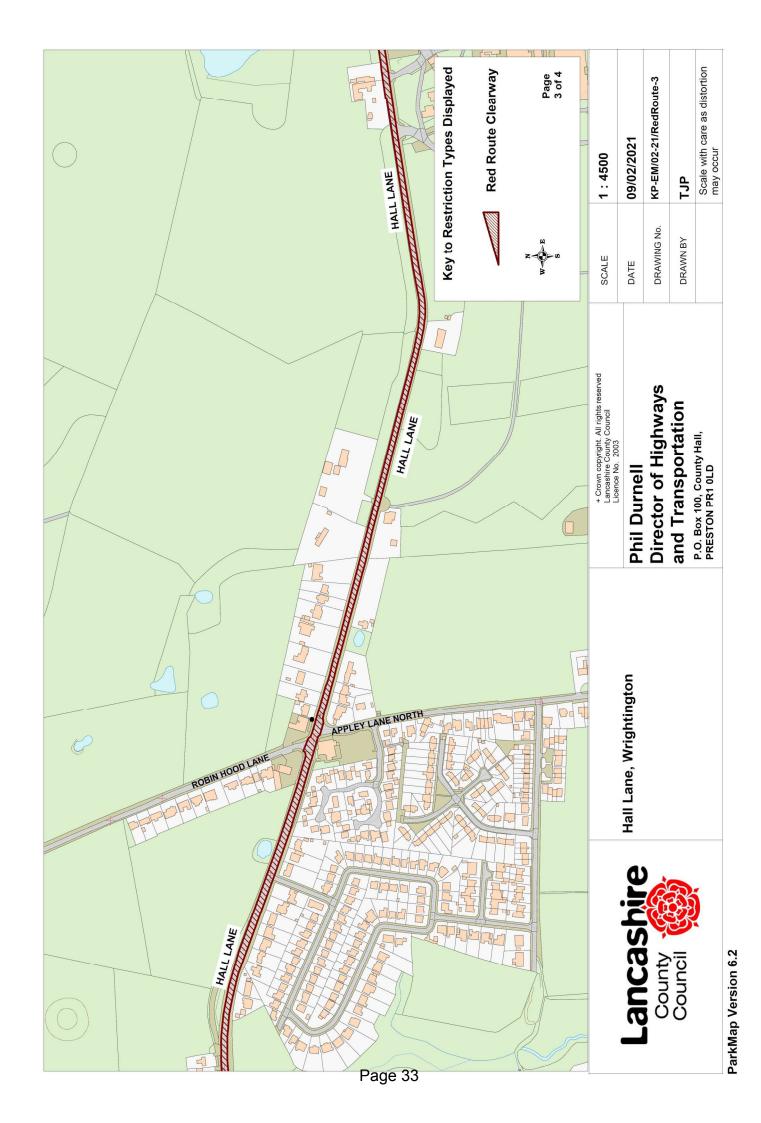
Schedule 2 – Red Route Clearway

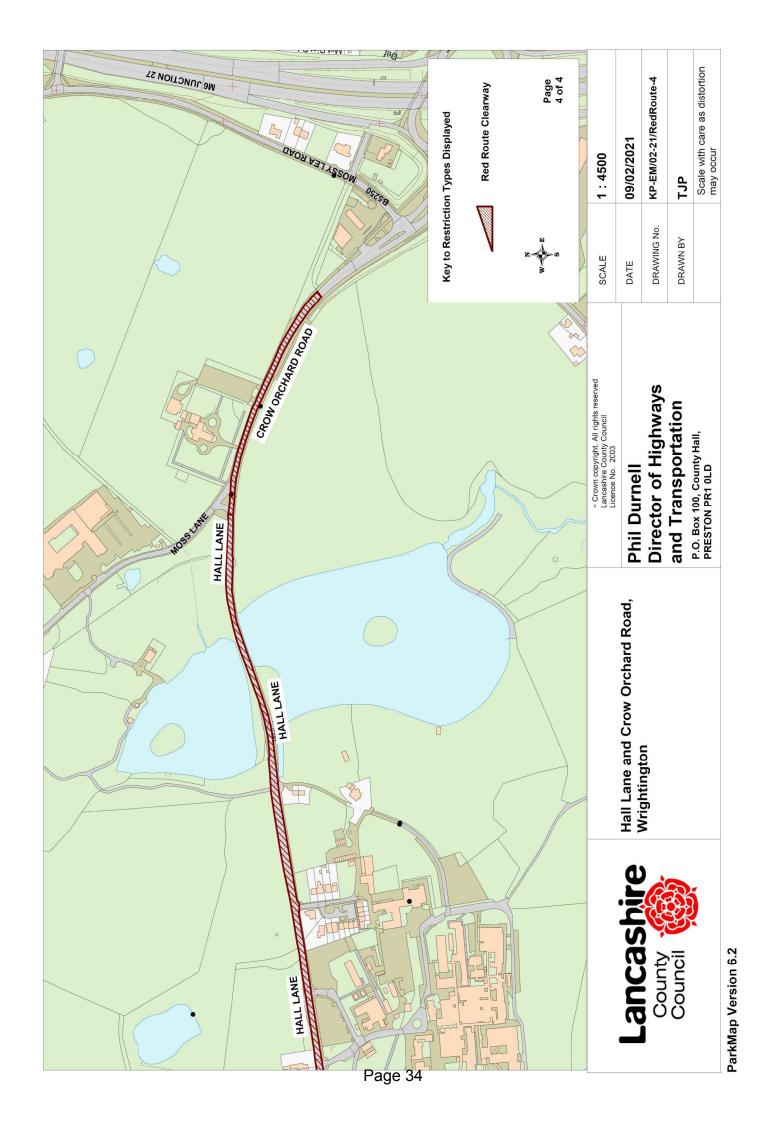
- a) Parbold Hill (A5209), Parbold, all sides, from a point 729 metres east of its junction with the Centreline of Lancaster Lane (B5246) to its centreline junction with Sparrow Hill, Parbold;
- b) Sparrow Hill (A5209), Parbold, all sides, from its centreline junction with Parbold Hill, Parbold to its centreline junction with Hall Lane, Wrightington.
- c) Hall Lane (A5209), Wrightington, all sides, from its centreline junction with Sparrow Hill, Parbold to its centreline junction with Crow Orchard Road, Wrightington;
- d) Crow Orchard Road (A5209), Wrightington, all sides, from its centreline junction with Hall Lane, Wrightington to a point 136 metres north-west of its junction with the centreline of the B5250 Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington.





ParkMap Version 6.2





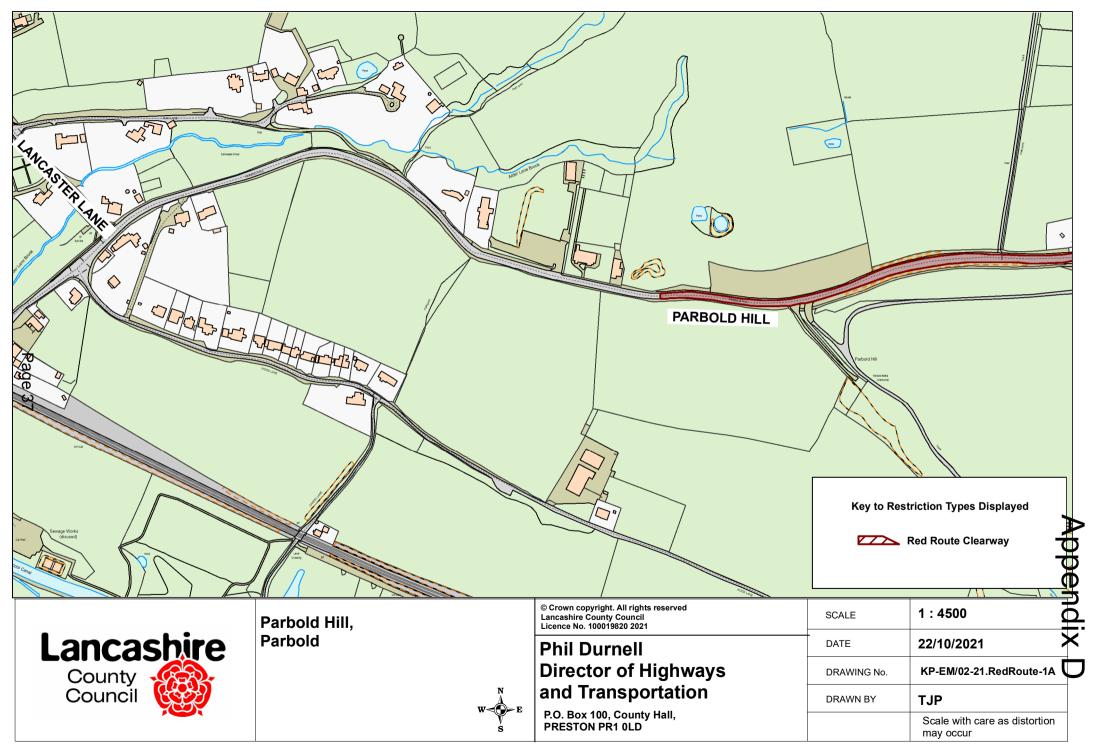


A5209 Red Route Clearway Modification Statement of Reasons

Following consideration of responses received during the consultation period an amendment has been proposed for the western limit of the A5209 Red Route clearway which will reduce the proposed length to cover the 40mph rural section of the route whilst retaining safe access to premises within the 30mph urban approach to Parbold village.

Signature: Date: 22nd October 2021

Print Name: Kevin Parkinson



Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 20 January 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Design and Construction

Part I

Electoral Division affected: Fylde West;

Corporate Priorities:
Delivering better services;

Proposed Speed Cushions, Chain Lane & Staining Road, Staining (Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Caroline Scholes, Tel: (01772) 534562, Highways Engineer,

caroline.scholes@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

It is proposed to construct a pair of speed cushions on Staining Road and two pairs of speed cushions on Chain Lane, Staining. This is part of an evidence-based accident reduction scheme to reduce the speed of traffic through the existing 20mph zone.

Following statutory advertisement of the speed cushions, the proposal received 4 supporting responses, one of which requested additional speed cushions to be installed, and 2 responses from objectors which are summarised in this report.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the installation of the speed cushions on Chain Lane and Staining Road, Staining as shown at Appendix 'A'.

Detail

There have been six recorded injury accidents in Staining village, with a total of eight casualties, where excessive speed has been a factor. Following a review of the evidence and discussions with residents and the Parish Council, it is considered appropriate to introduce traffic calming. A detailed design proposal has been developed as part of an evidence-based accident reduction scheme which will see the installation of speed cushions on Staining Road and Chain Lane helping to reduce the speed and improve the situation.



Consultations

Formal advertising and consultation regarding the proposals was undertaken during April 2021 and May 2021. The local county councillor, Police and a number of residents support the proposals.

A total of two objections were received; one of these was from a resident in the local area and the other was provided by a regular user of the route. The objections are summarised below and responses given for consideration. Suggestions regarding additional measures were also received, these too are summarised below.

Objection 1

The objector welcomed the idea of the scheme in general, however suggested an alternative location for the speed cushion proposed outside No.112 Staining Road, suggesting an alternative location outside the Scout hut.

Response

The Scout hut is located on a bend and is deemed an unsuitable location for a speed cushion due to concerns with visibility.

The proposed location, outside No.112 Staining Road, is midway between two bends; this affords drivers adequate visibility of the speed cushions after they have negotiated the bends. The bends also act as natural traffic calming features.

Objection 2

The objector is a regular commuter along the route and has concerns about the wear and tear to their vehicle and believes there will be an increase in traffic noise causing discomfort to residents.

Response

When driven over at an appropriate speed, speed cushions should not cause any damage or additional wear and tear to vehicles.

It is anticipated that overall noise levels should be very similar to levels currently experienced.

Additional measures

Additional suggestions raised by a number of residents are included below:

1. Additional speed cushions be positioned outside the shops on Chain Lane and approaching the village near Bibby Drive prior to the Zebra crossing.

Response

The vehicle movements associated with the use of the car parking spaces outside the shops and the adjacent main road exclude this as a suitable location for speed cushions due to the increased level of risk.

The approach to the village near Bibby Drive is currently outside the scope of this scheme.

2. Install bollards outside the Health centre to prevent parking on the footway.

Response

Installing bollards at this location is currently outside the scope of this scheme.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

The speed cushions will improve safety on Chain Lane and Staining Road by reducing the speed of motorists. If the speed cushions are not installed, the speed of motorists will continue to be above the 20mph limit and pose on ongoing risk to road users.

Financial

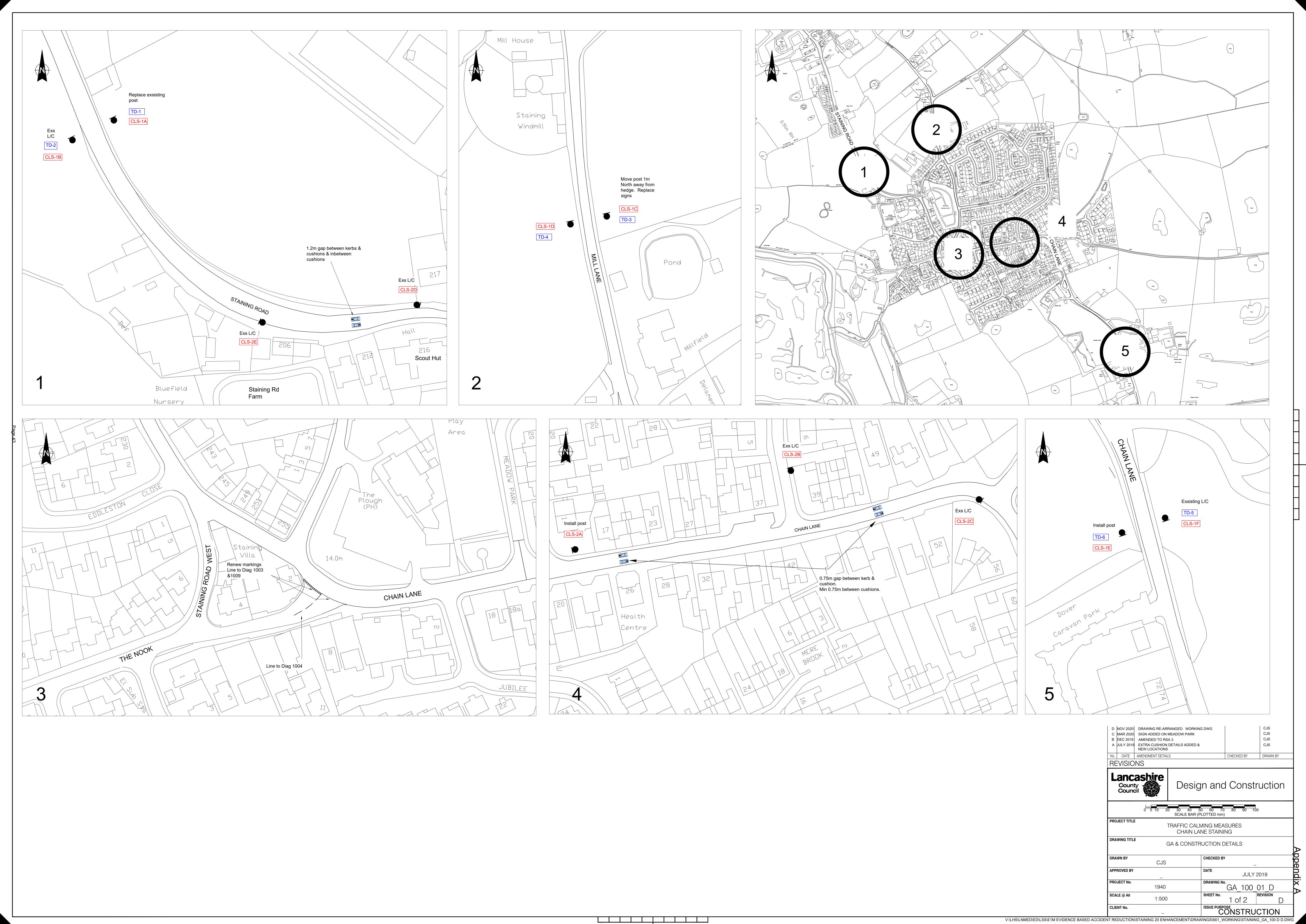
An estimate for the works is £25,000 which can be met from the grant monies in the Evidence Based Accident Reduction capital budget due to underspends on completed projects within the programme.

Legal

The legal procedure to install speed cushions is under section 90A-F Highways Act 1980 and the Highways (Road Humps) Regulations 1999.

List of Background Papers

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





Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 20 January 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Design and Construction

Part I

Electoral Division affected: Lostock Hall & Bamber Bridge;

Corporate Priorities:

Delivering better services;

Station Road, Bamber Bridge - Bus Stop Clearways and On Street Parking Amendments

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Phil Gibbon, Tel: (01772) 539718 Highway Engineer

phil.gibbon@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

This report outlines proposals to address safety concerns and implement bus stop improvements on Station Road, Bamber Bridge between Collins Road and Greenwood Road.

Consultation and formal advertising of the proposals has been undertaken and a number of objections have been received.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the proposed bus stops clearways and associated bus stop infrastructure as shown in Appendix 'A'.

Detail

The proposals are related to outstanding works from the Bamber Bridge Local Centre Improvement Scheme and have been developed to address safety concerns raised by officers and bus operators and improve facilities at the existing bus stops on Station Road, Bamber Bridge between Collins Road and Greenwood Street.

It is proposed to amend the existing southbound bus stop adjacent to property 127 Station Road to alleviate safety concerns in relation to bus manoeuvres. The existing arrangement results in buses being unable to align at the stop correctly and having to manoeuvre into the opposite lane to depart the stop. The proposals will support safer bus movements and install a bus shelter. The proposal will result in minor



changes to the current on-street parking area with a reduction in space for one vehicle.

In addition, it is also proposed to create a new northbound bus stop with bus shelter, adjacent to 94 and 96 Station Road. Safety concerns regards the current temporary bus stop arrangement adjacent to property 104 Station Road have been raised relating to accessibility and it being sited on a pedestrian crossing point. The proposal will result in changes to the current on-street parking area with a reduction in space for one vehicle.

Bus stop clearway markings are proposed at both locations to prohibit vehicles except buses from stopping in the designated bus stops, ensuring buses have adequate access to the stops.

The proposals have been developed in consultation with public transport officers who considered passenger accessibility, safety, the needs of other road users, residents and businesses along with current guidance and recommendations.

The proposals are further detailed in Appendix 'A'.

Consultations

The proposals were advertised and formally consulted on during a four-week period in September and October 2021. This included an advertisement in the newspaper and posting of notices on site. Letters were also delivered to all properties affected by the proposals as well as the documents being available on the council's website and being sent to specific relevant organisations and persons.

Responses

As part of the consultation, the proposed scheme received four responses from objectors.

The points raised by the objectors are summarised below with officer response:

- 1. Northbound Stop Concern with potential loitering, anti-social behaviour, damage to property and security of parked cars (3 Objectors)
 - In response, similar concerns have been raised in relation to comparable schemes within Lancashire. There is no direct evidence to support the view that these concerns are likely to occur, experience has shown that the perceptions and fears raised elsewhere have rarely materialised.
- 2. Northbound Stop Loss of on-street parking places especially for vulnerable or disabled users (3 Objectors)

In response, the need to move the stop is because of safety concerns and the northbound bus stop location has been chosen as it is deemed to have the least effect on parking for residents compared to alternatives considered. Whilst it is recognised that residents like to park outside of their property, there is no legal requirement for it to be provided. The existing on-street parking at the northbound stop location is informal and has no associated traffic regulation order.

An application for a disabled parking bay in this location can be made and would be considered separately.

3. Northbound Stop - Concern with increase in noise levels (1 Objector) In response, Station Road is a busy secondary distributor road within an urban area. It is considered that the noise levels arising from bus activity in this location would be imperceptible considering the existing volumes and types of traffic. Further, not all timetabled buses would stop, dwell time would be short and there would be no layovers here.

4. Northbound Stop - There are other more convenient locations (2 Objectors)

In response, recognising the need to relocate the stops because of safety concerns a comprehensive review of location options for the northbound bus stop has been undertaken and the proposed location is deemed to be the optimum position in consideration of accessibility, least effect on residential properties, parking and capacity on the network.

5. Northbound Stop - Insufficient width for shelter, waiting passengers and passing pedestrians (1 Objector)

In response, it is intended that the shelter be located wholly on the build out area therefore the existing footway width would remain. The build out area would provide additional space for waiting passengers.

6. Northbound Stop - Reduction of privacy for customers (2 Objectors)

In response, this location is a busy urban environment where properties have frontages directly onto footways. The current levels of traffic and pedestrian activity means that the location already experiences passers-by and occupants in stationary vehicles/traffic.

7. Northbound Stop - Reduction in location aesthetic, natural light, blocking/obscuring frontage visibility therefore reducing chance of passing trade (2 Objectors)

In response, this section of Station Road is a busy urban road, and it is considered that the proposals are consistent to what would be expected at such a location. The proposed bus shelter (2.8m long, 1.5m wide and 2.3m high) would comprise of clear glass sides and roof panels and be positioned centrally between properties 96 and 94 to minimise any visual impact and reduction in visibility to business frontages.

8. Northbound Stop - Reduction in air quality outside property (1 Objector) In response, provision of quality, accessible and convenient bus stop facilities encourage modal shift from private car use to passenger transport use therefore helping to improve air quality, reduce carbon emissions and its effects.

9. Northbound Stop - Reduction in trade/detrimental effect to business (2 Objectors)

Trade fluctuates for a variety of reasons and there is little evidence to assess the impact of the northbound stop proposals on a business. For visitors to the businesses by car, the proposed location is deemed to have the least impact on parking over alternative locations. The provision of a bus stop itself may generate passing trade from bus users.

10. Northbound Stop - Reduction in property value (1 Objector)

In response, the powers under which the proposed works would be provided contain no statutory right to compensation.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

If appropriate bus stop facilities are not installed there is a continued risk to safety and a refusal by bus operators to serve the existing stops as a consequence as set out in the report above.

Financial

The scheme is estimated to cost £45,886 and will be delivered via funds remaining in the City Deal allocation for the Bamber Bridge Local Centre Improvement Scheme.

Legal

Safety should be a serious concern and the provision of bus stops should be at appropriate locations.

The authority has a duty to manage its road network with a view to achieving, so far as may be reasonably practicable having regard to their other obligations, policies and objectives, the following objectives:

- (a) securing the expeditious movement of traffic on the authority's road network; and
- (b) facilitating the expeditious movement of traffic on road networks for which another authority is the traffic authority.

The authority has a power to provide bus shelters.

Equality

The proposals will provide Equalities Act compliant bus stops and therefore improve accessibility to passenger transport services and opportunities to the community.

Human Rights

The view has been expressed that the installation of a bus stop could interfere with residents' Article 8 Convention Rights, namely the right to respect for one's private and family life, contrary to the provisions of the Human Rights Act. There could also be a possibility of infringing the rights of quiet enjoyment of property, which could extend to the rights of businesses affected. Whilst these rights under the Act are recognised, they need to be balanced against the general rights and interests of the

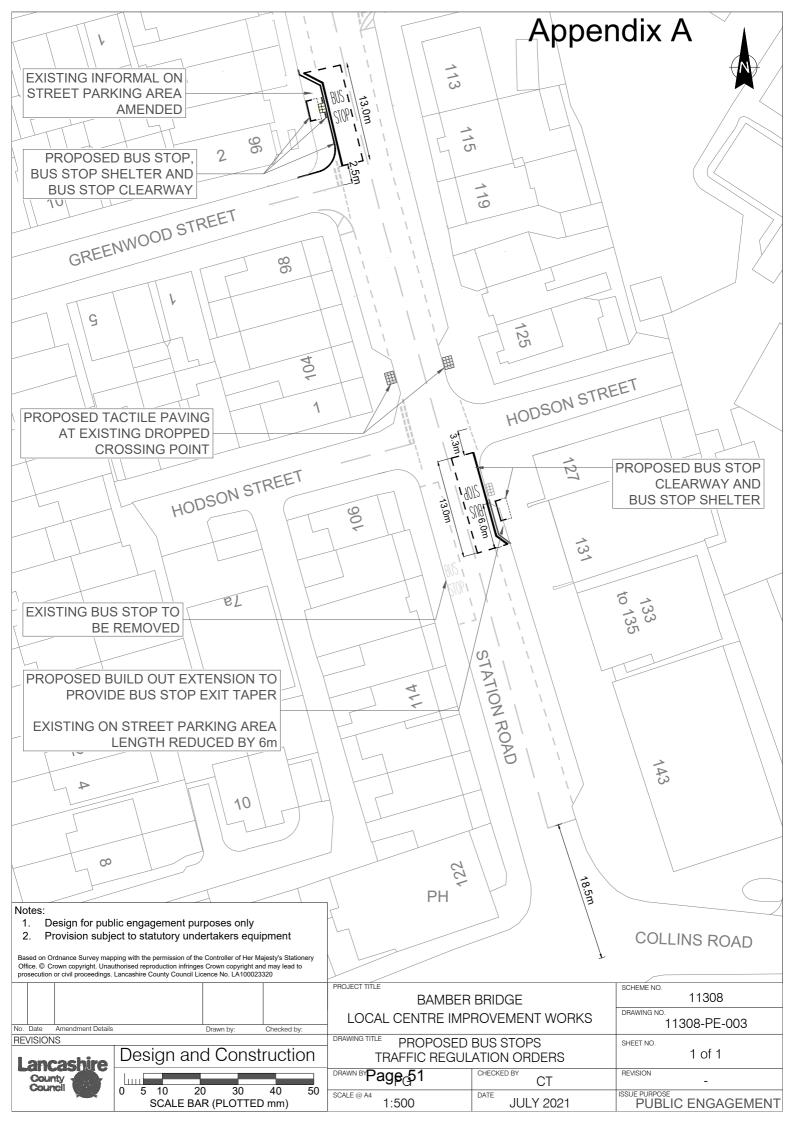
wider community, including the users of public transport. Taking into account all of the relevant factors, these latter rights are considered to prevail.

Traffic Management

The northbound bus stop is located as far away as reasonably practical from the Collins Road signal-controlled junction to minimise the effect on expeditious movement of traffic.

List of Background Papers

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



Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 20 January 2022

Report of the Acting Head of Service - Schools Finance

Part I

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:

Delivering better services; Caring for the vulnerable.

Schools Budget 2022/23

(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)
(Appendix 'B' will be circulated after the Schools Forum meeting on 13 January 2022)

Contact for further information:

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Brief Summary

In accordance with the Government's school funding Regulations and Guidance, the Authority is required to submit a final Schools Block budget pro-forma for 2022/23 to the Education and Skills Funding Agency by 21 January 2022. This report seeks the authorisation of the Cabinet to submit the Schools Block budget pro-forma and requests approval for the Early Years, High Needs and Central Schools Services Block budgets for 2022/23.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Note the report, including the 2022/23 Dedicated Schools Grant allocations, the final budget proposals for each funding block and any comments made by the Lancashire Schools Forum.
- (ii) Authorise the Acting Head of Service Schools Finance to submit the final Schools Block budget pro-forma for 2022/23 to the Education and Skills Funding Agency by 21 January 2022, on the basis set out in this report.



- (iii) Approve the 2022/23 budgets for the Early Years, High Needs and Central Schools Services Blocks and local proposals for the High Needs Supplementary Grant allocation for 2022/23.
- (iv) Agree that the Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve underwrite the uncertainties around the 2022/23 Schools Budget.

This decision should be implemented immediately for the purposes of Standing Order C28(3) as any delay could adversely affect the execution of the county council's responsibilities. The reason for this is to ensure that the necessary proforma can be submitted to the Education and Skills Funding Agency by the required deadline of 21 January 2022.

Detail

The Dedicated Schools Grant is a ring-fenced specific grant and it must be used in support of the Schools Budget as defined in the Dedicated Schools Grant Conditions of Grant and the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations. The Dedicated Schools Grant is allocated to every Local Authority in four funding blocks, each calculated using national funding formulae. The four blocks are:

- · Schools Block;
- High Needs Block;
- Early Years Block;
- Central School Services Block.

In July 2021, the Government made initial announcements about the 2022/23 school funding arrangements.

2022/23 is the final year of the Department for Education's three year funding settlement that has increased funding by over £7bn compared to the 2019/20 baseline. This is a £2.3bn increase nationally in 2022/23 from 2021/22. These increases relate to the Schools Block and High Needs Block allocations.

Further updates about school funding were provided on 27 October 2021, when the Chancellor delivered his Autumn Budget and 2021 Spending Review. This included a further £1.6bn in additional funding for 2022/23 school budgets, on top of the year-on-year increases already confirmed. The Chancellor indicated that this was to help the sector respond to the cost pressures faced by schools including, for example, increases in national insurance on high needs, in managing Covid and in supporting children and young people to recover from the pandemic.

In addition, the Chancellor's announcement indicated that an additional £170m would be made available by 2024/2025, to increase the hourly rate to be paid to early years providers for the government's free hours offers.

Further information on each of the funding blocks is provided below and details of the final 2022/23 Dedicated Schools Grant allocations, notified in December 2021, and the proposed Schools Budget expenditure are contained in Appendix 'A'.

Schools Block

The Schools Block funds mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies.

The Schools Block funding framework for 2022/23 will continue to operate under the 'soft' National Funding Formula arrangements first introduced in 2018/19. This is where the allocations for each local authority are calculated on the aggregated individual school National Funding Formula amounts calculated by the Government, but the local authority's local formula still applies in making actual allocations to schools.

Following a previous consultation with schools and academies in the County, and discussions with the Schools Forum, the Cabinet ratified the use of the National Funding Formula as the Lancashire formula methodology from April 2018. This will continue to apply in 2022/23.

Department for Education announcements indicate that the basic structure of the National Funding Formula remains unchanged for 2022/23, but the higher funding allocations have been used to increase factor values from April 2022.

National Funding Formula factor values for 2022/23 have increased, as follows:

- 3% to basic entitlement, free school meals at any time in the last 6 years (Free School Meals Ever 6), income deprivation affecting children index, lower prior attainment, English as an additional language and the lump sum;
- 2% to the funding floor, the minimum per pupil levels and free school meals,
- 0% on the premises factors, except for Private Finance Initiative which has increased by the Retail Price Index.

The announcements also included the relevant minimum pupil funding levels for primary and secondary schools, which incorporate the 2% uplift for 2022/23:

- For primary schools, the minimum pupil funding level will be £4,265 per pupil in 2022/23 compared to £4,180 per pupil in 2021/22.
- For secondary schools, the minimum pupil funding level will be £5,525 per pupil from 2022/23 compared to £5,415 per pupil in 2021/22.

Following a Government consultation on the Sparsity factor held in 2021, the Department for Education has amended the factor from April 2022, including:

- Increasing the maximum sparsity values for the both the primary and secondary phases by £10,000. Maximum sparsity values will be £55,000 for primary schools and £80,000 for secondary, middle, and all-through schools;
- Updating the schools sparsity distances calculations so that they are now based on road distances, instead of straight-line distances;

• Introducing a sparsity distance taper, in addition to the existing year group size taper.

Another Government consultation in 2021 has also led to changes to the payment process of schools business rates. From 2022/23, schools business rates will be paid by the Education and Skills Funding Agency to billing authorities directly on behalf of all state funded schools.

The additional £1.6bn funding arising from the Chancellor's announcements will be paid as a grant outside the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2022/23, due to the National Funding Formula and Minimum Pupil Funding levels already being announced.

Minimum Funding Guarantee

Local authorities will continue to set a Minimum Funding Guarantee in local formulae, which in 2022/23 must be between +0.5% and +2.0%.

The level to be applied in Lancashire is the subject of a consultation with schools and the Schools Forum. The Forum letter to Cabinet on finalising the Schools Budget for 2022/23, as set out at Appendix 'B', will include a final recommendation on the level of Minimum Funding Guarantee to be applied from April 2022.

Schools Block Transfer

The Regulatory framework continues to allow local authorities to be able to transfer up to 0.5% of their schools block allocation to other blocks of the Dedicated Schools Grant, with schools forum approval.

In 2020/21 and 2021/22, following consultation with schools and academies, the Schools Forum agreed to transfer Schools Block headroom to support pressures in the Early Years Block. This transfer equated to £2m in each year.

However, modelling indicates that all allocated funding will be required for the Schools Block formula in 2022/23, meaning that there will be no headroom available to support pressures in the early years sector.

Once approved, the Schools Block proposals for 2022/23 must be submitted to the Education and Skills Funding Agency, for compliance checking against the Department for Education regulations and guidance. A proforma is provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency to facilitate submissions and the deadline for the 2022/23 return is 21 January 2022.

High Needs Block

The High Needs Block funds:

- Special Schools budgets;
- Alternative Provision budgets (mainly Pupil Referral Units);
- Special Education Resource Facility and Special Educational Needs in mainstream schools;
- Individually Assigned Resources for High Needs pupils across all educational establishments;

Certain Special Education Needs Central Schools Services.

The allocation to Lancashire is calculated using a national High Needs Block formula, but the Local Authority's local funding formulae still apply to distribute High Needs funding to Lancashire providers.

Department for Education announcements confirm that the basic structure of the High Needs National Funding Formula for 2022/23 is not changing. The High Needs National Funding Formula floor and gains cap have been set as follows for 2022/23:

- the funding floor is set at 8% so each local authority will see an increase of at least 8% per head of their 2 to 18 population (as estimated by the Office of National Statistics);
- the gains cap is set at 11%, allowing local authorities to see gains up to this
 percentage increase under the formula, again calculated on a per head basis
 of their 2 to 18 population;
- The hospital education factor will also be uplifted by 8%.

In terms of the increased core school funding for 2022/23, the Government have stated that £780m is targeted at the High Needs Block. The Department for Education indicates that this represents a 9.6% increase for High Needs Block nationally in 2022/23, and say that the extra resource will continue to help local authorities manage their cost pressures in this area, while the government remains focused on completing the cross-departmental review of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities system, to ensure that it supports those children and young people as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Early Years Block

Early Years Block funding is utilised for:

- Funding for the universal 15 hours entitlement for three and four year olds;
- Funding for the additional 15 hours entitlement for three and four year old children of eligible working parents;
- Funding for the 15 hours entitlement for disadvantaged two year olds;
- Funding for the Early Years Pupil Premium;
- Funding for the Disability Access Fund;
- Supplementary funding for Maintained Nursery Schools.

The Government introduced an Early Years National Funding Formula from April 2017. This arrangement introduced a formulaic mechanism for distributing early years funding from national Government to each local authority and set a framework that must be used to distribute funding to all types of early education provider, including nursery schools; nursery classes in maintained primary schools; Private, Voluntary and Independent providers and Childminders. The Early Years National Funding Formula introduced a requirement to have a Universal Base Rate for all providers and set out the type and level of supplements that are available.

The Government has indicated that an additional £170m would be made available by 2024/2025 to increase the hourly rate to be paid to early years providers for the government's free hours offers.

Central School Services Block

This Block is to fund central functions that local authorities carry out on behalf of pupils in state-funded maintained schools and academies in England. The Central School Services Block was first introduced in 2018/19, and effectively replaced the previous Education Services Grant allocations, but the levels of funding had reduced considerably compared to previous years.

The Central School Services Block allocation for local authorities is split into funding for historic commitments and funding for ongoing responsibilities.

The ongoing responsibilities element of funding is calculated by the Department for Education on a formulaic methodology based on pupil numbers and deprivation, plus an area cost adjustment. The historic commitments element of the Block funds certain ongoing obligations funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

The Department for Education funding announcements for 2022/23 indicate that the per pupil rate used in the formulaic ongoing responsibilities calculation will receive an uplift similar to the Schools Block, but the historic commitments funding will continue to decrease, by a further 20% from April 2022.

The Department for Education has stated that it will continue to unwind the historic commitments funding to zero in future years.

Final Dedicated Schools Grant Allocation 2022/23

Details of Lancashire's final Dedicated Schools Grant allocations for 2022/23 for each funding block, and the expenditure proposals for each block are provided at Appendix 'A'.

Consultations

Discussions have been held with the Schools Forum throughout the budget setting process, and any decisions and recommendations arising from the Forum's budget meeting on 13 January 2022 will be provided to Cabinet on 20 January 2022 as Appendix 'B'.

To help inform Schools Forum considerations, consultations have been held with Lancashire schools and academies in connection to certain aspects of the Schools Block funding arrangements from April 2022.

The Schools Forum letter to the Cabinet will include any recommendations relating to setting the 2022/23 Schools Budget that arise from the consultations.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

There are no significant risks identified in this report.

Financial

There are no financial implications for the county council's budget arising from this report.

The report forecasts a balanced Dedicated Schools Grant funding position in 2022/23, subject to the planned use of £1m in Schools Budget reserves to mitigate transitional pressures in the Early Years Block budget.

Any uncertainties contained in the Schools Budget proposals will be underwritten by the Dedicated Schools Grant reserves.

It should also be noted that the Department for Education has tightened the ring-fencing around the Dedicated Schools Grant from 2020/21 onwards, to ensure that local authorities do not make provisions in their general reserves to cover possible Dedicated Schools Grant deficits, and any deficits would be carried forward into future years and then repaid overtime. A number of other local authorities are already working with the Department for Education to agree recovery plans to repay deficits.

To date, Lancashire has always contained any school funding pressures within the Dedicated Schools Grant. The Dedicated Schools Grant reserve as at 31 March 2021 was £16.096m.

However, there is concern that there could be increased strain on the High Needs Block budget from 2023/24 onwards, when initial announcements from the Government indicate approximately 3% rises in funding per annum, but forecast cost and demand led pressures in the High Needs Block are estimated to remain at a level well above this. This could create significant pressure on the High Needs Block Budget and the overall Dedicated Schools Grant in the longer term.

List of Background Papers

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

Appendix A

Report to Cabinet 20 January 2022

Final Dedicated Schools Grant allocations for 2022/23 were published by the Department for Education on 16 December 2021 and pupil data was received on 20 December 2021.

Lancashire's Gross 2022/23 Dedicated Schools Grant allocation is £1,132.679m.

The equivalent Gross Dedicated Schools Grant income figure for 2021/22 was £1,090.214m. The 2022/23 figure is over £42m higher than the previous year.

This increase in funding is due to:

- Lancashire's share of the increased £2.3bn funding nationally made available by Government, including £780m for the High Needs Block;
- Lancashire's share of the increased £170m nationally for the Early Years Block;
- An increase in the overall numbers of pupils in Lancashire compared to 2021/22, although figures in the early years sector are now declining.

Whilst there is additional funding in the education system, there are considerable inflationary pressures on the sector, and continued uncertainty around unpredictable covid-19 related costs and many schools and providers may continue to face financial challenges.

In addition, the Chancellor announced a £1.6bn increase for schools in his Autumn Budget and 2021 Spending Review, on top of the year-on-year increases already confirmed above.

These Department for Education announcements indicate that this funding is to provide support for the costs of the Health and Social Care Levy and wider costs in schools. This funding will be allocated through a schools supplementary grant in 2022 to 2023 and final details of schools allocations will be made available in spring 2022. Of the additional funding, £325m nationally has been allocated for high needs funding.

The sections below provide further details of the Lancashire Dedicated Schools Grant allocations and presents the estimated Schools Budget for 2022/23.

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT ALLOCATIONS 2022/23

The Department for Education sub-divide the Dedicated Schools Grant allocations into 4 funding blocks: Schools Block, High Needs Block, Early Years Block and the Central Schools Services Block. These Blocks are all calculated on a formulaic basis.

Information on the allocations for each of the funding blocks is provided below:

Schools Block allocation (£878.278m)

The Schools Block allocations for 2022/23 are derived on the basis of illustrative individual Schools National Funding Formula allocations calculated by the Government. These calculations translate into primary and secondary units of funding for 2022/23. These units of funding are multiplied by the number of primary and secondary pupils from the October 2021 census. A Local Authority level allocation for

premises factors and growth funding are added to provide a final Schools Block allocation.

This provides a total Lancashire Schools Block allocation for 2022/23 of £878.278m.

The 2022/23 Schools Block allocation is over £28m higher than the equivalent figure in 2021/22. The increased allocation is in part due to Lancashire's share of the additional funding made available nationally by the Government, and an overall increase of over 1,000 in the number of pupils across Lancashire primary and secondary schools in the October 2021 school census.

These extra pupils generate additional Schools Block income but will also produce extra costs in the budget. The funding being allocated on deprivation factors has also increased and will place additional pressures in the Schools Block budget.

It should also be noted that the Department for Education has introduced changes to the payment process of schools business rates. From 2022/23, schools business rates will be paid by the Education and Skills Funding Agency to billing authorities directly on behalf of all state funded schools. For 2022/23, a rates allocation will continue to be included in the Department for Education's schools National Funding Formula but a deduction of £8.338m will be made from the Lancashire Schools Block cash allocation in 2022/23, to enable this central government payment to be made.

High Needs Block allocation (£166.908m)

The 2022/23 High Needs Block allocation is calculated under the Government's national High Needs funding formula. Key features of the formula include:

- A high needs funding floor and gains calculation;
- Basic entitlement factor (with area cost adjusted) for the number of pupils in special schools and academies;
- Import/export adjustment;
- Additional Funding for Special Free Schools;
- Hospital education, Alternative Provision teachers pay/pension and supplementary funding factor.

The formula provides a 2022/23 High Needs Block allocation for Lancashire of £166,907,915.

This figure is over £15m higher than the equivalent 2021/22 allocation, due to increased funding for the High Needs Block made available by the Government.

It should be noted that the High Needs Block allocation is a provisional allocation and the gross total includes allocations attributable to funded places that will be deducted and made directly by the Education & Skills Funding Agency. These are estimated by Education & Skills Funding Agency to total circa £8.604m.

Early Years Block allocation (£80.655m)

Allocations for the Early Years Block include:

funding for the universal 15 hours entitlement for three and four year olds;

- funding for the additional 15 hours entitlement for three and four year old children of eligible working parents;
- funding for the 15 hours entitlement for disadvantaged two year olds;
- funding for the Early Years Pupil Premium;
- · funding for the Disability Access Fund;
- supplementary funding for Maintained Nursery Schools.

The allocations are calculated on a formulaic basis and include Lancashire's share of an additional £170m nationally for early years education in 2022/23.

This additional funding translates into increased allocations to Lancashire as follows .

- 3 and 4-year-old entitlements £0.17 per hour uplift;
- 2-year-old entitlement £0.21 per hour uplift;
- Supplementary funding for maintained nursery schools £0.17 per hour uplift;
- Early Years Pupil Premium £0.07 per hour uplift;
- Disability Access Fund £185 per eligible child per year uplift.

These factors provide a total Early Years Block allocation for Lancashire for 2022/23 of £80,654,601.

Lancashire's Early Years funding is circa £1.8m lower than the equivalent 2021/22 allocation, even though the allocation includes increased funding rates. This is due to an approximate 5% reduction in the numbers of funded pupils, as decreased birth rates feed through into the early years sector.

It should be noted that the 2022/23 early years block allocations are initial, and based on Schools, Early Years and Alternative Provision censuses data from January 2021. These allocations will be updated based on January 2022 and January 2023 census data.

Central Schools Services Block (£6.838m)

The Central Schools Services Block is to fund central functions that Local Authority's carry out on behalf of pupils in state-funded maintained schools and academies in England.

The Central Schools Services Block is split into funding for historic commitments and funding for ongoing responsibilities. The ongoing responsibilities element is based on a formula, with unit values being increased by circa 4% for 2022/23.

The Historic Commitments element of the allocation has been reduced by 20% compared to 2021/22, as the Department for Education indicate that they will continue to 'unwind' historic commitments over time.

The total Lancashire's Central Schools Services Block allocation for 2022/23 is £6,838,441. This is marginally higher than 2021/22, mainly relating to the higher increased ongoing responsibility funding rate, and higher pupil numbers.

In Year Adjustments

The Dedicated Schools Grant allocation notified is prior to in year adjustments for:

- Academies recoupment from the schools block;
- Deductions for high needs places in academies and non-maintained special schools;
- Post 16 places;
- Deduction for national copyright licences;
- · Deduction for schools business rates
- Updates to the funding for three and four year olds;
- Updates to the funding two year olds;
- Updates to the early years supplementary funding for maintained nursery school;
- Updates to the early years pupil premium;
- Updates to early years Disability Access Fund.

Forecast total Dedicated Schools Grant income for 2022/23

The Lancashire Dedicated Schools Grant allocations for 2022/23 across the 4 funding blocks are shown below:

Forecast Dedicated Schools Grant Income	£m's
Schools Block	878.278
High Needs Block	166.908
Early Years Block	80.655
Central Schools Services Block	6.838
Gross Total forecast Dedicated Schools Grant Income	1,132.679
Total deduction for national schools non-domestic rates	-8.338
Total deductions for direct high needs payments made by the Education & Skills Funding Agency	-8.604
Net Total forecast Dedicated Schools Grant Income	1,115.737

Schools Supplementary Grant 2022/23

The Chancellor's autumn 2021 spending review confirmed £1.6bn funding for schools and high needs, for the 2022/23 financial year, above the previous Dedicated Schools Grant settlement.

The December 2021 Dedicated Schools Grant announcements provided further information about this Supplementary Grant. The Grant is provided to support costs of the Health and Social Care Levy and wider pressures.

For mainstream schools, this funding will be allocated through a schools supplementary grant 2022/23.

£325m of the total will be allocated via local authorities for high needs funding in 2022/23.

The schools supplementary grant will fund the following providers:

- maintained nursery schools
- primary and secondary maintained schools

- primary and secondary academies and free schools
- all through maintained schools
- all through academies
- 16 to 19 maintained schools
- 16 to 19 academies
- city technology colleges

The Government specify that the schools supplementary grant will only be payable to public sector employers. This means that further education colleges, sixth form colleges, independent learning providers, as well as private and voluntary sector early years providers will not be eligible to receive this funding.

The Department for Education indicate that school-level allocations of the schools supplementary grant for 2022/23 will be published in spring 2022. Local Authorities will be expected to passport the allocations to schools and the Government will pay the allocations directly to academies.

Funding for early years and post-16 provision in schools is provided in respect of the Health and Social Care Levy. The additional funding for mainstream school provision for pupils aged 5 to 16 is provided in respect of both the Health and Social Care Levy and wider cost pressures. This means that the funding rates in the schools supplementary grant are higher for 5 to 16 provision than early years or post-16, as set out below:

Rate for early years

The base per-pupil funding rate for early years provision in schools, and for maintained nursery schools, will be £24 per pupil.

Rates for 5 to 16 schools:

The base funding rates for 5-16 schools will be:

- basic per-pupil rate of £97 for primary pupils
- basic per-pupil rate of £137 for key stage 3 pupils
- basic per-pupil rate of £155 for key stage 4 pupils
- lump sum of £3,680
- Free School Meals Ever 6 per-pupil rate of £85 per eligible primary pupil
- Free School Meals Ever 6 per-pupil rate of £124 per eligible secondary pupil

Rates for post-16

The base per-student funding rate for 16-19 provision in schools, including 16 to 19 schools and academies, will be £35 per student.

Lancashire Schools Supplementary Grant allocations for 2022/23 are:

Total Supplementary Grant allocation	£31m
High Needs Supplementary Grant allocation	£6m
Mainstream Schools Supplementary Grant allocation	£25m

The Department for Education have indicated that funding will be incorporated into core budget allocations for 2023/24 where possible. So, for 5 to 16 schools, this will mean the funding being rolled into the schools national funding formula.

SCHOOLS BUDGET 2022/23

The latest Individual School Budgets across all phases has been constructed using the final datasets made available from the Department for Education and our latest local Early Years and High Needs data.

This Schools Budget estimate has been calculated following discussions with the Schools Forum and where necessary, consultation with Lancashire schools.

Budget Summary

The table below summarises the budgets to be allocated from each of the Dedicated Schools Grant funding blocks

Forecast Dedicated Schools Grant Expenditure	£m's
Schools Block	876.598
High Needs Block	168.588
Early Years Block	81.655
Central Schools Services Block	6.838
Total deduction for national schools non-domestic rates	-8.338
Total deductions for direct high needs payments made by the Education & Skills Funding Agency	-8.604
Total forecast Dedicated Schools Grant Expenditure	1,116.737

Further details about each block are provided below.

Schools Block (876.598m)

Following a consultation with schools and the Schools Forum as part of the 2018/19 Schools Budget setting cycle, it was agreed to use the Government's National Funding Formula methodology as the local Lancashire funding model.

The National Funding Formula methodology will continue to apply in 2022/23 for calculating allocations to Lancashire schools, and will incorporate the changes to the formula introduced nationally that are set out in the main report. This provides for a guaranteed 2% per pupil increase for all schools and academies in 2022/23. However, most factors in the National Funding Formula have been uplifted by 3% from 2021/22.

As supported by responses from schools in a consultation held in the autumn term 2021, the Minimum Funding Guarantee has been included in the formula at +2% and there is no cap on funding gains.

A 2022/23 growth fund requirement, which is used to support Local Authority initiated school expansions, of £2m has been included for 2022/23. The balance of funding from the Growth Fund allocation received by Lancashire, equating to circa £2.2m, has

been used as a contribution to increased deprivation related payments that are required by Lancashire schools and academies in 2022/23.

It should also be noted that a transfer of Schools Block headroom has been agreed in recent years to support pressures in other funding blocks. For 2022/23, no headroom is available, largely due to this increased deprivation pressure on the Schools Block.

The Schools Block funding is sufficient for all the National Funding Formula factors and rates to be applied in full, including updated Minimum Pupil Funding rates, and the agreed Minimum Funding Guarantee.

However, an urgent consultation is taking place with schools about the transfer of circa £1.7m from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. This transfer is technical in nature and relates to the impact of decisions taken by the county council regarding the closure of the former Hameldon School in Burnley. Following the closure of Hameldon, the school site was used temporarily to house pupils from another Lancashire secondary school whilst remedial work took place on their own premises. From 2022/23, the site will become the permanent base for Lancashire special school. Hameldon school was built under the 'Building Schools for the Future' programme financed by a Private Finance Initiative contract that is not yet complete. The Government's Dedicated Schools Grant regulations and guidance have different arrangements for a school's contributions depending whether they are funded through the Schools Block (secondary school provision) or the High Needs Block (when a special school utilises the site).

The Lancashire Schools Block allocation for 2022/23 includes an element for premises funding, which is calculated on the basis of premises expenditure in 2021/22. This calculation incorporates circa £1.7m of funding as the Schools Block Private Finance Initiative payment for the former Hameldon school site. However, in 2022/23, this contribution will actually be attributable to the High Needs Block, as the site will be taken over by a special school.

The county council is therefore consulting schools and the Schools Forum about the transfer of circa £1.7m from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block, to enable the required special school contribution towards the Private Finance Initiative contract to be met from the relevant funding block in 2022/23, in accordance with Department for Education guidance.

The Schools Block expenditure for 2022/23 is therefore estimated in the table below:

Forecast Schools Block Expenditure	£m's
Primary	464.609
Secondary	408.776
All-Through	1.214
Budgeted Growth	2.000
Total	876.598
Dedicated Schools Grant Schools Block Income	-878.278
Hameldon site PFI - proposed transfer to High Needs Block	-1.680

The overall calculation reveals a 2022/23 Schools Block expenditure requirement of £876.598m and a proposed transfer of £1.68m to the High Needs Block.

As mentioned earlier in the appendix, the Department for Education has introduced changes to the payment process of schools business rates. From 2022/23, schools business rates will be paid by the Education and Skills Funding Agency to billing authorities directly on behalf of all state funded schools. For 2022/23, a rates allocation will continue to be included in the Department for Education's schools National Funding Formula but a deduction of £8.338m will be made from the Lancashire Schools Block cash allocation in 2022/23, to enable this central government payment to be made.

High Needs Block (£168.588m)

The High Needs Block expenditure for 2022/23 is estimated in the table below:

	Place funding £m	Top-up funding £m
Delegated to Schools	36.773	75.220
FE Colleges		11.000
High Needs Block costs on a commissioned basis		36.423
Total deductions based on 21/22 for direct high needs payments made by the Education and		
Skills Funding Agency		8.604
Additional 22/23 High Needs places to be paid		
direct by Education and Skills Funding Agency		0.568
Total	36.773	131.815

Total Expenditure £m	168.588
Total Income £m	166.908
Overspend £m	1.680
Transfer of Hameldon PFI £m	1.680

The total forecast High Needs Block expenditure in 2022/23 is some £168.588m, including the proposed transfer of £1.68m from the Schools Block in relation to the Hameldon PFI contribution.

This forecast expenditure includes an estimate of the considerable cost and demand led pressures facing the block in 2022/23.

Proposals also build in a 2% increase to the level for the school specific factor rates in special schools and pupil referral units, which matches the level of the Minimum Funding Guarantee agreed for the Schools Block formula.

In addition, the Weighted Pupil Number values supporting all high needs pupils are proposed to increase by 4% in 2022/23. This level of increase, which is slightly higher that the general 3% uplifts for the pupil-led factors in the Schools Block national funding formula, is affordable from April 2022.

The circa £8.6m of deductions in the Dedicated Schools Grant notifications have been budgeted here, as this relates to direct high needs payments made by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

An extra £0.568m of deductions for 2022/23 has also been included, for additional high needs places that have now been commissioned by the county council at establishments that are directly paid by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Despite considerable pressure on the high need block funding envelope, a balanced budget position has been forecast for 2022/23, subject to the agreement of the proposed transfer of £1.68m from the Schools Block in relation to the Hameldon PFI contribution. The county council will continue to work on initiatives that ensure that the best use is being made of the High Needs resources available and to minimise as far as possible the future years forecasted overspends.

However, there is concern that there could be increased strain on the High Needs Block budget from 2023/24 onwards, when initial announcements from the Government indicate circa 3% rises in funding per annum, but forecast cost and demand led pressures in the High Needs Block are estimated to remain at a level well above this. This could create significant pressure on the High Needs Block Budget and the overall Dedicated Schools Grant in the longer term.

Early Years Block (£81.655m)

Government announcements of additional Early Years funding translates into increased allocations to Lancashire as follows:

- 3 and 4-year-old entitlements £0.17 per hour uplift;
- 2-year-old entitlement £0.21 per hour uplift;
- Supplementary funding for maintained nursery schools £0.17 per hour uplift;
- Early Years Pupil Premium £0.07 per hour uplift;
- Disability Access Fund £185 per eligible child per year uplift.

3 and 4-year-old entitlements

For the last two financial years, the Schools Forum has agreed that the Early Years Block allocation be supplemented by a transfer of £2m per year from the Schools Block to assist with the cost pressures in the early years sector. This transfer has allowed the hourly rate for the 3 and 4-year-old entitlements to be increased by £0.08 per hour.

For 2022/23, pressures within the Schools Block mean that this transfer is not possible, which means that the £0.08 per hour will need to be removed from the base rate for 2022/23. The Schools Forum is aware that the early years sector is already facing considerable cost pressures, so has recommended that £1m of Schools Budget reserves be used in 2022/23 to help reduce the turbulence in the system caused by this reduction. The £1m contribution would allow £0.04 per hour and be available for 2022/23 only.

The total Early Years Block expenditure in 2022/23 includes the £1m contribution for Schools Budget reserves.

This £0.04 per hour can be added to the government's increase, which for 3 and 4 year old entitlements in Lancashire equates to an additional £0.17 per hour in 2022/23.

The 2022/23 funding rate may therefore be calculated as follows:

2021/22 base rate, which included £0.08 contribution from Lancashire Schools Block	£4.35 per hour
2022/23 adjusted base rate without £0.08 contribution	£4.27 per hour
2022/23 base rate with Department for Education £0.17 uplift	£4.44 per hour
2022/23 base rate with £0.04 one off contribution from Schools Forum reserves	£4.48 per hour

A Lancashire base rate for 3 and 4-year-old entitlements of £4.48 per hour in 2022/23, would be an increase of 13p per hour from 2021/22.

2-year-old entitlement

Lancashire is to receive an additional £0.21 per hour for the 2-year-old entitlement for 2022/23, which will be passed to providers in full. This would give a forecast Lancashire funding rate for 2 year olds of £5.37 per hour from April 2022.

Supplementary funding hourly rate for maintained nursery schools

Lancashire will receive a £0.17 increase in the supplementary funding hourly rate for maintained nursery schools in 2022/23, which will be passed to the maintained nursery schools, providing a revised hourly supplement rate of £3.67 per hour.

Early Years Pupil Premium

Lancashire will increase our early years pupil premium rate by 7p to 60p per hour, equivalent to up to £342 per eligible child per year, for 2022/23, in line with national announcements.

Disability Access Fund

Lancashire will increase the disability access fund by £185 to £800 per eligible child per year for 2022/23, in line with national announcements.

Special Educational Needs Inclusion Fund

Local authorities are required to have a Special Educational Needs Inclusion Fund for all eligible 3 and 4-year-olds who are taking up the free entitlements, regardless of the number of hours taken. For 2022/23 it is proposed to keep the Lancashire fund at the 2021/22 level of £500k in total.

The Early Years Block expenditure for 2022/23 is therefore estimated in the table below:

Forecast EYB Expenditure	£m's
Early Years Block 2 year olds	8.543
Early Years Block 3/4 year olds	67.866

Early Years Pupil Premium expenditure	0.938
Early Years Disability Access Fund expenditure	0.363
Nursery School Maintained Nursery School	3.445
Special Educational Needs Inclusion	0.500
Total	81.655

The total forecast Early Years Block expenditure in 2022/23 is some £81.655m. including a £1m contribution from Schools Budget reserves.

Central Schools Services Block (£6.838m)

The estimated Central Schools Services Block expenditure in 2022/23 is £6.838m.

The budget takes account of the Department for Education's decision to reduce the Historic Commitments element of the budget by a further 20% from April 2022, as part of their intention to cease all 'historic' funding over time.

In consultation with the Schools Forum, Lancashire has already significantly reduced the historic commitments expenditure. However, in order to protect some combined budget contributions that help support valued services to schools, circa £0.350m from the historic commitments element has been transferred to the High Needs Block in 2022/23, in consultation with the Schools Forum.

Careful consideration will be needed around the Central Schools Services Block in future years, as Department for Education implement further reductions in the Historic Commitments budget.

Calculation of the final 2022/23 funding position

	£m's
Total forecast Dedicated Schools Grant Income 2022/23	1,115.737
Total Forecast Dedicated Schools Grant Allocations 2022/23	1,116.737

These Schools Budget proposals forecast a balanced Dedicated Schools Grant funding position in 2022/23, subject to the planned use of £1m in Schools Budget reserves to mitigate transitional pressures in the Early Years Block budget.

Schools Supplementary Grant 2022/23

Lancashire Schools Supplementary Grant allocations for 2022/23, arising from the Chancellor's announcements of an additional £1.6bn nationally, will total circa £31m.

Further details of the mainstream school supplementary grant allocations will be provided by the Department for Education in spring 2022.

The county council will receive the individual school allocations for maintained schools and be expected to passport the funding to the relevant schools in full. The Education and Skills Funding Agency will pay Lancashire academies directly. Total allocations to Lancashire mainstream establishments will total circa £25m for 2022/23.

In addition, the county council will receive an extra £6m additional high needs funding allocations of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2022/23. The supplementary allocations are on top of the Dedicated Schools Grant high needs block allocations but are subject to the same Dedicated Schools Grant conditions of grant.

This extra funding recognises the additional costs that local authorities and schools will face in the coming year, which were not foreseen when the original high needs block allocations were calculated, including the Health and Social Care Levy, that will be applied initially through increased national insurance contributions from employers. The additional funding also takes into account that colleges and other providers offering extra hours of study to students with high needs may require extra high needs top-up funding to support those students

Guidance indicates that the supplementary high needs allocation should be discussed with special schools and alternative provision establishments. These discussions will take place via the Schools Forum on 13 January 2022 and any recommendations about this issue and other matters concerned with finalising of the Schools Budget for 2022/23 will be provided to Cabinet as Appendix 'B'.

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 20 January 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Highways

Part I

Electoral Division affected: All

Corporate Priorities:

Delivering better services; Protecting our Environment;

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Flood and Coastal Erosion Grant in Aid Capital Funding - Flood Risk Management Works and Studies

(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)

Contact for further information:

Rachel Crompton, Tel: (01772) 530150, Principal Flood Risk Officer, rachel.crompton@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

This report seeks approval to add 10 externally funded projects into the county council's capital programme. The schemes will mainly be funded by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid capital funding programme, with one project funded by the North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee's Local Levy. Additional funding will be contributed from the county council's existing staff revenue budgets where appropriate.

The total amount of funding which needs to be brought into the capital programme is £1,755,500.00, which will be claimed in stages over the programme period (2021-2027) as progress is made with the planned phases of each project.

Whilst the projects have not yet been formally confirmed by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, they have secured all local and regional approvals including that of the North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee, meaning there is high confidence in the funds being made available early in 2022. Preparing now to receive the funds will enable work to start on the various projects at the earliest possible opportunity.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.



Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the addition of 10 externally funded flood risk management projects identified in the report, and as set out at Appendix 'B', with a combined value of £1,755,500.00 into the 2022/23 drainage capital programme, subject to final project approvals to be notified by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs early in 2022.

Detail

As a Risk Management Authority defined in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, Lancashire County Council is eligible to apply for funding from the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid programme to support flood risk management capital activities in Lancashire. The Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid programme is administered for the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs by the Environment Agency.

These activities can be studies to identify flooding risks and potential options to reduce flood risk, also schemes to deliver flood risk management works on the ground.

The success of any bid for such funding depends on the potential reduction in flood risk for a defined number of households, following the current national procedures for establishing a suitable business case.

It is also an essential criterion for the award of Grant in Aid funding that projects must attract partnership contributions (a form of 'match-funding') to be added into the final funding regime. Partnership contributions can be made in a variety of ways for example 'benefit in kind', future maintenance commitments or staff time. As with previous projects of this nature, officers will use their best endeavours to develop projects which do not create new assets, maintenance liabilities or other future commitments for the council. Any such elements which may be part of an optimum solution will be subjected to further internal decision-making procedures before any commitments could be made.

Recent studies and projects in Lancashire which have been recently or are currently being funded through Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid funding include:

- Flood Risk Management schemes at Croston, Preston and South Ribble, and at Rossall and Anchorsholme;
- Pumps at Irwell Vale and Croston;
- Culvert improvements at Preesall and Mawdesley;
- Surface water management schemes at Wesham and Slyne;
- Surface Water Management studies in Ormskirk, Burscough, Halton, Lancaster, Brinscall, Upper Irwell, and Burnley;

 Ordinary Water Course studies in Much Hoole, various locations in West Lancashire and Pendle.

The council's Flood Risk Management officers have identified 10 new projects as being eligible in principle for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid to be funded from 2022 onwards. The council submitted bids for these projects in June 2021 to meet the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Environment Agency deadlines and procedures in accordance with the process described in Appendix 'A'.

Locations and outline information for each of these projects are shown at Appendix 'B'. Further details will emerge as each of the projects are developed by the council's Flood Risk Management team with advice from specialist consultants, local stakeholders and other implicated Risk Management Authorities including the council's highways officers, the water companies, local Environment Agency teams and technical staff at the city and district councils where appropriate.

Further projects elsewhere around Lancashire will be identified as progress is made with identifying potential investment opportunities from the team's investigations and working in partnership with the other Risk Management Authorities in Lancashire.

The North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee has been consulted on all the projects proposed by the region's Risk Management Authorities including the projects proposed by the county council. The Regional Flood and Coastal Committee completed the regional endorsement process in October 2021, before final national programming decisions are made by the Environment Agency using Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs procedures.

It is expected that decisions on these 10 projects will be notified early in 2022. Once notification of the final national programme has been received, the council's Flood Risk Management team will develop more detailed investigation and design programmes for all the successful projects. Subject to the grants being awarded, the successful projects will extend over a number of years, depending on their complexity and any challenges that may be identified in the early stages.

In many cases, this project development work will be funded by the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid allocations, although in some cases this preparatory work will be done through 'business as normal' (existing staff revenue budgets) and won't be recharged to the capital budgets. Such staffing costs may be counted towards the partnership contributions that the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs requires evidence to demonstrate the commitment and resources contributed to each project by the Risk Management Authorities and other interested parties.

As well as its role in developing the national programme, the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee holds its own funds for investing in regional priorities. These are the Local Levy funds, which are collected annually from the region's lead local flood authorities (including the county council). The committee allocated these funds to the sub-regional partnerships to be invested in projects that are potentially not cost-

effective using Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' assessment procedure but are still found to be valuable in a regional context.

Lancashire County Council has one scheme currently going through the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee's local approvals procedure. If it is successful, the funds will be made available quickly and need to be used at relatively short notice. It is advisable to establish the capital budget for this project at the same time as those awaiting the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid funding.

Progress on these and all other Flood Risk Management projects in the North West region will then be monitored and evaluated by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee through its own procedures.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Flood risk

This report aims to minimise delays between the expected allocation of external funding and the council's officers making a start on the detailed investigation, design and delivery of flood risk management improvements.

Financial risk

The proposal in this report is to establish the capital budgets for the 10 projects referred to in Appendix 'B', in advance of the project funding being confirmed by the external bodies.

Because the dates of confirmation are managed by these external bodies and are not under the council's control, it is not possible to align them precisely with the council's decision-making procedures. The decisions therefore need to be taken either in advance as proposed, or after the allocations are confirmed.

If the budgets are established in advance of the funding confirmations, there will be less risk of delay in setting them up and in enabling spending to start on the relevant staff time, surveys and consultancy services.

If the confirmations are held up or not given as expected, the council's budgets can be amended or cancelled accordingly.

There is a small potential risk to the council, if the identified projects should over-run on costs. Each project is still progressing through staged business case

development and costs can be adjusted provided they remain within the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs guidelines. The risks are also mitigated by the built-in optimum bias of 20%, the ability for council officers to vie funds between projects in the programme, and the scope for amending scheme details at design and construction stages.

List of Background Papers

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

March – The final programme is published on gov.uk, and final preparations are made to deliver work in the new financial year April 2021 – planning for next financial year begins, agreed programmes and associated outcome targets shared with RFCCs for reference

April – timetable for annual refresh announced to RMAs and EA Area teams, and associated guidance issued

Feb – EA Board approves the final allocation of capital FCRM Grant-in-Aid

Jan 2022 – RFCCs review and consent the implementation of their regional programmes of work for the following financial year

> Nov/Dec – EA National team collate and review all 'local choices' returns and prepare final allocation programme

> > Oct 2021 – indicative programme is shared with RFCCs for 'local choices' to ensure local priorities are addressed as far as possible within budgets available and national priorities. RFCCs may increase programmes with further contributions from third parties or Local Levy

May/June – EA Area teams and other RMAs review projects in the consented programme and advise on any changes required

> July 2021 – proposed project changes and the 'refreshed' programme is shared with RFCCs for endorsement

August/Sept – EA National team collate all changes and bids for additional/ reduced funding and, working within the budget available, prioritise projects

August/Sept – EA National team prepare an indicative programme for the whole country showing which projects are eligible for funding

		National Project Identification reference	Project Name/Location	Grant in Aid or Local Levy - £	Notes
1		NWC009F/000A/045A	Thornton Cleveleys Level 3 Surface Water Management Plan (Wyre)	600,000	Combining previous studies by Environment Agency & United Utilities with information from November 2017 flooding and more recent/localised events, to identify options for sustainable surface water management.
2	2	NWC003F/000A/013A	Parbold Village Options appraisal and Scheme Delivery (West Lancashire)	200,000	To complete work already initiated by Lancashire County Council after December 2015 floods.
3	3	NWC009F/000A/041A	Prospect Avenue, Lostock Hall (South Ribble)	150,000	To understand and improve surface water drainage between the railway lines and Brownedge Road.
4		NWC009F/000A/061A	Whalley Surface Water Improvement Scheme (Ribble Valley)	220,000	Wiswell Brook improvements.
Page 81	5	NWO024E/000A/002A	Lancashire Quick Win Project – Preesall emergency traffic management (Wyre)	30,000 (Local Levy)	Required for Highways' community project.
6		NWC009F/000A/062A	Ribble Valley Level 2 Surface Water Management Plan - Longridge, & Barrow (Ribble Valley)	242,000	Studies with community engagement.
7	7	NWC009F/000A/042A	Pendle Level 2 Brierfield Surface Water Management Plan (Pendle)	148,500	Study with community engagement.
8	3	NWC501E/000A/572A	Kellet Road Culvert, Carnforth (Lancaster)	100,000	Optioneering & design for highway culvert upsizing.
g)	NWC501E/000A/641A	Pilling Catchment Study (Wyre)	40,000	To identify sustainable options for managing complex surface water flooding.
1	0	NWC501E/000A/640A	Torrisholme and Bare Surface Water Surface Management Plan (Lancaster)	25,000	Using the extensive surveys made by Flood Risk Management & Highways teams during 2021 to identify best value locations for improvement schemes.
			1	1,755,500	TOTAL

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 20 January 2022

Report of the Head of Strategic Development

Part I

Electoral Division affected: Fylde East

Corporate Priorities:

Supporting economic growth;

Kirkham Town Centre Projects

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Chris Dyson, Tel: (01772) 536641, Strategic Development Programme Manager chris.dyson@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

Fylde Borough Council was successful in attracting Future High Streets Fund and High Street Heritage Action Zone Government funding, however, due to the highly competitive nature of the programme and general oversubscription, the funding awards were less than had been included in their bids to deliver the full extent of the economic growth and regeneration activities across the 'Kirkham Futures' area.

The programme has now been revised and prioritised, with Fylde Borough Council subsequently making a request for the county council to help unlock the scheme and provide gap funding by way of a grant of £3.2m to ensure delivery of key projects.

This report provides information on a range of strategic regeneration activities in Kirkham Town Centre and opportunities that the county council has to add value to the proposed investment and provide significant economic benefit alongside importantly assisting the town's post COVID-19 economic recovery.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

(i) Authorise the Executive Director of Growth, Environment, Transport and Community Services, Director of Finance and Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Leader of the County Council and the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth, to receive and approve, where appropriate, the funding business case and approve the grant funding agreement.



- (ii) Approve in-principle investment of up to £3.2m capital to support the Kirkham Future High Streets Fund capital shortfall, subject to receipt of an appropriate funding business case and agreement of Fylde Borough Council to enter into a funding agreement.
- (iii) Note that any county council grant funding will be subject to extensive due diligence, and which will be supported by a grant funding agreement prepared by legal, finance and economic development officers.
- (iv) Note that regular updates will be provided as required to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth.

Detail

Fylde Borough Council and partners have developed a comprehensive 4-year programme for the regeneration of Kirkham Town Centre called 'Kirkham Futures', funded mainly by two large government grants: High Street Heritage Action Zone and Future High Streets Fund. This is the biggest regeneration scheme in the town's history and will deliver significant and lasting benefits for years to come.

It is seeking to deliver major improvements to the public realm, shopfront refurbishments, regeneration of empty high street properties and widening the mix of uses, whilst supporting community, health and well-being/social prescribing programmes, plus arts & culture activities.

Kirkham Futures Programme

In early 2020, following a successful bid to Historic England, Kirkham was awarded £1.79m High Streets Heritage Action Zone funding, which can only be spent in Kirkham's Conservation Area covering the eastern half of the high street. Fylde Borough Council also submitted a Full Business Case to the Cities & Local Growth Unit, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities seeking c.£9.5million from the Future High Streets Fund.

The funding as set out above would seek to deliver the following project activities:

- Public realm works to revive and re-energise the town centre streets and open spaces.
- Flood alleviation and drainage works.
- Shop front improvements scheme to transform properties.
- Heritage and Eco Skills Centre to create a regional centre of excellence for heritage and eco skills within a restored Grade II listed building.
- Regeneration of prime town centre properties for leisure, retail, and housing.
- Additional arts, heritage and community facilities, including a community cinema
- A community-led cultural programme of activities.
- Engagement with the Kirkham community to improve their health and wellbeing.

Funding Overview

Whilst Fylde Borough Council was successful in securing Government funding, it received less than was bid for. This funding shortfall prevents the full delivery of all envisaged projects to fully meet the town's economic ambitions in supporting regeneration and post COVID-19 recovery.

All funding options and contributions have been explored and as a result, a request has been made by Fylde Borough Council to the county council to provide gap funding up to £3.2m to help deliver priority regeneration projects.

Potential identified projects, as noted in Appendix 'A', are strategically aligned to support the delivery of remaining regeneration outputs to provide full economic benefit. Related project activities would start in 2022 with full completion in 2023 to enable the realisation of benefits in the short-medium term.

Any funded projects will be subject to the approval of a business case, with confirmation that all activities are fully funded, sustainable and secured against an appropriate legal agreement. The grant funding will be governed by existing monitoring and reporting mechanisms through the county council's Major Development Sites Group and Board.

Consultations

None required at this stage. It is intended that any projects requiring consultation, for example planning permission, would follow the normal procedure.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Financial and legal risks are set out in Appendix 'A' which is exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. Appendix 'A' contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Communications

Joint communications and Public Relations will be agreed with Fylde Borough Council in order to align with the county council's key messages in relation to investment in support of its strategic objectives.

Project Management

Any Project Management/Governance risks will be mitigated by Fylde Borough Council's allocation of funding for a Project Manager and recruitment in order that proposed Governance arrangements are fully adhered to.

Legal

The county council's legal services team will provide support in respect of the due diligence exercise and the preparation of the grant funding agreement.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Kirkham Town Centre projects will seek to be fully inclusive and accessible, supporting the regeneration of the town and its wider residents and businesses. Assessments so far indicate that there will be no negative impact and that any potential impact, should they arise, can be mitigated.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. Appendix 'A' contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on 20 January 2022

Report of the Head of Service Health Equity, Welfare & Partnerships

Part I

Electoral Divisions affected: (All Divisions)

Corporate Priorities:

Delivering better services; Caring for the vulnerable

Domestic Abuse – Proposed Approach to Address Statutory Responsibilities and Protection / Prevention

(Appendix 'A' Refers)

Contact for further information:

Helene Cooper, Tel: 01772 534659, Policy, Information & Commissioning Manager, helene.cooper@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

This report seeks to advise Cabinet of the statutory responsibilities for Lancashire County Council under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, and in particular the requirement to provide safe accommodation support services. It also proposes a wider public health approach to domestic abuse in terms of protection and prevention.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Note the statutory responsibilities of Lancashire County Council under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, and in particular the requirement to provide safe accommodation support services;
- (ii) Agree the ongoing revenue budget as detailed in the report, so that both the statutory requirements and the wider prevention approach are funded to provide a holistic approach to domestic abuse; and
- (iii) Agree the general approach to the type of services being commissioned to address domestic abuse and support to victim-survivors, as detailed at Appendix A.

Detail

Domestic abuse causes significant harm to individuals, children, families, and communities. It affects people of all races, ages, sexual orientations, religions, genders, socioeconomic backgrounds, and education levels. The scale and prevalence of domestic abuse is significant. It has a lasting impact on physical and mental health, as well as resulting in financial and housing insecurity.

Domestic abuse is often a hidden crime, not necessarily reported to the police. According to figures from Women's Aid (2018), only 28% of victim-survivors using community-based services formally report domestic abuse. Therefore, data held by the police can only provide a partial picture of the actual level of domestic abuse experienced.

The Cost of Domestic Abuse

The cost of reported domestic abuse in Lancashire is estimated at circa £190m over the last twelve months (recorded domestic abuse crimes December 2020 to December 2021, recorded by Lancashire Violence Reduction Network). However, given it is estimated that only 28% of domestic abuse is reported, the true costs to Lancashire are significantly higher.

Notwithstanding the impact on individuals and families, the impact of domestic abuse on Lancashire County Council services is significant, given the implications for children's services, vulnerable adults services, substance misuse support and recovery, and through wider support required within schools (attendance / behavioural issues).

Historically, funding for domestic abuse has been risk-driven, and the resource implications for urgent and collective response is high. For example, police callouts and custody costs; court costs; accident and emergency admissions; refuge provision for families; child and adult safeguarding; and unfortunately, in some cases, children placed in care due to homicides. Hence the importance of a preventive approach to address domestic abuse.

Statutory Responsibilities

The Domestic Abuse Act, which came into force in April 2021, aims to make changes to better protect and strengthen the provision of support for survivors of domestic abuse, by transforming the collective response.

The Act promotes four key objectives:

- **promote awareness** to put domestic abuse at the top of everyone's agenda, and raise public and professional awareness
- **protect and support** to enhance the safety of victim-survivors and the support that they receive
- transform the justice process to prioritise victim-survivor safety in the criminal and family courts, and review the perpetrator journey from identification to rehabilitation

• **improve performance** – to drive consistency and better performance in the response to domestic abuse across all local areas, agencies and sectors

The Act creates a legal definition of domestic abuse to provide clarity that domestic abuse can be financial, verbal and emotional as well as physical and sexual and that it is about patterns of abuse and control that occur over time. Furthermore, children are explicitly recognised as victim-survivors if they witness abuse.

It sets out the responsibilities of individual agencies in responding to domestic abuse along with the requirement for a multi-agency approach based on information sharing and best practice principles. It discusses standards for agencies commissioning approaches, including the public sector equality duty and the national statement of expectations. It also references standards and expectations in relation to perpetrator programmes and behaviour change interventions.

The statutory responsibilities of upper tier local authorities include provision of support to victim-survivors of domestic abuse and their children within refuge and other forms of safe accommodation.

As a consequence, we have established a multi-agency Domestic Abuse Partnership Board of officers to:

- Provide an assessment of need for safe accommodation;
- Develop a safe accommodation strategy;
- Oversee the commissioning / decommissioning of services to ensure that services reflect the need in the area and the right support for victim-survivors and children; and
- Provide annual reports to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office

The Board is currently developing a safe accommodation strategy which describes how safe accommodation and support for domestic abuse victim-survivors will be provided over the next three years, outlining four objectives:

- Early intervention and prevention: victim-survivors (adults and children) are supported at an early stage and provided with options to remain safe at home to prevent homelessness.
- 2) **Accessible services**: victim-survivors and professionals know how to access safe accommodation and are aware of the options open to them both inside and outside of Lancashire.
- 3) **Appropriate safe accommodation**: accommodation options and appropriate support is in place for all victim-survivors who need it.
- 4) **Multi-agency delivery**: victim-survivors needs will be met by effective, collaborative multi-agency support.

The strategy aims to complement existing work that is taking place across the county to address the health and wellbeing, community safety and housing needs of those who experience domestic abuse.

Safe accommodation is broader than just refuge accommodation and includes victimsurvivors who live in their own homes and access to sanctuary schemes; the range of support is also broader, from immediate crisis intervention (i.e., refuges and complex needs support) through to recovery and advocacy support; and safe accommodation must be accessible by all.

Wider Early Intervention / Prevention Approach

Lancashire County Council has historically funded domestic abuse support services from Public Health grant i.e.:

- Support services into Lancashire refuges;
- The voluntary perpetrator programme; and
- A contribution to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Victim Service for support in relation to domestic abuse

Given the statutory duty to provide support for all domestic abuse victim-survivors and their children in safe accommodation, it is proposed that the public health funding is utilised going forward to support the wider prevention approach.

This approach would help survivors increase their choices and enable them and their children / families to be as safe as possible, reducing the need for statutory interventions. This will not only reduce the cost to the public purse, but more importantly means better outcomes for victim-survivors of domestic abuse and reduction in harm for children. Specialist domestic abuse prevention and early intervention also includes working with perpetrators to address their behaviours and stop the cycle of abuse repeating through the generations.

In addition, evidence and learning from domestic homicide reviews across Lancashire identify the need for accessible services earlier in the cycle of abuse, to enable victim-survivors the right interventions and support before they meet a threshold for statutory interventions, given that statutory agency involvement can often trigger increased levels of violence.

The general approach to the type of services currently being commissioned to address domestic abuse and support to victim-survivors, is detailed at Appendix A.

Budget

It is proposed that Cabinet agree the annual revenue budget to address domestic abuse as follows:

Source	Utilisation	Budget
Department for Levelling up, Housing and	Statutory responsibilities for safe accommodation-based support	£2,493,526
Communities Grant		
Public Health Grant	Wider early intervention / prevention	£1,355,398
Total		£3,848,924

This budget will stabilise and expand the existing provision of accommodation-based support across Lancashire in accordance with requirements, whilst underpinning that work with a wider preventive approach to domestic abuse.

It is anticipated that the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Grant will be incorporated into the council's Revenue Support Grant from 2024/25.

Conclusion

This report recognises and captures the benefits of widening the remit of commissioned services, ensuring statutory responsibilities under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 are met, whilst also investing in wider preventative and early intervention approaches.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Financial

The delay in award notification of grant funding for 2021/22 and the statutory guidance framework published in September 2021, has resulted in a delay in commissioning additional safe accommodation provision and support during the current financial year. This funding has been committed on the basis it can be rolled forward; and although it is understood that committed funding can be rolled forward, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has yet to formally confirm that this is permitted. If it is not permissible, there may be an estimated overspend of £227,411 in financial years 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Legal

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 places a statutory duty on upper tier local authorities to assess the need for accommodation-based support to individuals, families and their children within its area, to publish a strategy on the provision of local authority support and to give effect to the strategy by providing the support to victims of domestic abuse and their children.

Lower tier local authorities have a duty to co-operate with the relevant (upper tier) local authority in any way that the upper tier authority considers necessary for the purpose of discharging its functions under Section 57 of the Act, so far as is reasonably practicable, for example, through the provision of information.

Equality and Cohesion

In commissioning services, the impact on groups with protected characteristics, as defined by the Equality Act 2010 duty, are considered. Accessibility to safe accommodation for all is a key component of the Part 4 duty on local authorities.

Crime and Disorder

Domestic Abuse has been identified as a key issue for Lancashire in the Community Safety Strategic Assessment and will be a key issue within the Community Safety Agreement.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on local authorities to work together with other responsible authorities to prevent crime and disorder. Section 17 of the Act places a duty on responsible authorities to consider the impact of all their functions and decisions on crime and disorder.

List of Background Papers

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

Current & Proposed Commissions		Annual cost Total £3,699,960
DA Refuges & safe-houses Specialist provision — Complex Needs; By and For safe accommodation (minoritised communities); Insecure Immigration Status (NRPF)	Provision of 172 units (approx. 379 beds) across the county in 11 districts (DA Act duty) Provision of specialist support for victims with: complex needs protected characteristics under the equality duty to enable equitable access for safe accommodation No recourse to public funds	£1,985,924
Safe at Home Outreach support	Provision of safe accommodation support for victims who do not access refuge or safe-house accommodation	£422,257
Lancashire Victim Service (contribution to OPCC victim commission)	Domestic abuse victims receive support through the commissioned victim service contract (mainly police referrals)	£300,000
Lancashire Perpetrator Programme	Respect accredited programme to address behaviour change for adult men who are abusive to their female partners	£150,000
Parachute Programme	Targeted offer for 14-19-year-old young men and women who are displaying abusive behaviour in their relationships	£63,657
CYP DA practitioners	Specialist support for children who have experienced domestic abuse either through parental domestic abuse or their own relationships.	£294,907
Transition, Recovery, Family & Group support	Support for victims and their children to recover from the trauma of domestic abuse, move on from refuge and safe-house accommodation, and rebuild their lives and relationships with their children.	£148,767 PO C C C C C C C C C C
Enrichment Programme Healthy Relationships Programme	Work with young people who are identified through the school or Healthy Relationship programme as displaying aggressive & harmful behaviours in their personal relationships.	£274,449
	All secondary schools/PRUs/Special schools (113) will receive input on healthy relationships, sexual harassment, stalking and digital abuse etc.	×
LCC Domestic Abuse training and support	Specialist support for front line services and LCC employees	£60,000

Item 18

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2, 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Item 19

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstancesof the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstancesof the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstancesof the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Appendix A

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstancesof the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Item 22

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstancesof the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Appendix A

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstancesof the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.