

Lancashire County Council

Cabinet

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 6th June, 2024 at 2.00 pm in
Committee Room 'B' - The Diamond Jubilee 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 Graham Gooch
County Councillor Michael Green
County Councillor Jayne Rear
County Councillor Aidy Riggott
County Councillor Rupert Swarbrick
County Councillor Cosima Towneley
County Councillor Shaun Turner

County Councillor Matthew Tomlinson was also in attendance under the provisions of Standing Order No. C13(2).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Lorraine Beavers.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 May 2024

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Questions for Cabinet

There were no questions for Cabinet.

5. Corporate Performance Report - 2023/24 Quarter 4

Cabinet considered a report providing an overview of the performance of forty three Key Performance Indicators as well as corporate risks and opportunities to enable monitoring against the four priorities of the corporate strategy:

- Delivering better services
- Protecting our environment
- Supporting economic growth
- Caring for the vulnerable

Cabinet referred to lower than expected performance around sickness absence levels and the effects of this. Deborah Barrow, Head of People Services, gave a brief overview of the reasons for the current performance and what initiatives and support was being put in place to improve this.

The lower than expected performance for the successful completion of treatment for alcohol misuse, and not returned within 6 months, and the successful completion of treatment for opiates, and not returned within 6 months were also cause for concern. However, it was noted that an action plan had been put in place to address the situation and that, following publication on the agenda, both key performance indicators had improved.

Phil Green, Executive Director of Growth, Environment, Transport, and Health, and his staff were praised for their work, as it was noted that the strategic development and infrastructure initiative was almost at the 80% target that was initially set.

Resolved: That, following consideration of the report and the additional information set out in Appendices 'A' to 'C', the report be noted.

6. Lancashire Local Access Forum - Revised Terms of Reference

Cabinet considered a report on the revised Terms of Reference for the Lancashire Local Access Forum.

Resolved: That the Lancashire Local Access Forum's revised Terms of Reference, as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report, be approved.

7. Bus Service Improvement Plan 2024 Update

Cabinet considered a report providing an update on the Bus Service Improvement Plan for 2024. It was noted that the report set out the background to the production of the Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen joint Bus Service Improvement Plan and subsequent revisions, including requesting approval of the 2024 update to the Bus Service Improvement Plan, which had to be submitted to the Department for Transport by 12 June 2024.



Resolved: That

- i. Approval be given for the updated Bus Service Improvement Plan documentation to be published on the Lancashire County Council website.
- ii. The Executive Director for Growth, Environment, Transport and Health be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, and with the Enhanced Partnership Executive Board, to make any further minor updates to the draft Bus Service Improvement Plan as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report; and
- iii. The decision be implemented immediately for the purposes of Standing Order C28 as any delay could adversely affect the execution of the county council's responsibilities. The reason for this is to ensure the Bus Service Improvement Plan is submitted to the Department for Transport by 12 June 2024.

8. Local Transport Capital Block Funding: Traffic Signal Obsolescence Grant

Cabinet considered a report on the Traffic Signal Obsolescence Grant from the Local Transport Capital Block Funding. It was noted that Lancashire County Council would receive £234,613 from the Department for Transport's Traffic Signal Obsolescence Grant, which was to upgrade traffic signal systems by replacing obsolete equipment. It was also proposed to add the money to the Highway Block of the Capital Programme for 2024/25.

Resolved: That approval be given for the £234,613 funding from the Traffic Signal Obsolescence Grant, to be added to the Highway Block of the Capital Programme for 2024/25.

9. SEND Sufficiency Strategy Implementation - Provision of Special Educational Needs Units in Mainstream Schools and Special School Places

Cabinet considered a report that provided the results of the formal consultations to create Special Educational Needs Units at Barrowford Primary School, Rushton Street, Barrowford, and Brunshaw Primary School, Morse Street, Burnley.

It was noted that approval was being sought to delegate the final decision to increase the number of places available at Morecambe Road School, Morecambe to the Executive Director for Education and Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, following the conclusion of the statutory formal consultation.

Resolved: That, following consideration of the results of the formal consultations, following the publication of the statutory proposal:

- i. The creation of Special Educational Needs Units within Barrowford Primary School, Nelson and Brunshaw Primary School, Burnley, be approved;
- ii. The Executive Director for Education and Children's Services be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, to review the outcomes on conclusion of the formal consultation, and to make a final



decision to increase the number of places available at Morecambe Road School; and

- iii. The Executive Director for Education and Children's Services and the Director of Finance be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, to approve the funding for building alterations/adaptations and/or acquisition of resources or necessary expenditure.

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

Resolved: That the urgent decision taken by the Leader of the County Council, and the relevant Cabinet Member, since the last meeting of Cabinet, be noted.

11. Urgent Business

There were no items of Urgent Business.

12. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of Cabinet would be held at 2pm on Thursday, 11 July 2024 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.

15. Universal Support

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

Cabinet considered a report that provided an overview of the Department for Work and Pensions Universal Support programme (supported employment programme targeted at the economically inactive with disabilities/health condition/disadvantage).

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



Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive

County Hall
Preston

