

# **Lancashire County Council**

## **Cabinet**

**Thursday, 8th November, 2018 at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 'B' (The Diamond Jubilee 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 11 October 2018 (Pages 1 - 6)**

### **Matters for Decision:**

#### **The Leader of the County Council - County Councillor Geoff Driver CBE**

#### **4. Procurement Report - Request Approval to Commence Procurement Exercises (Pages 7 - 26)**

#### **The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport - County Councillor Keith Iddon**

#### **5. Transport Asset Management Plan (Pages 27 - 32)**

#### **6. Street Lighting Budget Consultation (Pages 33 - 66)**

#### **7. Various Roads, Westhead, Ormskirk, West Lancashire Borough (Prohibition of Waiting, Restricted Waiting and Limited Waiting) (Pages 67 - 80)**

#### **8. Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 Lancashire County Council (County Road, High Lane and Holborn Hill, Ormskirk, Liverpool Road and Northway, Aughton, West Lancashire Borough) (Revocations, 40mph Speed Limit and Derestriction) Order 201\* (Pages 81 - 90)**

**The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools - County Councillor Susie Charles**

- 9. Awarding of Small Grants to Third Sector Groups which are Registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, including Grants to Individual Young People** (Pages 91 - 94)

**The Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing - County Councillor Shaun Turner**

- 10. Children and Family Wellbeing Service: Responses to Consultation and Final Proposals** (Pages 95 - 192)

**The Cabinet Member for Adult Services - County Councillor Graham Gooch**

- 11. Implementation of the Care Act 2014 - Approval of Revised Adult Social Care Policies** (Pages 193 - 214)

**Matters for Information:**

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

No urgent decisions have been taken since the last meeting of Cabinet.

- 13. 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.

- 14. Date of Next Meeting**

In a change to the previously agreed Calendar of Meetings, the next meeting of the Cabinet will be held on Monday 3 December 2018 at 2.00 pm at County Hall, Preston.

- 15. Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private**

No representations have been received.

Click [here](#) to see the published Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private.

**16. Exclusion of Press and Public**

The Committee 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 Leader of the County Council - County Councillor Geoff Driver CBE**

**17. Community Asset Transfers and proposals relating to Cleveleys, Pike Hill Burnley and Kirkham Libraries** (Pages 215 - 220)

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

**18. Works to Operational Premises - Rufford Travelcare Depot and Preston Marsh Lane Offices** (Pages 221 - 224)

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

**The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport - County Councillor Keith Iddon**

**19. Civil Parking Enforcement** (Pages 225 - 230)

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

**The Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Environment and Planning -  
County Councillor Michael Green**

- 20. Establishment of a North West Facility of the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre at the Samlesbury Aerospace Enterprise Zone** (Pages 231 - 234)

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

**The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools - County Councillor Susie Charles**

- 21. Barrow Primary School, Clitheroe - Proposed Capital Project to Facilitate School Expansion** (Pages 235 - 238)

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

**The Cabinet Member for Adult Services - County Councillor Graham Gooch**

- 22. Proposal to Transfer Care and Support in Shared Households for Adults with Learning Disabilities provided by Lancashire Care Foundation Trust to the Lancashire County Council's Adult Disability Service** (Pages 239 - 244)

(Not for Publication – Exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public 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, 11th October, 2018 at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 'B' (The Diamond Jubilee Room) - County Hall, Preston**

#### **Present:**

County Councillor Geoff Driver CBE

Leader of the Council  
(in the Chair)

#### Cabinet Members

County Councillor Albert Atkinson  
County Councillor Michael Green  
County Councillor Keith Iddon  
County Councillor Peter Buckley  
County Councillor Graham Gooch  
County Councillor Shaun Turner

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from County Councillor Susie Charles, County Councillor Azhar Ali and County Councillor John Fillis.

#### **2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

None.

#### **3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 September 2018**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 13 September 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **4. Procurement Report - Request Approval to Commence Procurement Exercises**

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to commence the following procurement exercises in accordance with the county council's procurement rules:

- i. Application of Surface Treatments to Carriageway and Footway
- ii. Mechanical and Electrical Partnering Framework
- iii. Construction Works Over £100,000
- iv. CYP Agency Residential – Block Bed Purchases

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

- i. Application of Surface Treatments to Carriageway and Footway
- ii. Mechanical and Electrical Partnering Framework
- iii. Construction Works Over £100,000
- iv. CYP Agency Residential – Block Bed Purchases

## **5. Proposed Amendments to the Highways and Transport Capital Programmes**

Cabinet considered a report presenting amendments to the approved Highways and Transport Capital Programmes in order to meet emerging priorities and to respond to some unanticipated service demands.

**Resolved:** That the proposed amendments to the Highways and Transport Capital Programmes be approved.

## **6. Highways Management Plan**

Cabinet received a report proposing that the council's current Highway Maintenance Plan be updated to reflect policies already agreed by Cabinet and renamed the Highways Management Plan. The new document would also reflect new industry standards and the 'Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure: A Code of Practice'. It was agreed that publishing the new document in line with these principles would be delegated to the Director of Property Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport.

**Resolved:** That

- i. the approach to producing a new Highways Management Plan, as set out in the report be approved.
- ii. the Director of Property Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, be authorised to update, rename and publish the updated Highways Management Plan on the county council's Highways Asset Management Webpage.

## **7. The University of Central Lancashire Masterplan and Associated Highway Project Approval of Design**

Cabinet received a report on work undertaken by the council and the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) on the development of a design for the implementation of the highway proposals required to support the UCLan Masterplan development in the Adelphi Quarter area of Preston. It was noted that the works will be fully funded by UCLan and project managed by the county council on behalf of UCLan through a Section 278 agreement.

**Resolved:** That:

- i. the design for the Masterplan development as detailed in the report be approved
- ii. the Head of Service, Design and Construction be authorised to make minor changes to the design.

## **8. Community Transport - Results of Consultation on Proposals to Reduce Funding**

Cabinet considered a report setting out the outcome of the consultation on proposals made by Full Council to renegotiate the contract with the Community Transport Consortium, reduce funding by a third and revise the in-house dial-a-ride provision to provide a reduced service.

**Resolved:** That:

- i. the findings of the consultation be noted.

- ii. the proposals as previously agreed by Full Council be approved.

**9. Consultation on Government proposals to introduce permitted development rights for shale gas exploration**

Cabinet considered a proposed response to the Government consultation on proposals to introduce new permitted development rights for shale gas exploration development.

**Resolved:** That the Head of Service, Planning and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Environment and Planning, be authorised to submit a response to the Government consultation setting out the concerns outlined in the report.

**10. Inclusion of shale gas production projects in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project regime**

Cabinet considered a report setting out proposed responses to a consultation by the Department for Business and Industrial Strategy regarding proposals to include shale gas production projects within the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects Regime.

**Resolved:** That the Head of Service, Planning and Environment be authorised to respond to the consultation setting out the concerns outlined in the report.

**11. Awarding of Small Grants to Third Sector Groups which are Registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, including Grants to Individual Young People**

Cabinet considered a report setting out the recommendations of District Youth Councils in relation to the award of small grants to third sector groups.

**Resolved:** That the recommendations of the District Youth Councils on the applications for grants from third sector groups which are registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, as set out in the report, be approved.

**12. Adult Social Care Winter Plan 2018/19**

Cabinet were presented with a draft Winter Plan for Lancashire County Council Adult Social Care, reflecting and summarising the various actions and services that are in place to support the residents of Lancashire who may need our services across the winter months. The plan also included information from other services across the council which contribute towards supporting people to stay safe and well during winter, and would be shared with NHS organisations across Lancashire to contribute to the multi-agency Winter Plans in each of the 5 Lancashire Integrated Care Partnership areas.

**Resolved:** That:

- i. the county council's Adult Social Care Winter Plan for 2018/19 as set out in the report be approved
- ii. the financial risks beyond the current financial year 2018/19 of some of the schemes detailed in the plan, which are currently funded from the Improved Better Care Fund, be noted.

### **13. Care, Support and Wellbeing of Adults in Lancashire - Our Vision**

Cabinet received a report setting out a proposed Care, Support and Wellbeing of Adults in Lancashire Vision document, providing a statement of intent to govern the design and delivery of future services to enable people to live as independently and healthily as possible, with the right level of support for themselves and their carers.

Cabinet noted and praised the work of the officers responsible for the report.

**Resolved:** That the Care, Support and Wellbeing of Adults in Lancashire Vision document and the accompanying 'Plan on a Page', as set out in the report, be approved

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

It was noted that no Urgent Decisions had been taken by the Leader and relevant Cabinet Members since the last meeting of Cabinet.

### **15. Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

### **16. Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of Cabinet would be held at 2pm on Thursday 8 November at County Hall, Preston.

### **17. 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.

### **18. Exclusion of Press and Public**

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

### **19. Community Asset Transfers**

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

Cabinet considered a report setting out proposals in relation to Penwortham and Upholland Libraries.

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

## **20. Work to Operational Premises**

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

Cabinet considered a report setting out proposed capital works to a number of operational premises to deliver security improvements and remedial and repair works.

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

## **22. Burnley Town Centre Investments**

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

Cabinet considered a report setting out proposals to support the delivery of the £26m Pioneer Place scheme in Burnley Town Centre.

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

## **23. Ribblesdale High School Expansion Project - Fire Suppression System Review**

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

Cabinet considered a report setting out a proposals in relation to Fire Suppression Systems at Ribblesdale High School.

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

## **24. Lytham St. Annes Technology and Performing Arts College**

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

Cabinet considered a report setting out a proposals in relation to capital works at Lytham St Annes Technology and Performing Arts College.

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

Angie Ridgwell  
Interim Chief Executive  
and Director of Resources

County Hall  
Preston



**Report to the Cabinet**

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 November 2018

**Report of the Head of Service - Procurement****Part I**

Electoral Divisions affected:  
(All Divisions);

**Procurement Report - Request Approval to Commence Procurement Exercises**  
(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)

Contact for further information:

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

**Executive 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) Framework agreement for the supply, installation, maintenance and repair of bus shelters.
- (ii) Purchase of vehicle parts.
- (iii) Provision of alarm receiving centre services.
- (iv) Provision of a roving night time support service in Lancashire.
- (v) Provision of domestic abuse refuge service in Lancashire.
- (vi) Provision of a carers assessment and support service, independent advocacy service and a carers advocacy service in Lancashire.

In addition to the proposed procurement exercises, Appendix 'B' includes a timeline and outcome for the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme procurement exercise for information.

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) Approve the commencement of the procurement exercises as set out in Appendix 'A' for the areas identified above.
- (ii) Note the timeline and outcome of the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme procurement exercise as set out at Appendix 'B'.

## **Background and Advice**

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

- The description of the supplies/services being procured.
- The procurement route proposed.
- The estimated annual contract value.
- The proposed basis for the evaluation of the tender submissions.

Where approval has been received from the 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 a Key Decision and can be approved by the relevant head of service or director.

On conclusion of the procurement exercises, the award of the contracts will 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 to undertake the procurement exercises included within this report.

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Risk management**

## **Financial**

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

## **Legal**

Failure to take the steps to lawfully procure new contracts and continuing with the current arrangements where applicable would contravene the council's procurement rules and the Public Contract Regulations 2015. Furthermore, failure to award the contracts may result in the county council facing difficulties in delivering services.

### List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
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N/A		
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<b>Procurement Title</b> Framework Agreement or Single NEC3 Term Service Contract for the Supply, Installation, Maintenance and Repair of Bus Shelters			
<b>Procurement Option</b> OJEU Open Procedure			
<b>New or Existing Provision</b> New Provision			
<b>Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements</b> Estimated initial contract value of £625,000 per annum. The annual contract value may increase during the term of the contract as schedules for replacement and maintenance of bus shelters are further developed. The total contract value will be limited to a maximum of £3.5million.  Funding will be met from the £3.5 million capital funding agreed at Cabinet on the 18 January 2018 for the replacement and repair of bus shelters.			
<b>Contract Duration</b> Initial contract period of two years starting on or around 1 April 2019 with the option to extend the contract by any number of further periods, provided that the total contract period does not exceed four years (the maximum duration permissible under a framework agreement). Should the NEC3 contract option be chosen, the contract duration shall remain at a two year initial period with an option to extend by any number of further periods to a maximum of four years to tie in with the available funding.			
<b>Lotting</b> Lotting has been considered and determined unsuitable for this agreement. A single supplier will likely harness synergies to provide a more effective and consistent service, such as gaining familiarity with the new bus shelters installed and ensuring that access to spare parts and any required repairs is more streamlined.			
<b>Evaluation</b> <table border="1" data-bbox="193 1294 1002 1348"> <tr> <td><b>Quality Criteria 60%</b></td><td><b>Financial Criteria 40%</b></td></tr> </table> <p>Social value will form 5% of tender evaluation criteria.</p>		<b>Quality Criteria 60%</b>	<b>Financial Criteria 40%</b>
<b>Quality Criteria 60%</b>	<b>Financial Criteria 40%</b>		

## **Contract Detail**

Public and Integrated Transport service has a strategic objective to increase the number of passenger journeys made by bus. To assist in meeting this objective, either a single-supplier framework agreement or a single NEC3 Term Service contract utilising task orders is required to supply and install replacement bus shelters, as well as repair and maintain existing bus shelters within Lancashire to improve the appearance, comfort and safety for passengers using bus services. Discussions on the practicalities of operating the service via a framework agreement or single NEC3 contract are ongoing and are to be concluded shortly. Regardless of the chosen contractual structure the services to be provided under it, the term of contract and the contract value will remain the same.

The Council has 795 bus shelters that come under its direct ownership and responsibility. Bus shelters are spread over both urban and rural settings covering all 12 districts of Lancashire.

There is an initial requirement to install approximately 32 new replacement bus shelters per annum. The number of replacements will likely increase over the framework term as a schedule of replacements is further developed and refined.

The new bus shelters will be of varying size but will be required to meet set design criteria and standards determined by the Public and Integrated Transport service. This may include anti-vandal measures such as hammer-glass or additional metal mesh panels.

As well as installation of new bus shelters, the supplier will be required to provide maintenance of bus shelters on a reactive basis as and when the Council requires. Reactive maintenance includes call-outs to replace side or roof panels, make safe broken glass or structural damage, fix lighting, or undertake cleaning as required.

The contracted supplier will need to be adaptable in order to maintain and repair the number of different designs and styles of bus shelter which are located throughout the county.

**Procurement Title**

Purchase of Vehicle Parts

**Procurement Option**

OJEU Open procedure

**New or Existing Provision**

Existing provision .The current Framework Agreement will expire in March 2019.

**Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements**

The estimated annual value is £625,000 with a total contract value of £2.5m  
The Agreement will be funded from the revenue budget. There is no commitment or guarantee of value of work or number of orders placed with any suppliers on the Framework Agreement.

**Contract Duration**

The Framework Agreement will be let for an initial period of two years with an option to extend for a further two years making the total Framework period four years.

**Lotting**

The Framework Agreement is to be divided into two Lots. This provides an opportunity to a number of potential suppliers. This will also mitigate risk to supply (i.e. if one contractor can't provide the parts another contractor may be able to)

Lot A : Stock held vehicle parts(estimate 12 suppliers)

Lot B : Non-Stock held vehicle parts (estimate up to 8 suppliers)

**Evaluation**

<b>Quality :Pass/ Fail</b>	<b>Financial Criteria 100%</b>
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The Framework will be evaluated using the Crown Commercial Services Supplier Questionnaire, which is compliant with the Public Contracts Regulations.

Stage 1: The Supplier Questionnaire will evaluate suppliers against the following criteria: Financial status, technical capability, experience, and references. Each tenderer must pass this stage in order to proceed in the final tender evaluation.

Stage 2: The tender bids will be evaluated on  
Price: 100%

**Contract Detail**

Fleet Services maintains the Council vehicle fleet and provides services on behalf of external partners such as Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service.

The Council maintain a mixed badge fleet of vehicles that include Citroen, Chevrolet, Daf, Man ERF Ltd, Mercedes, Ford, Iveco, Fiat, Renault, Seat, Landrover, Vauxhall and Volkswagen vehicles.

The ability of Fleet Services to maintain the Fleet and provide emergency repair services is reliant on a network of suppliers that have the capacity to stock the

parts (reducing the need for stock holding at the Authority) and to be able to provide a delivery that meets the Authority's needs.

The market has been investigated to determine if there are any third party Frameworks available that would meet the Authority's requirements. The YPO Framework agreement 720 was identified however Fleet Services have confirmed that there are limited suppliers on the Framework Agreement which would not cover the wide range of vehicle parts necessary to supply not only Lancashire County Council, but Lancashire Fire & Rescue.

It is intended to put in place a Framework Agreement that will ensure that Fleet Services continue to effectively maintain Lancashire County Councils Fleet and provide services to our external partners.

The new contract will continue to provide:

Lot A: Lower value stock items that are purchased on a regular basis such as batteries, bulbs, filters, wipers, brakes, spark plugs, and electricals. Each product line will be ranked in terms of price. Prices for these products will remain fixed for the first two years of the Agreement after which a further mini competition will be held with the Framework suppliers for the pricing for the last two years of the Agreement.

Lot B: Non-stock vehicle parts. This lot covers parts that are purchased on a less regular basis. Purchases will be made against a mini competition held within the Framework suppliers.



<b>Procurement Title</b> Provision of Alarm Receiving Centre Services			
<b>Procurement Option</b> OJEU Open procedure			
<b>New or Existing Provision</b> Existing provision.			
<b>Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements</b> The estimated annual value is £160,000 per annum which will be funded from the Authority's revenue budget. The total contract period will be for 10 years at a total cost over this period of £1.6m. There is no commitment, or guarantee of the value of work and/or number of orders to be placed with the supplier awarded the contract.			
<b>Contract Duration</b> The contract will be let for an initial period of two years from the February 2019 to February 2021, with an option to extend the contract beyond the initial term by a maximum of eight years until 2029. Extensions to the contract will take place bi-annually. The contract will contain a non-mutual termination clause for the Authority's use enabling termination on 30 days' notice.			
<b>Lots</b> Not applicable.			
<b>Evaluation</b> <table border="1" data-bbox="207 969 1385 1046"> <tr> <td><b>Quality: 60%</b></td><td><b>Financial Criteria: 40%</b></td></tr> </table> <p>The Contract will be evaluated using the Crown Commercial Services Supplier Questionnaire which is compliant with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.</p> <p>Stage 1: The Supplier Questionnaire will evaluate suppliers against the following criteria: mandatory and discretionary grounds to ascertain suppliers' financial status, technical capability questions, experience, and references, with particular reference to their ability to demonstrate their experience in operating in compliance with Industry standards. Each tenderer must pass this stage in order to proceed to Stage 2.</p> <p>Stage 2: The evaluation will be based on 60% quality criteria, 40% financial criteria. The quality criteria will include social value, at 10% of the overall weighting. The supplier with the highest overall score will be awarded the contract.</p>		<b>Quality: 60%</b>	<b>Financial Criteria: 40%</b>
<b>Quality: 60%</b>	<b>Financial Criteria: 40%</b>		
<b>Contract Detail</b> <p>The Alarm Receiving Centre Service triages alarm signals received from Intruder and Fire Alarm Systems from across the Design and Construction retained premises portfolio and those Schools and Academies who subscribe to the Design and Construction property management schemes. The supplier forwards the alarm signal details to the Police, Fire and Rescue Service, or Key-holder contractors, as appropriate.</p> <p>A 10 year contract is to be put in place. This will provide stability of the system and save cost by avoiding replacement cost of hardware within each alarm system incurred should a new supplier be put in place following a tender procedure. Accordingly, by using a longer term, the repetition that this cost is incurred can be reduced. The cost of replacing the hardware is approximately £200,000.</p>			

To maintain the cost of the service over the 10 year period the supplier's charges will be managed over the lifetime of the contract. No price increase will be permitted in the first year of the contract. For the remainder the price will be reviewed annually. Subject to meeting the Authority's quality service levels over the preceding twelve months (key performance indicators), the supplier will be able to apply for an increase in its annual charges for the subsequent twelve months.

Any applied price increase will be justified by the supplier by providing supporting evidence (open book costing). Any increase will be capped to that of the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, as available from the Office for National Statistics. An upper limit of 3% will be applied.

### **Review of Third Party Frameworks**

There are limited number of third party frameworks with Alarm Receiving Centre Services available. Use of a third party framework would exclude the Authority's current supplier, and would accordingly incur an approximate £200,000 charge for the replacement of hardware as described above. Accordingly an open procedure will be used.

<b>Procurement Title</b> Provision of a Roving Night Time Support Service in Lancashire.			
<b>Procurement Option</b> OJEU Open procedure			
<b>New or Existing Provision</b> The current contracts are due to end on 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019			
<b>Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements</b>  Potential annual contract value: £816,000  Potential total contract value: £1,632,000 The cost of this service will be funded for the two year period via iBCF. Funding for 2020/21 has not been confirmed at this time but is assumed to continue within our Medium Term Financial Strategy. Any reduction in funding would mean the continuation of this service would need to be considered alongside other Adult Social Care priorities and funding allocated accordingly or contract notice given.			
<b>Contract Duration</b> The Initial period of one year with an option to extend the contract by any number of defined periods provided that the total contract period does not exceed two years.			
<b>Lotting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Service will be made up of three geographical Lots OR one county-wide Lot:</li> <li>• Lot 1 - Central Lancashire</li> <li>• Lot 2 - East Lancashire</li> <li>• Lot 3 - North Lancashire</li> <li>• Lot 4 - County wide</li> </ul> There will be no restriction on the number of Lots a Tenderer can bid for. The Authority intends to either award Lots 1, 2 and 3 or Lot 4 following an assessment of the Lots or Lot that offers the lowest cost based on the highest scoring tenders received.			
<b>Evaluation</b> <table border="1" data-bbox="207 1442 1018 1505"> <tr> <td><b>Quality Criteria 60%</b></td><td><b>Financial Criteria 40%</b></td></tr> </table> Social Value will account for 10% of the quality criteria and the objective will be focused on 'promoting equity and fairness' with a view to help service users maintain their independence.		<b>Quality Criteria 60%</b>	<b>Financial Criteria 40%</b>
<b>Quality Criteria 60%</b>	<b>Financial Criteria 40%</b>		
<b>Contract Detail</b> The Roving Night Time Support Service can be broadly defined as a domiciliary home care service that provides care for people during night time hours, seven days a week, throughout the contract duration. The service, in the vast majority of cases, will be used to support people in the short term following an illness or a change in circumstances. There will however be instances whereby longer term support will be required. The service is designed to support people to remain living in their own homes, to avoid unnecessary admissions to residential care homes and hospitals, and support hospital discharge.			

The service is only available to people who have eligible social care needs, live in their own home and who have a night time need identified. In the main, the Service is a planned and not an emergency service, however, there may be a requirement to respond to urgent needs.

Visits are short and task focused in order to cause the least disturbance to service users as possible (who may be sleeping) and are therefore expected to be 15 minutes in duration and not more than 30 minutes.

The contracts are expected to commence in April 2019.

<b>Procurement Title</b> Provision of Domestic Abuse Refuge Services in Lancashire.			
<b>Procurement Option</b> OJEU Open procedure			
<b>New or Existing Provision</b> There are currently seven contracts for Women's Refuge Services in Lancashire. All of the current provision is due to end in June 2019.			
<b>Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements</b> Potential annual contract value: £871,000. Potential total value for the 5 year contract term: £4,355,000 from the Public health grant. The Authority submitted a bid to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in August for additional funding of up to £1,250,000 some of which will align to refuge provision. There may be further opportunities for the Authority to bid for additional funding from MHCLG during the contract term. If successful, the Authority may receive up to £4,000,000 in additional funding though the actual figure will vary depending on the funding available and success in the application process. Where appropriate the contract may be varied to include this funding or the funding may be allocated separately depending on which option is most appropriate.			
<b>Contract Duration</b> An initial period of three years with an option to extend the contract by any number of defined periods provided that the total contract period does not exceed five years.			
<b>Lotting</b> A single county wide lot has been proposed in order to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enable the devolution of an increased level of strategic and operational control to the successful tenderer.</li> <li>• support the delivery of more responsive and flexible service delivery which can change over the total life of the proposed contract to meet changing and evolving types and levels of need and/or any change in funding levels, and</li> <li>• deliver some administrative and operational efficiencies to the council as a result of a reduced burden of contract management.</li> </ul>			
<b>Evaluation</b> <table border="1" data-bbox="207 1525 1018 1588"> <tr> <td><b>Quality Criteria 80%</b></td><td><b>Financial Criteria 20%</b></td></tr> </table> <p>Social Value will account for at least 10% of the quality criteria, as there is potential for significant positive impact on communities with highest needs. The objective will be focused on 'promoting equity and fairness' with expected outcomes including protecting our most vulnerable children and adults from avoidable harm.</p>		<b>Quality Criteria 80%</b>	<b>Financial Criteria 20%</b>
<b>Quality Criteria 80%</b>	<b>Financial Criteria 20%</b>		
<b>Contract Detail</b> The refuge service is a short term accommodation based service that can be accessed in an emergency by women or women with families/children who have experienced, or are at risk of, domestic abuse and/or harassment and require a safe environment. This may be either as respite while they decide what to do, or because they need a place of safety while they take action to deal with their experiences.			

Women/children with a range of additional needs such as a low or moderate level of learning disability or mental health problems or substance misuse issues or physical disabilities will be able to access the service. A key objective when procuring the new refuge service will be improving access for the increasing number of potential service users who have a range of more complex needs and may need altered models of service delivery to reduce the risk of exclusion from services.

Initially the intention is that the service will be refuge provision for women. However a longer term objective is that the successful tenderer will increasingly develop an appropriate level and type of refuge provision for men affected by domestic abuse as and when resources become available.

Domestic abuse is a priority for the Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group, the Health and Wellbeing Board, Lancashire Children and Young People's Partnership Board and Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board. Domestic abuse is also a key issue for the Police and Crime Commissioner as set out in the police and crime plan.

The provision of support to address domestic abuse is not the responsibility of any single agency and there is a wide spread recognition that the repercussions reach beyond the individual and throughout the community including social welfare, the criminal justice system, refuges, health care, education, employment, childcare, and housing. Developments in the last decade have shown that taking a more proactive, preventative approach not only saves lives but also saves public money.

Domestic abuse refuge provision and other domestic abuse support interventions are currently the subject of a high profile, national review being carried out by central government. Central government has outlined that it wishes to see refuge provision provided without unnecessary restrictions on access to local services. In addition central government has stated that it intends to develop a system of oversight. This procurement exercise is being designed to anticipate and facilitate the expected new system of oversight and an increased need for transparency in reporting on access in future.

The contracts are expected to commence in June 2019.

<p><b>Procurement Title</b></p> <p>Provision of a Carers Assessment and Support Service, Independent Advocacy Service and a Carers Advocacy Service in Lancashire</p>
<p><b>Procurement Option</b></p> <p>OJEU Open procedures</p>
<p><b>New or Existing Provision</b></p> <p>Existing. The current Independent Advocacy Contract end date is 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019. The current Carers Assessment And Support Contract end date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.</p>
<p><b>Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements</b></p> <p>Carers Assessment and Support Service: potential annual contract value of up to £2,400,000 funded via the BCF, the level of CCG funding is subject to change in year two and three of the contract. Total estimated value over the duration of the contract of up to £7,200,000.</p> <p>Independent Advocacy: Potential annual contract value: £1,280,000 funded via the BCF. With up to an additional £200,000 from Clinical Commissioning Groups. Total estimated value over the duration of the contract £3,840,000.</p> <p>Carers Advocacy: potential annual contract value of up to £100,000 from the Adult Social Care budget (Learning Disabilities, Autism and Mental Health). Total estimated value over the duration of the contract of up to £300,000.</p>
<p><b>Contract Duration</b></p> <p>All contracts will have an initial period of two years with an option to extend the contract by any number of defined periods provided that the total contract period does not exceed three years. Each contract will have a break clause allowing the contract to be terminated at any time giving 6 month notice. Each contract will also have the scope to reduce funding after year one of the contract.</p>
<p><b>Lotting</b></p> <p>Delivery of the Services will be offered in the following lots:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lot 1 – Carers Assessment and Support Service (North Lancashire)</li> <li>• Lot 2 – Carers Assessment and Support Service (Central Lancashire)</li> <li>• Lot 3 – Carers Assessment and Support Service (East Lancashire)</li> <li>• Lot 4 – Carers Assessment and Support Service (Countywide)</li> </ul> <p>The Authority intends to award Lots 1, 2 and 3 or Lot 4 following an assessment of the Lots or Lot that offers the lowest cost based on the highest scoring tenders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lot 5 – Independent Advocacy Service (Countywide)</li> <li>• Lot 6 – Carers Advocacy Service (Countywide)</li> </ul> <p>Regulation 2(3) of the Care and Support (Independent Advocacy Support) Regulations states that the same organisation cannot provide both the Carers Advocacy and the Carers Assessment services. Furthermore, it is emerging best practice in the sector to keep advocacy for the cared-for person (Statutory Advocacy) and the carer (Carers Advocacy) separate.</p> <p>There will be no restriction on the number of Lots a Tenderer can bid for. However, the above restriction applies; the Tenderer who is awarded Lot 6 cannot also be awarded any of Lots 1-5 and vice versa. Only in the circumstances where no other compliant bid has been received for a given Lot will the Authority consider awarding</p>

that Lot to a Tenderer whom the Authority already intends to award another Lot to, providing this falls in line with the Care and Support Regulations.

## Evaluation

<b>Quality Criteria 60%</b>	<b>Financial Criteria 40%</b>
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Social Value will account for 10% of the quality criteria for each lot. For the Independent Advocacy and Carers Advocacy lots the objective focused upon will be 'promoting equity and fairness'. For the Carers Assessment and Support Service lots the objective focused upon will be 'providing volunteering opportunities and supporting the people of Lancashire to access training and employment'.

## Contract Detail

### *Carers Assessment and Support Service*

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.

In the county council area, there are an estimated 133,000 carers based on the 2011 census, just over 11% of the population, compared with the national average of 10.4%.

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.

The views of carers on the current support offer and the outcomes such a service could support them to achieve are being collected.

*Independent Advocacy* in all its forms seeks to ensure that people, particularly those who are most vulnerable in society, are able to:

- Have their voice heard on issues that are important to them.
- Defend and safeguard their rights.
- Have their views and wishes genuinely considered when decisions are being made about their lives.

This is usually done through the role of an "advocate" who often attends meetings with service users in a supportive role. Advocates must be independent of health and social care services.

The newly-procured service will streamline the delivery of advocacy services in the county, making it easier to access the service and achieving efficiency and cost savings while helping more people than under current provision.

The proposed model is based on a review of approaches taken by other councils in the UK and best practice in this sector and also creates savings that will be used to support all types of Carers. In preparation of undertaking the procurement process an engagement process with services users, the recovery community and wider stakeholders is being undertaken.



*Carers Advocacy* will be a new, distinct service exclusively for carers. The service will provide all statutory advocacy for carers under the Care Act, will seek to increase awareness of the rights of carers under the Act, and liaise closely with the Independent Advocacy service, the Carers Assessment and Support Service and other council-procured services (like the Wellbeing Service) to promote the availability of and engagement with the new Carers Advocacy service.

The contracts are expected to commence in May 2019.



## Timeline for securing the healthy child programme in Lancashire

Date	Activity
1 February 2017	<p>Report titled 'Delivery of the Healthy Child Programme' set out recommendations for the delivery of the Programme, joining up the public health services for our children and young people with the wider services that the Council provides.</p> <p>The Director of Public Health and his team engaged with NHS commissioners via various forums, notably the collaborative commissioning board.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools, and the Deputy Leader of the County Council approved the recommendations as set out in the full report. The report can be found here: <a href="https://bit.ly/2P22boY">https://bit.ly/2P22boY</a></p>
13 July 2017	<p>Procurement Report - Request Approval to Commence Procurement Exercise. In line with the County Council's procurement rules, this report set out recommendations to approve the commencement the procurement exercise for Lancashire 0-19 Healthy Child Programme. The Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report. The report can be found here: <a href="https://bit.ly/2PuGuNX">https://bit.ly/2PuGuNX</a></p>
14 November 2017	<p>The two tenders received were evaluated by a five person panel including a PH Consultant, a PH specialist, a Safeguarding specialist from the NHS, and representative from the County Council's commissioning team &amp; Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help Service.</p>
21 December 2017	<p>The Trusts challenged the Award Decision and brought proceedings against the Council. The proceedings brought an automatic suspension of the award decision.</p>
22 June 2018	<p>Following the full court proceedings the judgement set out that the Council were successful in respect of several of the issues raised but were unsuccessful in respect of one. The Court made no findings in respect of two issues. The judgement determined that the decision of the Council to award the contract to Virgin must be set aside.</p>
17 September 2018	<p>Save for the moderation process, the Court was considered to be satisfied with the way in which the procurement was conducted generally. Therefore a re-evaluation of the tenders received was arranged. The Trusts and Virgin Care were advised of the Council's intentions.</p> <p>An independent evaluation panel of experts including three former executive directors (one of which having held an integrated role with health, another of which having had a role with NHS England), was convened and chaired by a senior Queen's Counsel.</p>
17 October 2018	<p>The Trusts and Virgin Care were advised of the outcome of the independent evaluation panel, which was the recommendation to award to Virgin Care.</p>



**Report to the Cabinet**

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 November 2018

**Report of the Head of Asset Management****Part I**

Electoral Division affected:  
(All Divisions);

**Transport Asset Management Plan**  
(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Paul Binks, Tel: (01772) 532210, Highway Asset Manager,  
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**Executive Summary**

The Transport Asset Management Plan was approved by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport on 10 June 2014 and sets out the county council's investment strategy in respect of the maintenance of certain transport assets for the period 2015 - 2030.

The draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 data refresh document, which can be viewed [here](#) provides an update in relation to changes in service standards, performance and progress in a number of key areas in highway asset management over the past 12 months.

**Recommendation**

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Note the update on progress on the draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 data refresh.
- (ii) Authorise the Director of Property Services to approve, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, the final version of the draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 data refresh document.

**Background and Advice**

Lancashire's transport infrastructure assets are the most valuable publicly owned resources managed by the county council, with a combined estimated value of £9 billion. These assets are fundamental in helping the citizens of Lancashire to not only access a range of county council services but also take advantage of the wide range of economic, health, social and recreational opportunities that are available to

them. Without this infrastructure Lancashire would not function as a place to live, work or visit.

The Transport Asset Management Plan sets out how the county council intends to maintain its publicly maintainable vehicular transport assets (i.e. A, B and C roads, unclassified road network, footways, street lighting, traffic signals and structures) over the period 2015/16 to 2029/30.

As the Transport Asset Management Plan is a 'live' document it is important that it is reviewed and refreshed on a regular basis. The refresh documents are intended to supplement the original plan, so that when they are read together they provide an up to date analysis of the condition of transport assets and information of any new pressures now being faced. The draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 refresh document can be viewed on the Highway Asset Management website [here](#).

The draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 refresh document gives details of performance with regard to the condition of highways assets over the period 2013/14 to 2017/18 and attached at Appendix 'A' is a summary of our performance over this period. This shows that over the past 12 months there has been:

- An overall improvement of our A, B and C roads of 3.84%, 4.5% and 5.49% respectively.
- The overall condition of structures has reduced very slightly over the past 12 months<sup>1</sup>.
- There has been a slight deterioration with regard to street lighting assets<sup>1</sup>.
- There has been a fall in the number of safety critical defects detected across our footway network<sup>1</sup>.

*(<sup>1</sup>The migration from legacy data management systems to the Highway Asset Management System may account for some of these changes.)*

The reduction in the condition of structures and street lighting assets, which are the focus of Phase 3 of the Transport Asset Management Plan starting 2025/26 was anticipated and acknowledged when the Transport Asset Management Plan strategy was approved in 2014. Despite this reduction they are both considered to be in a 'good' condition.

In January 2018 the county council made a self-assessment evaluation of performance against the Department for Transport's self-assessment criteria. As a result of continued improvements, the self-assessment was a 'Band 3' status which keeps the county council in the highest banding and will result in the maximum permitted allocation from the Department for Transport Incentive Fund for 2018/19 being paid to the authority.

The draft refresh document also provides updates in relation to:

- The updated condition of all highway and transport assets covered by the Transport Asset Management Plan.
- Department for Transport Self-Assessment Questionnaire.

- Consideration of the 'Well Managed Highways Infrastructure Code of Practice'.
- Development of the revised Highway Management Plan.
- Risk based Inspections.

In addition, the draft refresh document also advises of future developments in relation to:

- Development of a Moss Road Strategy.
- Transport Asset Management Plan - Review of Phase 1 and consideration of funding profiles for Phase 2.
- Redefining the highway network hierarchy.
- Unclassified Road Service Standards.
- Footway Service Standards.

Once finalised, proposals for these items together with a proposed Highway Management Plan, will be submitted to Cabinet for approval.

The overall condition of highway and transport assets is still regarded as 'acceptable' which is no change from last year.

It is proposed that the Director of Property Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, is authorised to approve the final draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 refresh document.

## **Consultations**

N/A

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Risk management**

Should a refresh document not be approved, the Transport Asset Management Plan would remain as it was refreshed in 2017. The refresh is also supporting evidence for the Department for Transport Self-Assessment which is carried out annually. The use of outdated condition information could result in not achieving a band 3 ranking which in turn would reduce the level of funding received from the Department for Transport by approximately £1.9m.

### List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A



## Transport Asset Management Plan Refresh 2018 - Highway Asset Condition 2013/14 to 2017/18

The table below sets out the Transport Asset Management Plan Service Standards, the 2013 baseline condition data and subsequent years condition data.

Asset Category	Measure	Service Standard					Asset Condition				
		POOR	ACCEPTABLE	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
A Roads	% RED / AMBER	>25%	25 - 16%	15 - 11%	10 - 6%	≤5%	22.1%	30.37%	23.92%	23.08% <sup>6</sup>	22.29%
B Roads		>40%	40 - 21%	20 - 16%	15 - 6%	≤5%	42.3%	36.01%	28.10%	26.27%	24.65%
C Roads		>50%	50 - 31%	30 - 21%	20 - 11%	≤10%	48.7%	38.59%	30.62%	34.26% <sup>6</sup>	32.04%
Residential Unclassified	% RED / AMBER	>50%	50 - 31%	30 - 21%	20 - 11%	≤10%	Not Collected	Not Collected	Not Collected	Collected being analysed <sup>1</sup>	Collected being analysed <sup>1</sup>
Rural Unclassified	% RED / AMBER	>50%	50 - 31%	30 - 21%	20 - 11%	≤10%	Not Collected	Not Collected	Not Collected	Collected being analysed <sup>1</sup>	Collected being analysed <sup>1</sup>
Footways	No. defects	>50,000	50,000 - 40,000	40,000 - 15,000	15,000- 10,000	<10,000	51,395 <sup>2</sup>	22,171 <sup>2</sup>	13,533 <sup>2</sup>	13,037 <sup>2</sup>	7,142
	No. claims	>600	500-400	400-250	250-150	<150	359	298	259	130	0 <sup>4</sup>
Bridges and Similar Structures	Bridge Condition Index (Ave.)	<40	40-60	60-79	80-90	>90	89.3	89.99	90.19	89.75	89.67
Street Lighting	% of high / medium risk installations	>35%	25-35%	20-25%	10-20%	5-10%	23.15%	17.72% <sup>3</sup>	19.99% <sup>3</sup>	16.15% <sup>3</sup>	15.66%
Traffic Signals	% of units beyond design life	>40%	30-40%	20-30	10-20	<10%	33.11%	33.11	30.31	30.31 <sup>5</sup>	13.83
1 - Condition data is being collected for the unclassified network using Detailed Video Survey methodology for unclassified roads. Analysis is currently being undertaken and will be reported as part of the 2018/19 data refresh. Provisional data shows that the unclassified road network is POOR compared to the C road network											
2 - Changes in defect reporting systems for footways meant 2013 data is not comparable to subsequent year's data. Detailed Video Survey data for footways is available											
3 - Data cleansing means that 2013 & 2014 data is not directly comparable with subsequent years data for Street Lighting											
4 - Migration to HAMS means we data can no longer be split by road classification – condition assumed to remain unchanged.											
5 - There was a delay in 2016/17 in updating traffic signal inventory as efforts were focused on keeping these installations operational.											
6 - The condition of the 2016/17 'A' road network has been amended after minor errors were detected in the 2016/17 calculation which did affected our overall score last year											



**Report to the Cabinet**

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 November 2018

**Report of the Head of Service, Highways****Part I**

Electoral Divisions affected:  
(All Divisions);

**Street Lighting Budget Consultation**

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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**Executive Summary**

At Full Council on 8 February 2018, Full Council agreed to a saving of £0.446m relating to night time inspections, routine maintenance and inspections subject to consultation. We have now carried out an appropriate consultation and this report presents the outcome.

In conclusion there are no changes required to the agreed saving and it is therefore recommended that Cabinet agrees to move forward with the implementation of the change taking account of the considerations in this report. Full consideration has also been given to the Equality Analysis associated with this change which was considered by Full Council on 8 February 2018.

**Recommendation**

Cabinet is asked to note the outcome of the consultation and approve the ceasing of night time inspection for street lights and illuminated signs and extending the routine maintenance, visual structural inspections and periodic electrical testing from 5 to 10 years.

**Background and Advice**

At its meeting on 7 December 2017, Cabinet considered an update of the county council's Medium Term Financial Strategy for the period 2018/19 to 2021/22 which contained budget proposals for consideration in relation to the street lighting service, including:-

- the ending of night inspections for street lighting and illuminated signs

- the extension of routine maintenance, visual structural inspections and periodic electrical testing from 5 to 10 years

It was resolved that the public be invited to comment on these proposals and that the outcome of this consultation be reported to Cabinet once complete.

At its meeting on 8 February 2018, Full Council agreed the proposals subject to consultation.

This report presents the outcome of the consultation which was carried out on-line and ran for an 8 week period between 23 April and 17 June 2018 during which 99 responses were received. A summary of the responses received is provided below:-

- In response to the proposal to stop night inspections, 57% of respondents were in agreement, 30% were against and 13% neither agreed nor disagreed.
- In response to the proposal to extend routine maintenance, visual structural inspections and periodic electrical testing from 5 to 10 years, 50% were in agreement, 30% were against and 20% neither agreed nor disagreed.

Full consideration has also been given to the Equality Analysis. Having analysed the responses received and considered the Equality Analysis associated with these changes, it is not considered necessary to amend the proposals originally presented to Cabinet in December.

Should Cabinet approve these proposals the Street Lighting Lifecycle Plan will be updated to take account of these changes.

## **Consultations**

Full details of the public consultation associated with these proposals are included at Appendix 'A'.

A significant proportion of respondents recognise that LED lighting is more reliable than its predecessors and that it is reasonable for public reporting to be a way of identifying lights not working and to extend the maintenance regime generally from 5 to 10 years. Some respondents were concerned about anti-social behaviour, the impact on vulnerable people and on road safety should fewer street lights be working as a consequence of the proposals. It is considered that significant reductions in lighting levels would be rare and highly likely to be readily reported and restored.

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Risk management**

There is a risk of increased complaints about lights out which is mitigated by the recent and ongoing installation of LED lamps, across much of the network.

Any risks could be mitigated through consultation on the establishment of a new policy and its communication to stakeholders.

## **Financial**

The ending of night time inspection for street lights and illuminated signs and extending the routine maintenance, visual structural inspections and periodic electrical testing from 5 to 10 years will result in recurrent savings of £0.446m from 2019/20 onwards.

## **Equality and Cohesion**

The Equality Analysis was considered by Full Council on 8 February 2018. The consultation did not identify any issues which required the original Equality Analysis to be updated.

## **List of Background Papers**

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



# Street lighting maintenance

## Consultation report





**Mick Edwardson and Mike Walker**

**July 2018**

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# 1. Executive summary

The consultation questionnaire was available online at [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk). The fieldwork ran for eight weeks between 23 April and 17 June 2018. In total, 99 online questionnaires were completed.

## 1.1 Key findings

### 1.1.1 Night-time inspections

- Nearly three-fifths of respondents (57%) agreed with the proposal to cease night-time inspections and three in ten respondents (30%) disagreed with this proposal.
- Of the respondents who agreed with the proposal, 45 gave a reason or reasons why. Respondents generally focused on the fact that LED lights are more reliable and less likely to fail and if they do fail they can be reported by members of the public.
- Of the respondents who disagreed with the proposal 26 gave a reason or reasons why. Respondents generally focused on two issues: night-time is the best time to inspect street lights; and the proposal could reduce the number of working street lights, which is a safety concern.
- Of the respondents who agreed with the proposal 51 gave an answer to the question how the proposal would affect them. Respondents generally responded that the proposal wouldn't affect them and that they would report any issues.
- Of the respondents who disagreed with the proposal 27 gave an answer to the question how the proposal would affect them. Respondents were mainly concerned about the impact on vulnerable people and areas if the proposal leads to fewer working street lights. For example, areas prone to anti-social behaviour could become less safe, and rural roads with reduced visibility could become more dangerous.

### 1.1.2 Routine maintenance and testing cycle

- Half of respondents (50%) agreed with the proposal to extend the routine maintenance and testing cycle from five to 10 years and three in 10 respondents (30%) disagreed with the proposal.
- Of the respondents who agreed with the proposal 37 gave a reason why. Respondent's reasons generally focused on the fact that, because LED lights last longer, it is reasonable to extend routine maintenance and testing cycle.
- Of the respondents who disagreed with the proposal 25 gave a reason why. Respondents generally commented that 10 years is too long. A few respondents also mentioned that although LED lights last longer the wiring will still need inspecting.
- Of the respondents who agreed with the proposal 51 gave an answer to the question how the proposal would affect them. Respondents generally

responded that the proposal wouldn't affect them and that they would report any issues.

- Of the respondents who disagreed with the proposal 27 gave an answer to the question how the proposal would affect them. Respondents were mainly concerned about the impact on vulnerable people and areas if the proposal leads to fewer working street lights. For example, areas prone to anti-social behaviour could become less safe, and rural roads with reduced visibility could become more dangerous.

## 2. Introduction

We are committed to providing the best services we can to the people of Lancashire, particularly to the most vulnerable in our communities. However the council's financial position remains extremely challenging, with a forecasted funding gap of £144m in 2021/22. Because of this, we still need to make some difficult decisions in order to make further savings.

We are asking for your views on some proposed changes to the services we provide around street lighting. We have been replacing our street lights with LED lights that are expected to work more reliably for around twenty years. They will last much longer than the traditional lamps we previously installed across Lancashire. With these new LEDs being used across our county, we will not need to check and fix our lights as often.

We currently carry out routine inspections when it's dark in every street where we are responsible for maintaining street lights, illuminated signs and/or bollards. We try to visit once every fortnight between October and March and then every month for the rest of the year. As well as the reports currently received from our night inspections, we also receive information from members of the public who notify us through our Customer Access Service, our online 'Report It!!' tool and other sources.

Having taken all of this into account, we are proposing to stop carrying out our night-time inspections. We are also proposing to start carrying out our testing of street lights and illuminated signs on a 10-year cycle rather than every five years.

As well as the routine testing, we would still be carrying out maintenance, as and when faults are reported to us and we would continue to aim to respond to initial reports of faults within five days as we do now.

## 3. Methodology

The consultation questionnaire was available online at [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk). The fieldwork ran for eight weeks between 23 April and 17 June 2018. In total, 99 online questionnaires were completed.

The main section of the questionnaire asked respondents eight questions covering two topics: night-time inspections, and routine maintenance and testing cycle. The proposals were outlined and then respondents were asked: if they agree or disagree with the proposal, why they agree or disagree with the proposal, and how the proposal would affect them. Respondents were also asked if there was anything else that they think we need to consider or do differently.

The remaining questionings asked for information about the respondents. For example, if they are a Lancashire resident.

### 3.1 Limitations

In charts or tables where responses do not add up to 100%, this is due to multiple responses or computer rounding.

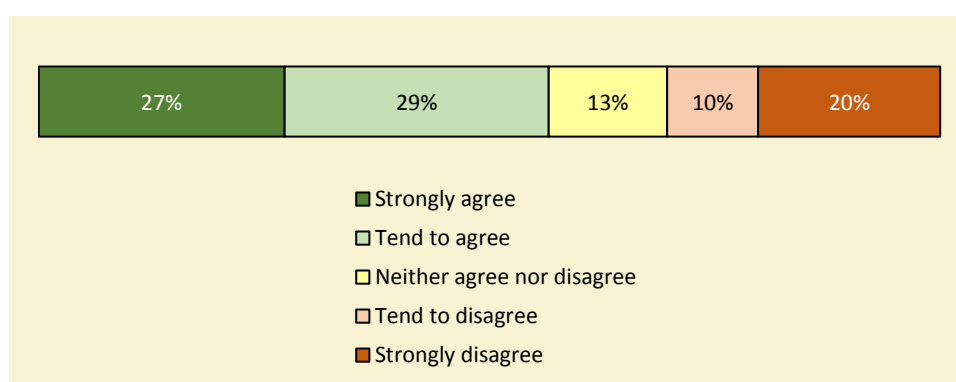
## 4. Main findings

### 4.1 Night-time inspections

Respondents were first asked how strongly they agree or disagree with the proposal to cease night-time inspections.

Nearly three-fifths of respondents (57%) agreed with the proposal to cease night-time inspections and three in ten respondents (30%) disagreed with this proposal.

**Chart 1 - How strongly do you agree or disagree with the proposal to cease night-time inspections?**



Base: all respondents (99)

Respondents were then asked why they agreed or disagreed with the proposal to cease night-time inspections. Respondent's comments can be found in full in appendix 1. A brief summary is given below.

Of the respondents who agreed with the proposal 45 gave a reason or reasons why. Respondents generally focused on the fact that LED lights are more reliable and less likely to fail, and if they do fail then members of the public can report them.

Of the respondents who disagreed with the proposal 26 gave a reason or reasons why. Respondents generally focused on two issues: night-time is the best time to inspect street lights; and the proposal could reduce the number of working street lights which is a safety concern.

Respondents were then asked, if this proposal happened, how it would affect them. Respondent's comments can be found in full in appendix 1. A brief summary is given below.

Of the respondents who agreed with the proposal 51 gave an answer to the question how the proposal would affect them. Respondents generally responded that the proposal wouldn't affect them and that they would report any issues.

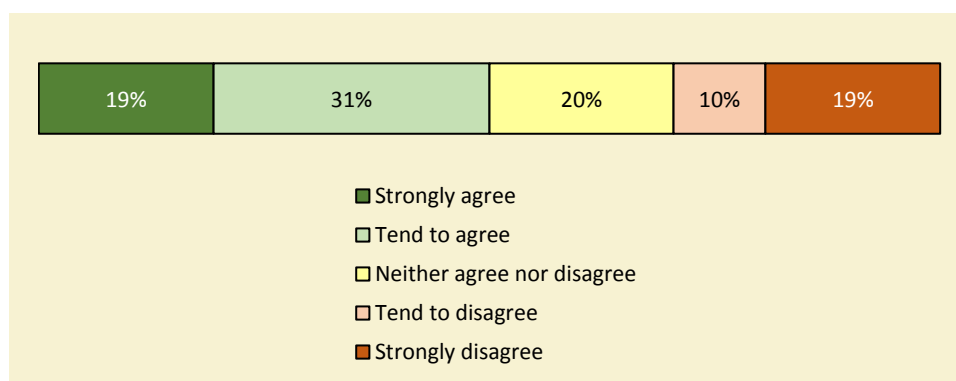
Of the respondents who disagreed with the proposal 27 gave an answer to the question how the proposal would affect them. Respondents were mainly concerned about the impact on vulnerable people and areas if the proposal leads to fewer working street lights. For example, areas prone to anti-social behaviour could become less safe, and rural roads with reduced visibility could become more dangerous.

## 4.2 Routine maintenance and testing cycle

Respondents were then asked how strongly they agree or disagree with the proposal to extend the routine maintenance and testing cycle five to 10 years.

Half of respondents (50%) agreed with the proposal to extend the routine maintenance and testing cycle from five to 10 years and three in 10 respondents (30%) disagreed with the proposal.

**Chart 2 - How strongly do you agree or disagree with the proposal to extend the routine maintenance and testing cycle from five to 10 years?**



Base: all respondents (98)

Respondents were then asked why they agreed or disagreed with the proposal to extend the routine maintenance and testing cycle five to 10 years. Respondents' comments can be found in full in appendix 1. A brief summary is given below.

Of the respondents who agreed with the proposal 37 gave a reason why. Respondent's reasons generally focused on the fact that because LED lights last longer it is reasonable to extended routine maintenance and testing cycle.

Of the respondents who disagreed with the proposal 25 gave a reason why. Respondents generally commented that 10 years is too long. A few respondents also mentioned that although LED lights last longer the wiring will still need inspecting.

Respondents were then asked, if this proposal happened, how it would affect them. Respondent's comments can be found in full in appendix 1. A brief summary is given below.

Of those respondents who agreed with the proposal 42 gave an answer to the question how the proposal would affect them. Respondents generally responded that the proposal wouldn't affect them and that they would report any issues.

Of those respondents who disagreed with the proposal 24 gave an answer to the question how the proposal would affect them. Respondents generally expressed concerns about the issues that might arise if street lights aren't working.

### **4.3 Final thoughts**

Respondents were then asked us if they think there is anything else that we need to consider or that could be done differently. 72 respondents provided a response to this question. A brief summary has not been provided as there were no clear themes. However, all comments can be found in appendix 1.

### **4.4 Other responses to the consultation**

We also received one email response to the consultation, which included the following comments.

"This consultation effectively places greater emphasis on members of the public reporting the faults that they see. It seems to me to make sense to tell members of the public how they can easily report such faults but there is nothing in the consultation invitation to say how it can be done."



## 4. Demographic information

**Table 1 - Are you responding to this proposal as a...?**

A Lancashire resident	74%
An employee of Lancashire County Council	3%
An elected member of a Lancashire district council	8%
An elected member of a parish or town council in Lancashire	31%
A member of a voluntary or community organisation	11%
Other	11%

Base: all respondents (96)

**Table 2 - Are you ...?**

Male	62%
Female	33%
Prefer not to say	5%

Base: all respondents (94)

**Table 3 - Have you ever identified as transgender?**

No	91%
Prefer not to say	9%

Base: all respondents (92)

**Table 4 - What was your age on your last birthday?**

20-34	6%
35-64	52%
65-74	19%
75+	14%
Prefer not to say	9%

Base: all respondents (95)

**Table 5 - Are you a deaf person or do you have a disability?**

No	80%
Yes	10%
Prefer not to say	11%

Base: all respondents (94)

**Table 6 - Are there any children or young people in your household aged under 20?**

Yes (including expecting first child)	25%
No	66%
Prefer not to say	9%

Base: all respondents (96)

**Table 7 - Are there any disabled children or young people aged under 25 in your household?**

Yes	2%
No	89%
Prefer not to say	9%

Base: all respondents (96)

**Table 8 - Which best describes your ethnic background?**

White	80%
Asian or Asian British	1%
Mixed	3%
Prefer not to say	16%

Base: all respondents (93)

**Table 9 - What is your religion?**

Christian (including CofE, Catholic, Protestant and all other denominations)	53%
Buddhist	1%
Muslim	1%
Sikh	1%
Any other religion	1%
No religion	24%
Prefer not to say	18%

Base: all respondents (94)

# Appendix 1

## Night-time inspections

### *Why do you say this?*

#### Respondents who strongly agree and tend to agree with the proposal

There may be a requirement to monitor lighting on less well-used routes, where there is more through traffic and fewer residents to report problems
Provides the necessary cost savings. It puts the onus on individuals to report any problems which, in turn makes people put more thought in to the environment in which they live.
I don't think there's anything wrong with waiting until people report the outage
Residents can report problems via Paris, Ward County councillor or direct
If you have an effective reporting system and LED lighting I'd have thought this would be an unnecessary and costly duplication of effort.
I think that the LED technology in the new lights provides a level of reliability that does not require regular checking. If a light fails the local residents will most likely inform LCC in which case LCC can perform a repair.
I sympathise with your monetary problems and see that you have many difficult decisions to make. Street lighting is very important but with new technology I am sure that your proposal will have little noticeable effect on the general lighting aspects for the public.
If a light is important then someone will report it. Many streets aren't lit including mine and we have few problems. Perhaps reduce the frequency or concentrate on inspecting key routes only.
General observations can be made by Parish Councils and members of the public. However, it is imperative that LCC then promise to act upon the referrals.
I believe most lights are reported by the public. I laughed when I read that LCC inspect fortnightly during October - March period.
The public and councillors can report problems online.
If the decision is based on fact then it makes sense
There is a reporting mechanism in place to notify you of any problems.
Seems like a pointless job if members of the public are also reporting the faults
It seems to make sense to rely more on members of the public reporting problems, this would have a saving, some of which could be used on repair costs
When Led lights have been fitted there should be no need to make night time inspections. I would then strongly agree to this question when ED lighting is fitted.
More efficient lighting does not require near constant inspections.
Cost reduction.
It will help to save a huge sum of money as the inspections are no longer necessary
We have far too many street lights. Light pollution is a major problem. Reducing checked maintenance is also a very good way to save money. People will tell the council if a light is not working.
LEDs are more reliable.
Working practices need to be changed to reflect changing technology otherwise the investment in that new technology doesn't produce all the benefits it should.
Led lights are more resilient and reliable
LED lights are known to be far more reliable and hence it makes sense to reduce the inspection frequency. This should perhaps be reduced rather than stopped altogether. I would continue the inspections on those streets that have not been converted to LED.

LED lamps are very reliable, the weak link will probably be the wiring and the hardware
I feel that these could be discontinued and LCC could depend on residents contacting them with any faults in the system
I think in the circumstances the general public should be the ones to report issues with faulty lighting. However I have to provisos. Firstly if this goes ahead then sufficient publicity needs to be given explaining what to do and most importantly all different means of reporting should be made available to do so. Then when issues are reported they should be attended to in a timely manner and a reply given to the person or people who made the report(s).
I think this is unnecesary. Modern LED lighting is more reliable and there are plenty of options for residents to report faults.
I believe there is too much street lighting anyway and having 1 light out of a full street hardly impacts the night time lighting and can therefore wait till another time.
Presumably running these checks at night is more expensive than doing the same operation during normal daytime working hours. Even if the lights have to be turned on, to check they are working correctly.
This is based on the assumption that they are becoming increasingly less useful as traditional lamps are replaced with LEDs. But there needs to be associated publicity so that people are more aware of how to report problems. Perhaps there should be a sticker on every lamp post with details of how to report.
If the LED lights are as reliable as is claimed then there should be fewer bulbs needing to be replaced. It will save time and resource for other more pressing services; pot holes!
Catterall Parish Council fully understands the reasoning behind why these cuts have to be made and supports LCC in this compromise.
Rely on neighbour feedback and local authorities.
We understand the budget driver to make savings and recognise this proposed action minimises impact for local residents
The report it system works.
With LED lights less or no maintenance
New lights should be more reliable and as long as the reporting system is easy to use and responded to the public should play a part. The exception should be non-residential roads since people are less likely to report these.
I didn't even know that this happened. It is so easy to report faults now
Clearly, night inspections are the best way of identifying defects. However, if there was a dedicated easy way such as a dedicated phone line or message system for the public to notify defects, the job would be done by the users at no cost.
It is probably a better use of officers time to deal with street lighting faults on a reactive basis.
In this part of Lancashire many faults persist for months and years, even on main roads, until self-reported. So I cannot see any evidence that night-time inspections have added any value.
Barrow Parish Council supports the business case made for ceasing inspections and believes the proposal will be cost-effective moving forwards with increased use of LEDs and self-diagnosis.
A great deal of electricity is wasted at night-time. Also street lighting can pollute the skies.
if there is sufficient training of the public on who to report faults to and essentially reason for not being able to attend to servicing the fault.

#### Respondents who neither agree nor disagree with the proposal

NOT SURE WHAT VALUE THEY ARE
Realise that finance is important, but when there are no lights is when repair is needed!

The consultation does not state what financial savings the proposed changes would result in so I cannot say if I agree or disagree with the proposal.

With the financial mess created by the Government for Lancashire, it is important that we protect services for the young, elderly and vulnerable. Lighting faults can be reported by members of the public.

A number of lights on major roads appear to be lit day and night. Blackpool road usually has one or two. This fault would not be noted at night so a daytime inspection should suffice but plainly it does not as these lamps continue burning for weeks

Not enough info on the work carried out during testing to decide if safety would be compromised.

I cannot provide a better answer on the information provided. I would like to know how often lights are found to be not working through night-time inspections and how often through the public reporting.

It is very difficult to make a judgement on this because you have provided no information about the value (in terms of numbers found or reported) of the current inspection regime compared to other sources of information and reports about 'problems', mainly lights-out presumably. Certainly it seems quite extravagant to check if street lights are on 18 times a year (if the information has been understood correctly) and it is surprising that this has not been reduced before now. However, changing from this regime to ensuring only once in ten years that a lamp is working and safe seems a very significant and risky step. This might be difficult to justify, particularly if LCC became involved in enforcement of safety legislation following a possible breach. It is assumed that all statutory requirements and Health and Safety Executive Guidance has been taken account of in preparing this proposal. It would be helpful to know the proportion of faults identified from night time inspections compared to those reported by members of the public, parish councils and other bodies. This would have enabled more meaningful comments. It is assumed that 'emergency' reporting due to traffic accidents etc would not change at all.

#### Respondents who strongly disagree and tend to disagree with the proposal

This is a safety issue! What if an elderly person were not to see a pothole in the pavement (there are many) and fell and fractured their hip? This proposal would affect the most vulnerable people that you are supposed to protect. LEDs are more reliable and whilst I don't agree with reduction of night time inspections, if you really have to then think about decreasing the frequency in relation to the reliability rather than stopping altogether. This is a ridiculous idea!

I feel safety will be compromised and being a regular user of the online reporting system do not have confidence faults will be dealt with in a timely manner.

It is only when it is dark that the you can tell if the light is fully illuminating an area

Although there do seem to be a lot less faulty streetlights around these days largely due to the reliability and low power demands of LEDs some night time inspection would seem to be necessary just to ensure general public safety especially in areas of risk. campaigning to get the public to report issues, as you know, isn't too effective. Even a six monthly inspection would be better than none at all and, possibly council staff and politicians could be encouraged somehow to watch out and report or even do formal reporting locally to them.

I feel it is important to the community that LCC is aware of problems which may occur at night.

Night time is the best time to check street lighting is working properly

It's when lights are in action. So imperative they continue

In rural areas it is so important to ensure lighting is working correctly, these areas require constant inspection and repair for the safety of those individuals who are vulnerable and the the safety of road users whether that is by car, foot or cycles.

Residents are quick to report that a street light has gone out so no need for LCC inspections

It will inevitably lead to a slower identification of failed lights and so presents a road safety risk.

This is the best time to check lights! Obvious!
I would like to raise awareness that the light from LED street lighting makes some people extremely ill. This type of lighting, especially on main roads is extremely intense, glaring and blue. It is very problematic in the first place. If it goes wrong in any way it is likely to be more so and this needs to be monitored and observed.
streets are not very light already. Broken lights left until reported would be an additional danger. Crime is going up, especially burglary.
you can only check lights for brightness when it is dark
The replacement of traditional street lighting by LED lights has been a very bad move. Streets that were previously adequately lit are now more reminiscent of the blackout during World War Two, with the brightness of the lighting reduced by at least 50%. Women in particular fear using the streets during the hours of darkness, which in winter can mean when they are setting off for or returning from work - they are frightened of attack as someone could be hiding in the shadows. The dimly lit streets are also well below standard on health and safety grounds as people, especially the elderly, can't see clearly where the kerb is or whether there are tripping hazards in the road and/or pavement. On many narrow terraced streets, cars have to park half on the pavement on both sides of the road, otherwise no traffic could get through. The dim lights make it more dangerous to walk along these streets. If the Inspectors were to go out at night they could see these streets for themselves and seriously consider whether they would think it safe for their grandma or teenage daughter to walk along the streets unaccompanied after dark.
Some degree of inspections are needed as street lighting is also important for road safety. I drive through several villages and the initial entry to a village is often well lit, but when lights are out, especially where there are bends or poor line of sight visibility it makes it more dangerous. relying on good will to report outages is not sufficient.
To make sure the lights are not too bright and glaring which may cause accidents and that they are fully shielded so that the light goes down to where it is needed not up into the sky and been wasted. And that they are of the proper temperature 3000K or less 2700K is best. LED lights which are too blue are bad for the environment and people's health.
Agree only after the LED bulbs are in place otherwise it's probably needed
How else are you going to easily discover whether the street lighting is serviceable or not, if not done at night?
I find the new lighting poor and inadequate, if a light goes out then there will be no light at all in my cul de sac
Members of the public will generally report issues that directly affect them. They will not be looking for other issues with regard to safety with lighting units. There is also a requirement to maintain lit signs. Night time inspections will form part of the regular, or periodic testing of lighting units. This visual inspection is the first stage in the duty of care that LCC have to their residents, especially more vulnerable residents and vulnerable road users.
On safety grounds as the majority of the community either do not know how to report online or are unlikely to do so.
As a facilities management operative working under zero tolerance health & Safety, I understand that the move from 5 to 10 years inspection will greatly reduce standards of care for the whole community. LED or not, this change does not reflect the life of the units involved. Disgraceful neglect. Even my private company would not stoop so low.

A thorough risk assessment should be made before the implementation of this change. It must consider: areas with large proportions of vulnerable or elderly residents for whom internet access is limited or otherwise not available particularly hazardous routes (such as those with cobbled stones, steep steps, or in areas of leafy trees) where the risk of slipping is high areas still using older lamps (where the reliability clearly isn't affected by the installation of LED lights elsewhere) I would argue that routine inspections should continue to be made in those areas. Further, if there were a reduction in the routine checking, there should also be an improvement in the stated response times for putting right defective lamps. Whilst the online report it tool is often lauded as the perfect money saving, I'm not at all convinced that all reported defective streetlights are assessed within 5 days, even if that is the stated aim - certainly, highways defects are not fixed in anywhere near 5 days.

Because the night time environment cannot be adequately assessed in daylight

some people may not be aware of how to report faulty lights therefore allowing streets to become too dark to be safe

### ***If this proposal happened, how it would affect you?***

#### **Respondents who strongly agree and tend to agree with the proposal**

Not at all
It may cause problems when driving at night, particularly in the case of breakdown on a country road where maintenance has not been done as problems have not been reported. In terms of my local lighting, as long as action was taken promptly when reports were made I anticipate no problem
It wouldn't.
it wouldn't.
No
It wouldn't.
I don't think it would affect me. If any of the lights in my street stopped working I would inform LCC through the appropriate channel.
No idea
Not at all, our road (Spa Lane) isn't lit, we quite like it.
How would I know?
Save me and the council money. I always thought this was never carried out to a reasonable standard anyway.
Not at all
Not at all
As long as the public are aware of how to report a problem then OK
It wouldn't
It wouldn't affect me as far as I can tell.
It would probably make me more proactive in reporting issues. Other than that, it probably wouldn't affect me.
Providing lighting on main roads is always working there would be no problem with non night inspections.
Very little if at all. I would report failures in any street lighting to ensure public safety.
Doubt it would
Not at all
It would not.
It wouldn't. People can report if a light isn't working.
It wouldn't.
Not at all. I'd just like LED street lighting in our street.

It wouldn't, I'd report them via Report It.
Not sure I would notice the difference.
Not at all
Non whatsoever
I would ensure that I reported any faults in my area (which I do anyway)
Not at all
Likely in no way as long as the maintenance is done as reported. I have reported issues in the past and found them to do resolved fairly promptly.
Not al all
minimal affect upon us
It wouldn't...If a light is out the public can report it and take more responsibility for their local areas instead.
I don't think it will affect me.
I don't see how it is possible to answer this question without data on the current efficacy of inspections, and how many faults are being picked up and remedied before residents complain. I am a local councillor so I might expect to receive more complaints about street light outages, although I get very few as it currently stands.
It wouldn't affect me at all
It would not.
I don't feel that it would affect me.
Residents may contact the borough council's out of hours service - if the change is not adequately communicated. The action taken by LCC needs to ensure the impacts is minimised for other agencies.
It wouldn't
No effect
Limited impact, although would require me to report street lighting which had failed.
It wouldn't
Temporary loss of a single lamp has minimal effect as there are normally sufficient other lamps nearby to keep the road / footpath safe
Probably very little as the Parish Council are always keen to report faults as they arise
No effect.
Barrow Parish Council already frequently uses LCC's 'Report it online' systems to report faults and will continue to do so. It is hoped that any effect will be minimal.
Not at all
having to curtails night time activities.

#### Respondents who neither agree nor disagree with the proposal

It would probably not have a big impact on me.
Not at all
Will use the website to report any lights that are not working
IT WOULDN'T
Would not like it!
It would not affect me much. I would report lighting faults via your website
Very little.
It would only affect me if I was in an unfamiliar area and street lights were out.
It would not as such inspections do not appear to identify problems
I doubt it would affect as long as when faults were reported they were dealt with promptly.



I use footpaths near to my home that are not along roads. I am concerned that these may not be reported if lights are out. However, if I know what the reporting procedure is I can report them myself.

As a Parish Council, we would have to become even more vigilant in reporting faults using the well-established and well-managed fault reporting systems. We already report faults quickly, as and when they arise. Some members report faults outside our parish, particularly when there could be danger or if the faults have existed for a long time. We know from experience that the current response to faults is generally good. With increasing reliance on communities and parish councils to report faults (and, hopefully, other bodies too), a change in culture will be necessary together with greater engagement with parish councils in rural areas and community groups in urban areas. Perhaps this should start early in the formal education process too. As road users, we are concerned that the new process will lead to lights being out for longer, at least initially, and a major public information exercise would be required.

### Respondents who strongly disagree and tend to disagree with the proposal

It most likely wouldn't affect me much. I am more concerned about the most vulnerable people such as children or the elderly that are more likely to walk on pavements where reliable lighting (street lighting and road signs) is essential for their safety.

I feel my safety and those of other vulnerable road users would be unnecessarily compromised.

If a light is not working efficiently under the viaduct in Knotts lane in Colne BB8 then there will be a return of antisocial behaviour in that area

the basic possibility of lights being out, especially in 'at risk' areas of high traffic risks and/or the archetypal 'dark alleyway'. lack of street lighting on roads would also increase the danger of hitting those cyclists who insist on wearing dark clothing, with no lights and taking no heed of traffic regulations at night.

It would possible affect more vulnerable people and not myself in directly.

Working street light s help people see in the dark and help us all feel safe

I have vulnerable residents who rely on street light as comfort and if they are out it will cause then stress

I live in a rural area and the little lighting we have helps the community feel safe and ensures the country lane is lit for the all that use it. I need to walk down this lane and would feel vulnerable if it was not lit, or did not work correctly

Not at all

The streets are bad enough as it is, full of pot holes, and not actually adequately lit as it is. If you cease the night time inspections, there will be more failed bulbs, the streets will be darker, we won't always be able to safely see the road and the potholes and there will be damage to cars and accidents, and any of that could happen to me.

Nobody knows until a light or more fails somewhere that you may be passing and it affects your safety on foot or in a vehicle. Not a lot of help if you have to report an accident or violent incident already happened. This because inspections were stopped and no member of the public bothered to report it.

LED street lighting is a huge migraine trigger for me and any exposure to it can leave me ill for many weeks. Since the installation I no longer go into the town centre after dark which has clearly impacted hugely on my ability to live my life. Therefore a more immediate concern personally is LED street lights left on in the day, which I feel need to be checked also. I am already excluded from the street at night but if LED street lights remain on through the day I am also made ill from leaving my house in daylight hours. This situation is intolerable and I feel will be made worse if the County Council team stops checking the proper functioning of the street lights. Moreover, the street lighting team at Lancashire County Council have listened to my plight and responded to my situation. I fear hugely that any reduction in the team means there will be less ability to look after me and others made ill by this type of lighting. Street lighting is a health and social exclusion issue and it is important that there is a team of people who can address the needs of Lancashire residents in this regard.

In winter I would feel less safe. I was knocked down in December last year - no major injuries but slowed down and shaken.
I would have to do myself and report any faults or light failiar
Defective lights wouldn't get fixed because the Inspectors wouldn't be out at night when all the lights are supposed to be working and be able to pick out the ones that weren't. If some lights were out, the health and safety of older residents such as me could not be guaranteed. Thanks to the poor quality of the LED lights, the streets are far too dim anyway, even when all the lights are working.
It would make the roads more dangerous.
With what I said in the last page. If nobody inspects the lighting how do you the council know if any thing is wrong or not working correctly.
The lights are considered helpful and it is good they are maintained
This could result in poor lighting in areas that are non-residential and lead to potential safety issues i.e. on traffic routes were the units are not easily identified when passing at speed.
Live in a semi-rural setting where it can be pitch-black at night on some roads. Dangerous to walk.
Stated previously ,I would feel insecure
There is a possibility that light units on footpaths in the area may not be lit. Although you say the LED lights are more reliable, they still rely on external controls such as timers and light sensitive devices that operate them. Given that street crime is increasing, as is acquisition crimes are increasing, it would be vitally important that the majority of elderly folk that live in my ward feel that the lights are routinely inspected. As we fully know, pot holes and poor pavement surfaces are increasing. I would also add that night inspectors also are an additional pair of eyes around neighbourhoods
How the hell would I know. I expect the council to do a job for which I pay a hell of a lot of money.
Darkened streets. Less confidence to travel after dark. Especially as a lone women. Confidence would decrease considerably. How could I leave the house in a vehicle or on foot? There are no ploice to call any more!
I would be concerned about personal safety should defects which are reported, go unfixed for longer periods of time as a result of the change. It does not take long for criminals to notice that lights are out and make opportunistic use of the increased cover of darkness.
The level of service provided would have been reduced with no commensurate reduction in cost
I will feel less safe in my own town if street lighting isn't repaired.

## Routine maintenance and testing cycle

### *Why do you say this?*

#### Respondents who strongly agree and tend to agree with the proposal

Given the transition to LED lighting which are much longer lasting, this makes a lot of sense.
I would have thought that maintenance cycles are set by life expectancy and providing LED lighting is installed this should in theory extend the maintenance and testing cycle.
the use of LED lighting should make this viable although care should be taken to allow for a shorter cycle if it proves necessary
LED lights are reliable enough to last at least 10 years.
Suggest recent developments in lighting technology out weigh the lengthening of the maintenance period.
Modern technology does not need it anyway
The impact will be more minimal
The new type of lighting should require less maintenance.
See my previous answers

There is a way to report faults. Provided it is an efficient process and you respond quickly to reports of problems
Doubling the inspection time does seem too long but would suggest every seven years. This time could be on a trial basis and reviewed after seven years.
As stated previously. LED lights do not require to be under near constant inspection. Reducing the inspection cycle make complete sense.
Again cost reduction
As LED bulbs are less prone to failure than previous bulbs, it would make sense to increase the testing cycle.
It's enough
See my answer to Q1.
Have to make savings somewhere and if a local was worried about a light they could call up maintenance.
Due to high reliability
If LED lighting is longer lasting and more reliable then I can see that it is possible to extend the maintenance period
Modern lighting is more reliable and doesn't need frequent maintenance
With increased reliability and lower power usage the lights should last much longer and not need as much maintenance.
AS mentioned LDs last longer and any non routine faults can be reported by the public
This is just a common sense way to deal with routine maintenance which should reduce with the new style bulbs
With the introduction of LED lights the life of the bulbs should be extended to allow this to happen.
Only after LED's are in place
Subject to upgrade to LED and a robust approach for reported unplanned repairs.
Report it works
Again LED less maintenance and faulty lights would be highlighted in communication channels
Seems reasonable, assuming it would be changed if the ten yearly cycle was found to be inadequate.
If the performance data of the existing LED lamps which have been in use for a period of time supports this, then I would support the change. This data should be put into the public domain in order that the public can judge for themselves whether this change is appropriate.
If the new lighting systems are more reliable, they'll need less maintenance
Modern LED lamps are more reliable and extending the maintenance period is a logical step
It makes sense with the extended bulb life of the new led bulbs
New equipment should be more reliable. Online fault reporting by public will alert LCC to any problems that develop in interim.
Barrow Parish Council supports the business case made for ceasing inspections and believes the proposal will be cost-effective moving forwards with increased use of LEDs and self-diagnosis.
A more efficient "as and when needed" response team to light outages would be an improvement if resources could be used in this way.
subject to the replacing the 5year plan with more low cost highly reliable equipment, which will ensure a sustainable service

**Respondents who neither agree nor disagree with the proposal**

The longevity of the LED bulbs would need to be monitored before a decision was made. Domestic LEDs do not always live up to the manufacturer's claims
I acknowledge LED lighting is more reliable and has superior longevity than traditional lighting. If there is clear, unequivocal scientific evidence to support this, with the LED lights that you use then this makes sense. This should only be done if the manufacturer of the LEDs used give a guarantee for ten years.
I am unaware of the impact that ten years would have
The consultation does not state what financial savings the proposed changes would result in so I cannot say if I agree or disagree with the proposal.
It depends on how often a problem is found on the five yearly inspections. If a problem is rare, then moving to ten years is fine. If frequent, then maintain the five year intervals.
I cannot know the effect.
I don't feel qualified to answer this question not knowing anything about street lights and what regular maintenance is recommended / required.
As far as the public are concerned a street light is either working or not and have little or no knowledge about required maintenance
This is a decision that would take the period of time proposed before any benefit could be measured and the viability of the time scale tested
I have not got sufficient knowledge to know what the optimum time period is.
Putting this routine maintenance plan on a longer gap duration should be backed by statistics that show this will NOT lead to more fault / breakdown call outs, which may be more costly in the long run. The current preventative maintenance may well be money well spent, in preventing more serious problems, that would occur between the 5 & 10 year period.
This is a technical matter associated with reliability, so is impossible to answer without more information.
If LED lighting is used then it will last longer, notwithstanding that not all LED lighting is as good as its cracked up to be. I have had LED go on me after a relatively short duration.
Will depend on the quality of the lighting

**Respondents who strongly disagree and tend to disagree with the proposal**

Safety would be compromised and alternate systems are not reliable enough.
Too long an interval.
It is too long a gap. Street lights need to be checked at least every 5 years.
10 years is too long.
This is nonsense by extending maintenance to 10 years your playing god with our safety
I think 10 years is too large a gap
It's just kicking the can further down the street
By increasing the testing cycle I am worried defects would not be detected and therefore lighting of a country lane could put the community and road users in danger
You haven't rolled out the LED everywhere. Even when you have, you need to check it's working as hoped.
Does this comply with the wiring regs (BS7671)? I thought it was a requirement of this British Standard that electrical installations must be maintained up to a maximum of every 5 years. Therefore the 10 year maintenance would not comply with these regulations.
As above

too long a gap - likely to have more breakdowns.
This is still new technology and needs to be monitored
10 years seems an awful long time between routine maintenance and testing.
Ten years is a very long time. There would be more "one-off" complaints about defective lights, which could be more expensive in the long run. Also, if fixing the lights was down to resident complaints, many people are unaware of who is responsible for maintaining the street lights and wouldn't know where to complain to, with the result that the lights wouldn't get fixed at all unless a Councillor was made aware of the situation and put in a complaint.
Thou they say that these LED lights last a long time many do stop working after 5years off operations.
Is it good working practice to leave structures with no form of inspection or testing for 10 years?
Street lighting runs on 240 volts. I have to inspect my own electrics every five years and ensure all safety devices to prevent loss of life are correctly installed and function within regs. Lighting units are exposed to all types of weather and abuse throughout their lives. A break down in insulation, or a fault to earth that will not blow a fuse due to the already existing high earth loop resistance in some networks would be a killer.
Do the job correctly and save money by getting rid of admin staff and senior managers not front line services.
A failure in year 6 could mean 6 years without street light at my home. I'm really not happy
Surely 10 years is too long especially if we have some serious bad and long winters.
I think routine testing is important. As I do not know how often routine testing leads to replacing fittings it is difficult to tell what the impact of this proposal will be.
Because we're talking about electrical systems and safety (of the public) should NEVER be sacrificed on the altar of accountancy
The recent change to the LED lights is making the streets unsafe. There is a streetlight outside my neighbours house - in a terraced street- my house is now so dark I cannot see where to put the key in the front door!
Although LED lights are considered to be more reliable in terms of service length, they are only one part off the lighting installation. The inspections and testing procedures also, no doubt, consider the full electrical installation and the condition and integrity of the column. Again, a doubling of the inspection period is a significant step and it can only be assumed that you have also considered this decision on the basis of the number and type of faults identified during the inspections. Again, the views of the Health and Safety Executive against the requirements to ensure public safety are very relevant. Are there any national standards covering street lighting inspection and maintenance which can or should be adopted by street lighting authorities? It might be difficult to justify being out of line with these.

### ***If this proposal happened, how it would affect you?***

#### **Respondents who strongly agree and tend to agree with the proposal**

NO
It wouldn't.
Not really as long as defects repaired when reported
No
It shouldn't.
again as per the inspections.
It wouldn't
No idea

Save me money
Not at all
Not at all
Not greatly if the council respond quickly to reported faults
It wouldn't
Would stress again that providing lighting is fixed as soon as possible when reported especially on main routes there should not be too much of a problem
No effect whatsoever.
doubt it would
Not at all
It would not.
It wouldn't. People will tell the council if the lights aren't working.
Can't see that it would. I'm happy to report faulty lighting.
Not at all
Non whatsoever
As before
Not at all
Not at all
No effect
It wouldn't
Extending the routine maintenance wouldn't affect me at all
It wouldn't
Not at all
Probably lights would be missing in places
again only negatively if this is not communicated effectively to residents by LCC
Wouldn't
Nonr
Limited impact.
Little effect, provided that the performance of the LED lamps in service warrants 10 years of fault free operation.
It wouldn't
probably not noticed if the defect repair system works well
No effect.
Barrow Parish Council already frequently uses LCC's 'Report it online' systems to report faults and will continue to do so. It is hoped that any effect will be minimal.
Not at all so long as long as emergency maintenance was prompt.
Dependent on the reliability of the lighting Provision to enhance the performance

#### Respondents who neither agree nor disagree with the proposal

That would depend on the reliability of the LED lighting
As long as there is evidence to backup the testing schedule, it would not affect me significantly. I support LCC in using energy efficient LEDs.
Not at all
IT WOULDN'T
It would not affect me much. I would report lighting faults via your website
Not on my road as we aren't lit, but electrical safety is important , perhaps focus on areas where vandalism is likely or where problems are common.

I don't know!
I have no idea how to answer this question as I have no idea what affect this will have.
As long as the light was working not at all
It would not I report online lamp faults which affect me
I don't know
I hope this would not affect me. But is this plan going to be across ALL street lighting, or will it be for the LED lighting as it is introduced and will the older units continue with the current 5year plan?
How could I possibly know?
We would suffer the randomness of an LED light lasting or not, causing the roads to be dark in a semi rural environment.
As before

### Respondents who strongly disagree and tend to disagree with the proposal

My safety and that of other vulnerable road users would be compromised. Prevention of problems rather than ratifying safety issues after they appear is clearly safer.
Too long an interval for action - would make the council seem even more uncaring.
I would be constantly having to contact the council about the faulty light at the corner of Mary street on Burnley road on Albert Road and down Knotts Lane if they go out and they are main thoroughfares.in BB8.
Your maintenance routine should be based on data and evidence that you can access. I don't have that data, but worry that I might not have lighting for the second 5 years of the cycle!
One word SAFETY
I don't know I would need more information about this
It would bring my area down
I would be worried that we could end up with more faulty lights and therefore the community and road users safety could be at risk
More failed lights, dark streets, accidents, poor safety.
It wouldn't affect me directly but I'd question the safety of the circuits. 10 years is a long time, considering the maintenance should uncover potentially dangerous issues on circuits. Eg. If an earth inadvertently became disconnected is it acceptable to leave the installation 10 years?
As above.
as earlier answer
Again, not sure I would notice the difference, unless it resulted in more frequent failures in between the inspections. May be useful to analyse how many issues are picked up at the routine inspections to estimate how the reduced inspection may increase the breakdown rate.
I guess even more dark areas after dark
As a Borough Councillor I would expect to get more complaints from residents when a street light near their homes had gone out.
With people in the future running the council maintenance over the last 10 years will be lost and wont be bothered with maintenance with all the lights.
Potential for failing structures, which impacts upon everyone using the highway.
~I would be unsure of the integrity of the 240v external installations. With incidents with drop down columns in the past, security devices being checked every 10 years in unacceptable. The physical integrity of these devices must be a priority. I also fear that cost to the rate pay will increase if there are any issues or instances. Would it be acceptable to leave a concrete column for 10 years before an inspection given their age and failure rate. Also, stress testing installations must continue given some of the ages of them



Again how the hell would I know. Stop asking stupid questions.
My street and doorway would be without light for however long it would take the private company to fix it. If this is anything like a pothole, I'm looking at 6 months to have a light bulb changed... and my home in jeopardy in the meantime
I can not see how it would affect me unless faults were not repaired.
I do not know. Do fittings become dangerous to the public? If light are out then my previous answer would apply.
The service would have been reduced with no commensurate reduction in cost
It could lead to an increase in the proportion of columns in poor condition and even dangerous. A column can deteriorate significantly during ten years and this could go unreported.

## Thinking about these proposals, is there anything else that we need to consider or that could be done differently?

No
Some people feel that the low level of lighting in their local areas is making them more vulnerable. Although there are environmental considerations it would be unfortunate if this means that people are afraid to leave their homes in the dark. I have been told that it is possible to adjust the lighting level on the LED systems so perhaps further consultation with residents could be used to address the issues and adjust the lighting as required
I think the current night inspection schedule should remain rather than be abandoned as it is a safety issue. Please do not put cost cutting above the health and safety of the people of Lancashire. I fully support maintaining the current night time inspections but if this has to be changed, then please consider a revised schedule (taking into account LED technology) rather than cutting it altogether.
Raise greater funds from building developers to finance improvements and ongoing maintenance.
Just make it more obvious how to report a failed light so people find it easier to report these to you.
LED lighting is a massive improvement better light and visibility. If certain cuts are required to pay for this then it should be acceptable as long as defects are repaired in a timely manner. Once all replaced the required maintenance should also be reduced.
Nothing comes to mind
Could be done via Parish/Town Councils to report problems
Lunesdale Drive in Forton had the new white lights at least 6 years ago. Why have n't other streets been redone? It was supposed to be more efficient!
It's important that everybody is aware of these changes and when they come into force along with a clear understanding of the actions required in reporting faults. This should be supported through Parish Council communications.
get sponsors for the lighting in different areas where clubs, individuals and businesses etc. might find it beneficial.
The LCC online highway report it system could be improved by communicating with members of the public who use it approximately how long it will take for reported issues to be resolved.
None at present.
Led lights will reduce energy bills, so continue to replace. Turn lights off in lesser used areas at midnight.
Choose your survey questions more carefully. Money spent on this one is wasted and is a charade of consultation process!
I would turn street lights off after midnight/1am, certainly Sunday to Thursday
Light pollution, can we not switchable lights off after 01:00 am



If the inspection of lighting is to be reduced it is imperative that the public are aware of how to report casual faults on line. To be able to do this I think it would be a good idea to include the link to the Counties lighting fault web site on each lamp post. This would make the public aware of how to get a resolution to a fault and get the public on side with the changes.
Install electric vehicle chargers in lamp posts and sell the electricity to generate income
Nothing.
Remind the public initially and at regular intervals of how to report/contact the authority
Start fixing potholes and get our roads to a reasonable condition !!!!!!!
You aren't saying how much money this would save that should be disclosed
N/a
Another one of Geoff Driver tin pot ideas
No, I guess that you will proceed with this proposal and monitor the costs so that time will tell whether preventative maintenance is the best option or waiting for lights to develop faults before repairing them is more cost effective.
Saving money is important when the job can be carried efficiently by a cheaper method. If problems reported are acted upon quickly then I am sure there would be no negative comments in respect of street lighting maintenance from the public.
To ensure rural areas are not at risk from poor quality or faulty lighting, leading to vulnerable householders feeling anxious and country roads which are already used by vehicles travelling too fast not being able to see pedestrians or cyclists or potholes therefore endangering others
Maybe speed up the replacement of sodium lighting to gain more savings.
The street lights should be fit for purpose. The ones in Heysham Village are not very bright and fail to work far more often than the previous ones
Tighter supervision of the testing teams may help. They seem to miss a lot. Perhaps lighting in some locations could cease at a given time or alternative lamps instead of all being illuminated
Would turning lights off after (say) midnight and on again at 6.00 save money?
Just don't do it. Don't cut road safety, don't make the streets dark. Keep checking the lights, and while you're at it, send out some more teams to fix the pot holes. If you need more money to operate, I suggest you write to central government and point out that the local government settlement is inadequate for safe operation of the council.
If there is a problem with lights all we have to do is report it on "Fixmystreet"
In rural areas where there are few cars on the road, it would make sense to switch off the lights unless cars are detected. This would extend the life of the LED bulbs, reduce light pollution and save on electricity bills for the council.
We should have A LOT less lights. They shouldn't exist in villages. If people want to live in the countryside they can carry a torch if they are that bothered! Light pollution on the planet is terrible as is the waste of precious energy powering them all.
Sodium lighting far more sympathetic and civilised than the harsh l.e.d. that gives a sharp edge of sterility to our lives. Save money and create another severe aspect to our ever--hardening existence? Feel that I am talking to the wind. Do these viewpoints ever have the least effect on outcomes? I think they are just back-covering exercises. "Consultation has occurred and now lets get on with what our committee wants."
No issue with reduced inspections. However reducing the maintenance frequency appears like a cost cutting exercise which could compromise safety.
I think you should consider the benefits and problems of reducing lighting in predominantly residential streets. Approach controlled lights might overcome concerns about criminal activity or dim/bright lights to save energy.

I disagree strongly with the roll out of LED street lighting across the County. This lighting discriminates against light-sensitive people and against older people. It is bad for road safety and for wildlife and the natural world. It contradicts legislation Equalities Act 2010, and NERC 2006. I am a trustee of LightAware and the charity would like to see the following: 1) A moratorium on roll-out of LED streetlighting 2) Retention of High-Energy Discharge lighting until proper appropriate standards have been introduced. 3) A ban on exposed LED 4) Proper research into the effect of LED lighting on humans and wildlife, taking into account the difference between LED and conventional light sources
shout some more at the government.
Nothing in particular. Making it easy and well know how to report lighting that is not working.
Turn off street lights all together in the winter, reducing light pollution, from say 11-30pm to 6am in the winter.
Fast response team for reported faults
If you are going to depend more on the public becoming a main source of information with any problems with lighting, then you need to ensure that the reporting system is robust
Ensure you are more proactive with adoptions. The time it takes to get roads adopted means that new developments are standing years without the ability to clearly identify who is responsible for the repair and maintenance.
No
Investigate LED lights which throw a better spread of light
I think you need to consider that the streets are too dimly lit already, making women fear to be out during hours of darkness and making older people and those with disabilities fear tripping up and injuring themselves because they can't see the hazards in the poorly maintained, badly lit roads and footpaths.
Perhaps maintain quarterly night-time inspections.
Removal/Turning off of unnecessary street lighting would further save costs, Cars have headlights, there are a wealth of torches and reflective gear available to the general public for those that want to venture out at night. Granted high traffic areas and highly populated public areas should still have adequate lighting. But housing estates, quiet roads, and rural areas it is not needed. If people feel their is a safety issue to their property they can use their own lighting. The street itself does not always need it.
Just make sure that the LED lights are 3000K or less 2700K is best and not too bright with glare and that they are fully shielded so the light goes down to where it is needed and not up into the sky where it is wasted. I have noticed that the new pedestrian crossing lights near the swimming baths and the petrol - small supermarket in Barnoldswick are very over bright and very glaring making it very difficult to see when driving down at night, if any body was going across the road you would not see them as many people won't use the crossing they just dash across the road to the store.
Link your website fault logging service to Fix My Street or make it more visible and accessible.
I would say that consideration should be given to maintenance and cleaning of road signs in the more rural areas; they do get rather grubby and unintelligible over time.
No objections necessarily to the proposals. Most Council's seem to have gone down this route and LCC have rolled out replacement LED lights in some areas already (Padiham springs to mind). They are seen to more efficient as stated re: maintenance and also less light pollution. One thing to flag up is that the change is to full cut off lanterns, which essentially means the light is channeled directly to the highway. The downside being that residents and Members may perceive the lighting to be less effective as there may be a perceived loss of adjacent benefit. I would ask that you support this proposal with robust Comms and clear guidance in the form of FAQ's to avoid concerns and increased reports for lighting audits as the new LED resolution may not benefit adjacent areas that previously were deemed to be well lit / benefited from the effects of traditional lighting.
Update MARIO and get the incorrect locations corrected. When using Report It, ensure the work is carried out, with out reminders.

Duty of care to residents. Are the plans dementia friendly. Are the plans going to exclude parts of society. Mental health, some more vulnerable resident already live worried about services, any prolonged failure due to a lack of maintenance could make this worse. The reliance on members of the public will not always give reliable and accurate information, this will add to the cost of providing a lesser service
Get rid of backroom staff or even whole departments. e. g.anything to do with politically correct views.
No response
Keep inspections at 5 years (minimum) As a women living alone, this means too much!
No but I do realise money has to be saved in all areas of LCC departments.
Nothing additional
The council must resist the temptation to use the reduced inspections to spend less money on fixing and repairing street lighting where faults exist. Reduced inspection will not change the failure rates of lamps. I would like to see this trialed for a year, and relevant data collected on the impact (e.g. does it lead to increase in crime, accidents, larger number of broken lamps). If it can be shown that the impacts are negligible, publish the data for scrutiny, and go ahead with the change.
I assume that all lights and bollards have numbers on them so the public can easily report faults. If not, they should have.
If the night time inspections are ceased and the testing of streetlights and illuminated signs moved to a 10-year cycle, rather than every 5 years, I feel there is a need to ensure that there are high levels of resource to deal with the increased calls from the public. In moving to the new model , there should be no delay in replacing the LED lights. I hope that this has been considered as part of your modelling of the future service.
Regular inspections/work assessments could be done on ALL the streetscene assets in one visit (ie potholes, electrical, gullies, weeds, signage - including legibility) and the STREET put right. The analysis that misrepresents segmentation as efficient takes no account of its ineffectiveness and considers COST only - NOT efficiency
1) Check that column numbering is still legible, particularly along the main roads which otherwise may be relatively featureless. Numbering on older columns tends to be smaller, and is often faded or dirty. Where numbering needs re-applying, use modern large-size high-visibility lettering, positioned so that a passing driver can easily read it and report any problem. (This will also assist in the accurate reporting of other problems, such as potholes, where the lamp columns act as useful location markers) 2) It would be helpful if problems with illuminated signs & bollards could be reported via the website once again.
Barrow Parish Council does not support any switching off of street lighting, only a reduction of inspections. LCC should publicise the methods of reporting faults more widely, especially for those without use of computers.
Some Bickerstaffe residents think that the new eco streetlights are not bright enough.
SAfety of the pubic in urban areas where there have been an increase in crime.
Safety is a must and the new proposals/LED street lighting isn't helping at all. Many streets are almost in darkness, therefore a great aid to burglars & thieves which is totally unacceptable.
You have provided very little information including technical and legal analysis or justification for the proposals. `More information could have been offered to those prepared to study and make better informed comments, rather than respond to a a quite narrow consultation. There seems to be no facility for contributors to have a copy of the input into the consultation which is disappointing and could be discouraging.



**Report to the Cabinet**

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 November 2018

**Report of the Head of Service, Highways****Part I**

Electoral Division affected:  
West Lancashire East;

**Various Roads, Westhead, Ormskirk, West Lancashire Borough (Prohibition of Waiting, Restricted Waiting and Limited Waiting)**  
(Appendices 'A' - 'C' refer)

Contact for further information:

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chris.nolan@lancashire.gov.uk

**Executive Summary**

This report sets out proposals to introduce additional waiting restrictions on Ruff Lane, Whiteleys Lane and Vicarage Lane and new waiting restrictions on the neighbouring residential streets of Vicarage Close, St James Close, Varlian Close and Wellfield Lane, in Westhead, Ormskirk. Excessive daytime parking associated with Edge Hill University occurs when parking facilities within the campus are oversubscribed. The proposed restrictions have been drawn up to maintain sightlines at junctions and to keep the residential roads sufficiently clear of traffic to allow the properties to be serviced through the period when the university is operational.

The proposals have been advertised in the local press and a number of objections have been received.

**Recommendation**

Cabinet is asked to approve the making of a Traffic Regulation Order as illustrated on the plan attached as Appendix 'B' and described in the Draft Order at Appendix 'C'.

**Background and Advice**

Parking associated with Edge Hill University has been a concern of local residents for a prolonged period of time. In 2012 traffic regulations were introduced to address the issues that were identified at that time.

More recently, parking on the available road space has intensified to the extent that, at times during the day, relatively narrow through routes are 'double parked' and every available space in residential cul-de-sacs is occupied. As a result a number of complaints have been received from residents and a scheme to address the obstructive parking as set out on Appendix 'A' was drawn up. This sought to protect the cul-de-sac streets by introducing daytime restrictions and placing 'at any time' restrictions to protect the junctions with through routes.

## **Consultations**

This initial proposal was sent to the residential properties that would be affected by it which elicited a large number of comments and as a result a meeting with residents was convened on Monday 5 March 2018. The consensus of the meeting was that the scheme as proposed would only go part way to solving the problem and officers were asked to consider the inclusion of further restrictions.

A revised scheme (as illustrated in Appendix 'B' and described in the draft order included as Appendix 'C') was formally consulted on by an advertisement in the local press on Wednesday 15 August 2018 requesting comments to be submitted before Wednesday 12 September 2018. Over the same period notices were posted on site, the local county councillor and the borough and parish councils were consulted along with the county council's usual consultees on traffic regulation order proposals in this area.

The formal consultation resulted in two objections which are described below.

## **Objections**

One objector is concerned about the impact of 'any time' restrictions outside their property and at other locations and believed that having attended the public meeting that they would be further consulted prior to the formal consultation process. The objector acknowledged the problems in the area due to parking associated with the local university but does not see the need for restrictions other than those removing daytime parking.

Another objector requested that no changes were made and objected to the proposed restrictions being implemented, on the basis that they will not improve road safety. The objector also stated that parking due to students does not cause problems in the area as, at the times that they are in the area, most of the residents are at work. The objector also questioned why Bewcastle Drive had been included as in their view there was no problem on that street.

On the basis of these considerations it is proposed that a traffic regulation order as illustrated on the plan attached as Appendix 'B' and described in the Draft Order at Appendix 'C' be implemented.

## **Officers' Comments**

Following informal consultation the plans were revised to address the concerns raised at the residents meeting and the conventional process of formal consultation

was followed thereafter. It is considered that sufficient notification, information and time has been given to enable residents to raise their concerns.

A key consideration in considering the introduction of traffic regulations is the safety of all highway users. Some of the waiting restrictions are considered necessary to deter motorists from parking where that would either cause an obstruction or reduce sight lines at junctions in such a manner as to cause a potential danger. 'No waiting at any time' restrictions are considered to be appropriate in these circumstances.

It is also considered that in some locations limited day time restrictions would be appropriate to deter parking which could cause significant obstruction during the working day and this will keep the impact on local residents to a minimum.

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Financial**

The costs of the Traffic Regulation Order will be funded from within the 2018/19 revenue budget for new signs and lines at an estimated cost of £7,000.

### **Risk management**

Road safety may be compromised should the proposed restrictions not be approved. It is noted that the removal of this parking facility will mean that the drivers will look for alternative parking in the area. As a result it will be necessary to keep the whole area under review and deal with new problems should they arise.

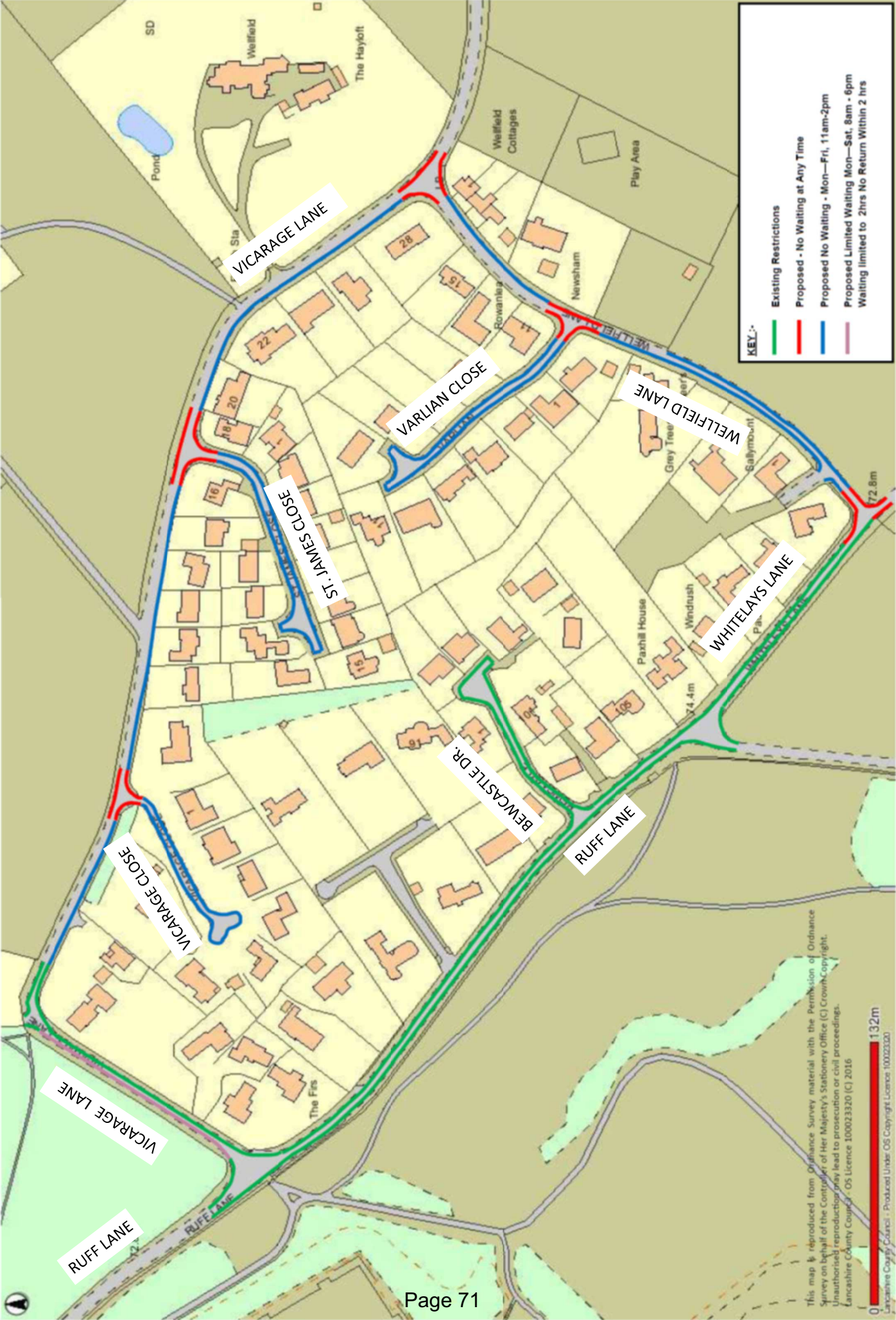
### **List of Background Papers**

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





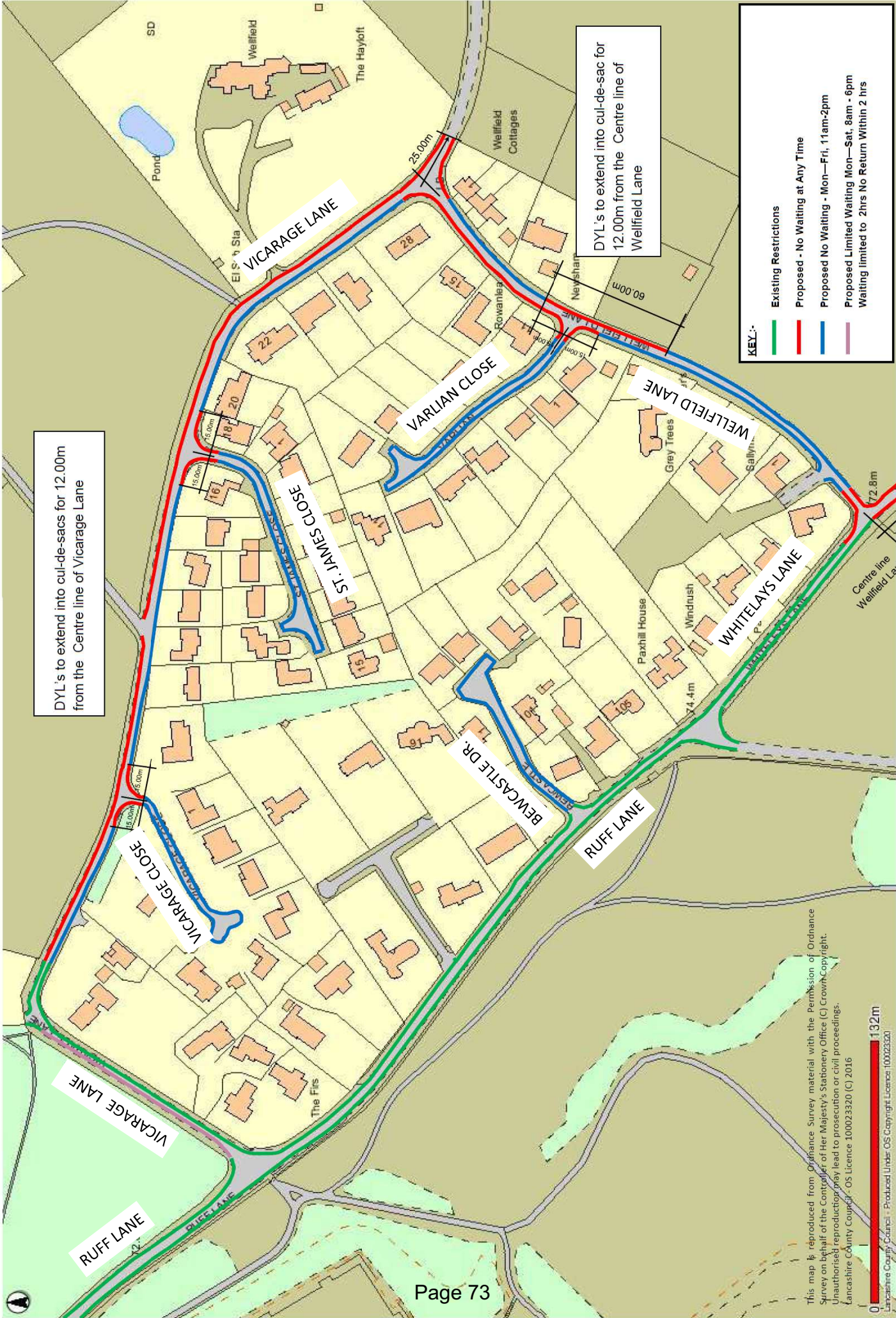
Vicarage Lane Area, Proposed Parking Controls







Vicarage Lane Area, Proposed Parking Controls





**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**(VARIOUS ROADS, WESTHEAD, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (PART-  
 REVOCATIONS, PROHIBITION OF WAITING, RESTRICTED WAITING AND LIMITED WAITING)  
 ORDER 201\***

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. Definitions and Interpretation**

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

- a) **"Centreline"** means the centre line of a highway as shown on Ordnance Survey graphical information systems at the time that the Order was prepared;
- b) **"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;
- c) **"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;
- d) **"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.
- e) **"Parking Disc"** means a device which -
  - i) is 125 millimetres square and coloured blue, if issued on or after 1<sup>st</sup> 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.
- f) **"Parking Place"** means any length of road subject to restriction in accordance with Article 5;
- g) **"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;
- h) 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.

- i) **"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. Part-revocations**

- a) Those parts of the "Lancashire County Council (Ruff Lane, Whiteleys Lane, Vicarage Lane, Ormskirk, West Lancashire Borough) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2010", as set out in Schedule 1A to this Order, are hereby revoked.
- b) Those parts of the "Lancashire County Council (Scarth Hill Lane, Ormskirk and Vicarage Lane, Westhead, West Lancashire Borough) (Part Revocation, Prohibition of Waiting and Limited Waiting) Order 2012", as set out in Schedule 1B to this Order, are hereby revoked.

## **3. Prohibition of Waiting**

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

## **4. Restriction of Waiting**

Save as is hereinafter provided, no person shall, except upon the direction or with the permission of a police constable in uniform, or a Civil Enforcement Officer, cause or permit any Vehicle to wait from Monday until Friday inclusively, between 11am and 2pm, in the lengths of road set out in Schedule 3 to this Order.

## **5. Limited Waiting Parking Place**

Save as is hereinafter provided, no person shall, except upon direction or with the permission of a police constable in uniform or a Civil Enforcement Officer cause or permit any Vehicle to wait for a period exceeding 2 hours, with no return within 2 hours, from Monday to Saturday inclusively from 8am until 6pm in the length of road set out in Schedule 4 to this Order.

## **6. General Exemptions**

Nothing in Articles 3, 4 or 5 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) a person to board or alight the Vehicle;
- b) goods to be loaded onto or unloaded from the Vehicle;
- c) 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 in 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.



- d) 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 purpose in any other road;
- e) 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;
- f) the Vehicle to be used for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes in pursuance of statutory powers or duties;
- g) the Vehicle to wait at or near to any premises situated on or adjacent to the said lengths of road for so long as such waiting by the Vehicle is reasonably necessary in connection with any wedding or funeral.

## **7. Exemption for Disabled Person's Vehicle**

- a) Nothing in Articles 3 or 4 of this Order shall render it unlawful to cause or permit any Vehicle to wait in the lengths of road referred to therein for a period not exceeding three hours (not being a period separated by an interval of less than one hour from a previous period of waiting by the same Vehicle in the same length of road on the same day) if the Vehicle is a Disabled Person's Vehicle which displays in the Relevant Position both a Disabled Person's Badge and a Parking Disc marked to show the quarter hour period during which the period of waiting began.
- b) Nothing in Article 5 of this Order shall render it unlawful to cause or permit any Vehicle to wait in the lengths of roads referred to therein if the Vehicle is a Vehicle which displays in the Relevant Position both a Disabled Person's Badge and a Parking Disc marked to show the quarter hour period during which the period of waiting began.

## **8. Emergency Exemptions**

Nothing in Articles 3, 4 or 5 of 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.

## **9. Manner of standing in a Parking Place**

- a) The driver of a motor Vehicle using a Parking Place shall stop the engine as soon as the Vehicle is in a position in the Parking Place and shall not start the engine except when about to change the position of the Vehicle in or, or depart from, the Parking Place.
- b) Every Vehicle left in a Parking Place in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Order shall be left so that every part of the Vehicle is within the limits of the Parking Place.
- c) A driver of a Vehicle shall not use a Parking Place so as unreasonably to prevent access to any premises adjoining a road or the use of a road by other persons or so as to be a nuisance.

## **10. Alteration of position of a Vehicle in a Parking Place**

Where any Vehicle is left standing in a Parking Place in contravention of the provisions of Article 9 of this Order, a police constable in uniform or a Civil Enforcement Officer may alter or cause to be altered the position of the Vehicle in order that its position shall comply with those provisions.

### **11. Removal of a Vehicle from a Parking Place**

Where a police constable in uniform or a Civil Enforcement Officer is of the opinion that any of the provisions contained in Article 9 of this Order have been contravened or not complied with in respect of a Vehicle left in a Parking Place, he/she may remove or cause to be removed the Vehicle from the said Parking Place, and where it is so removed, shall provide for the safe custody of the said Vehicle.

### **12. Movement of a Vehicle in a Parking Place in an Emergency**

- a) A police constable in uniform or a Civil Enforcement Officer may in case of emergency move or cause to be moved any Vehicle left in a Parking Place to any place he thinks fit and shall provide for the safe custody of the Vehicle.
- b) A person causing or permitting a Vehicle to wait in a Parking Place by virtue of the provisions of this Order shall take all such steps as are necessary to ensure that in the case of a Parking Place it shall stand in accordance with Article 9 so that every part of the Vehicle is within the limits of the Parking Place.

### **13. Power to suspend use of Parking Places**

- a) The Council's Duly Authorised Officer may suspend the use of a Parking Place or any part thereof whenever he/she considers such suspensions reasonably necessary and make such charge for the administration of this service, as may from time to time be determined by the Council.
- b) A police constable in uniform may suspend for not longer than 7 days the use of a Parking Place or any part thereof whenever he/she considers such suspension reasonably necessary for the purpose of mitigating congestion or obstruction of traffic or a danger to or from traffic in consequence of extraordinary circumstances.
- c) Any persons suspending the use of a Parking Place or any part thereof in accordance with the provisions of paragraph a) or b) of this Article shall thereupon place or cause to be placed in or adjacent to any part of that Parking Place the use of which is suspended, an authorised Traffic Sign or cone indicating that waiting by Vehicles is prohibited.
- d) No person shall cause or permit a Vehicle to be left in any part of a Parking Place during such period when an authorised Traffic Sign or cone is placed in or adjacent to that part of the Parking Place pursuant to paragraph c) of this Article provided that this paragraph shall not apply to a Vehicle:
  - i) being used by the respective Fire or Police Authority or Ambulance Health Trust to deal with an emergency; or
  - ii) being used for any purpose specified in Article 8; or
  - iii) left in such Parking Place with the permission of the person suspending the use of the Parking Place.

### **14. Restriction of use of a Vehicle in a Parking Place**

While any Vehicle is in the Parking Places referred to herein no person shall use the said Vehicle in connection with the sale of any article to any person in or near the Parking Place or in connection with the selling of or offering for sale of his/her skills or services.



## **15. 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.

## **16. Effect of Contravention**

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.

## **17. Commencement of Order**

This Order shall come into force on the \*\*\*\*\* and may be cited as the “Lancashire County Council (Various Roads, Westhead, Ormskirk, West Lancashire Borough) (Part-Revocations, Prohibition of Waiting, Restricted Waiting and Limited Waiting) Order 201\*\*”.

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 1A – Part-revocation**

- a) Item a) of Schedule 2 to that Order.
- b) Item b) of Schedule 2 to that Order.

## **Schedule 1B – Part-revocation**

- a) Item b. of Article 3 of that Order.
- b) The whole of Article 4 of that Order.

## **Schedule 2 – Prohibition of Waiting**

- a) St James Close, Westhead, both sides, from its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Lane for a distance of 12 metres in a southerly direction.
- b) Varlian Close, Westhead, both sides, from its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane for a distance of 12 metres in a north-westerly direction.
- c) Vicarage Close, Westhead, both sides, from its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Lane for a distance of 12 metres in a southerly direction.
- d) Vicarage Lane, Westhead, the north side, from a point 25 metres south-east of its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane to a point 121 metres north-east of its junction with the Centreline of Ruff Lane.
- e) Vicarage Lane, Westhead, the north-west side, from its junction with the Centreline of Ruff Lane for a distance of 15 metres in a north-easterly direction.
- f) Vicarage Lane, Westhead, the south side, from a point 15 metres west of its junction with the Centreline of St James Close for a distance of 30 metres in an easterly direction.

- g) Vicarage Lane, Westhead, the south side, from a point 15 metres west of its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Close for a distance of 30 metres in an easterly direction.
- h) Vicarage Lane, Westhead, the south-west side, from a point 25 metres south-east of its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane to a point 12 metres north-west of its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane.
- i) Wellfield Lane, Westhead, both sides, from its junction with the Centreline of Whiteley Lane for a distance of 15 metres in a north-easterly direction.
- j) Wellfield Lane, Westhead, the south-east side, from a point 15 metres north of its junction with the Centreline of Varlian Close for a distance of 60 metres in a southerly direction.
- k) Wellfield Lane, Westhead, the south-east side, from its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Lane for a distance of 15 metres in a southerly direction.
- l) Wellfield Lane, Westhead, the north-west side, from a point 15 metres south of its junction with Varlian Close to its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Lane in a northerly direction.
- m) Whiteleys Lane, Westhead, both sides, from its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane for a distance of 20 metres in a south-easterly direction.
- n) Whiteleys Lane, Westhead, the north-east side, from its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane to a point 15 metres north-west of its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane;

### **Schedule 3 – Restriction of Waiting**

- a) Bewcastle Drive, Westhead, both sides, for its entire length including the turning head.
- b) Ruff Lane, Westhead, the north-east side, from a point 274 metres south east of the Centreline of Beech Meadow to the Centreline of Scarth Hill Lane.
- c) St James Close, Westhead, both sides, from a point 12 metres south of its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Lane for its entire length including the turning head.
- d) Varlian Close, Westhead, both sides, from a point 12 metres north-west of its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane for its entire length including its turning head.
- e) Vicarage Close, Westhead, both sides, from a point 12 metres south of its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Lane for its entire length including the turning head.
- f) Vicarage Lane, Westhead, the south side, from a point 12 metres west of its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane to a point 15 metres east of its junction with the Centreline of St James Close.
- g) Vicarage Lane, Westhead, the south side, from a point 15 metres west of its junction with the Centreline of St James Close to a point 15 metres east of its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Close.
- h) Vicarage Lane, Westhead, the south-west side, from a point 15 metres west of its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Close to a point 162 metres north of its junction with the Centreline of Ruff Lane.
- i) Wellfield Lane, Westhead, the east side, from a point 15 metres north of its junction with the Centreline of Whiteleys Lane to a point 45 metres south of its junction with the Centreline of Varlian Close.
- j) Wellfield Lane, Westhead, the north-west side, from a point 15 metres north-east of its junction with the Centreline of Whiteleys Lane to a point 15 metres south of its junction with the Centreline of Varlian Close.
- k) Wellfield Lane, Westhead, the south-east side, from a point 15 metres north of its junction with the Centreline of Varlian Close to a point 15 metres south of its junction with the Centreline of Vicarage Lane.
- l) Whiteleys Lane, Ormskirk, the north-east side, from its junction with the Centreline of Scarth Hill Lane to a point 15 metres north-west of its junction with the Centreline of Wellfield Lane.

### **Schedule 4 – Limited Waiting Parking Place**

Vicarage Lane, Westhead, the north-west side, from a point 15 metres north-east of its junction with the Centreline of Ruff Lane for a distance of 121 metres in a north-easterly direction.

**Report to the Cabinet**

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 November 2018

**Report of the Head of Service, Highways****Part I**

Electoral Divisions affected:  
Ormskirk; West Lancashire  
West;

**Road Traffic Regulation ACT 1984 Lancashire County Council (County Road, High Lane and Holborn Hill, Ormskirk, Liverpool Road and Northway, Aughton, West Lancashire Borough) (Revocations, 40mph Speed Limit and Derestriction) Order 201\***  
(Appendices 'A' - 'C' refer)

Contact for further information:

Chris Nolan, Tel: (01772) 531141, Highways Regulation - Community Services,  
chris.nolan@lancashire.gov.uk

**Executive Summary**

This report sets out proposals to reduce the existing 40mph speed limit on lengths of County Road and High Lane to 30mph by removing the present restrictions on these lengths of road so that they become restricted roads by virtue of the street lighting and subject to a 30mph speed limit.

A proposal has been advertised and public consultation has taken place which generated a large number of representations and one objection. It is considered that in order to implement the proposal effectively, it will be necessary to make changes to the road layout predominantly through new traffic signing and road marking.

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 proposals as advertised and to authorise officers to make changes to the road layout necessary to implement a scheme as set out in Appendix 'C'.

**Background and Advice**

Following a number of collisions along the length of County Road between its junction with A570 Southport Road and Burscough Road, officers have undertaken a

review of the speed limit. In carrying out this review, existing traffic regulation orders and prospective developments along and immediately adjacent to the review length have been taken into consideration along with recommendations regarding the minimum lengths of individual speed limit orders.

For this reason a proposed scheme has been developed which would introduce a 30mph limit from a point 256 metres north of the current 40mph and 60mph speed limit change by revoking part of the present derestriction order on High Lane. That limit would extend to a point 200 metres south west of the 'Fiveways' junction (the junction of A59 County Road and A570 Southport Road) which has been identified as a suitable point for a 30mph limit to be effective at that junction as illustrated in Appendices 'A' and 'B'.

Investigation of existing orders has identified an anomaly in the speed limit restrictions covering the A570 Southport Road. As these are contiguous with this proposal the proposed order has been drawn up to rectify this which will have no effect on the signed speed limits but will ensure that any enforcement is simplified.

In order to encourage compliance with the proposed lower speed limit, it is considered that it will be necessary to provide additional road signs and to make changes to the road layout by the use of road markings.

## **Consultations**

Liaison with Lancashire Constabulary prior to formal consultation identified that if a 30mph speed limit was to be introduced it should cover the four junctions on County Road (Southport Road, Hayfield Road, Yew Tree Road and Burscough Road) with the poorest collision records.

Formal consultation was carried out between 15 August 2018 and 12 September 2018 by an advertisement in the local press. Over the same period notices were posted on site, the local county councillor and the borough and parish councils were consulted along with the county council's usual consultees for speed limit change proposals.

A large number of comments predominantly in favour of the proposal have been received. One objection to the change in the speed limit has been received. Many respondents expressed concerns as to whether the proposal alone would be sufficient to address the present problems.

Two petitions were received requesting red-light camera enforcement to be carried out.

Other requests included; Improvements to the traffic signals for better visibility; an extension of the proposed, lowered speed limit to the roundabout at the junction of County Road with Holborn Hill and changes to parking restrictions that may assist with slowing the speed of traffic.

One of the divisional county councillors expressed support for the changes but asked if other measures could be undertaken such as better enforcement of the double

yellow lines in the area and the introduction of a mini roundabout at the junction of County Road and Yew Tree Road.

Lancashire Constabulary did not object to the proposals but expressed concern that the road layout is changed so that the nature of the road would support compliance with the lower limit as changing the limit alone would not necessarily reduce the speed of drivers and enforcement may be difficult in this area.

### **Objection**

The objector to the proposal did not want the speed limit to be changed but asked for measures to be introduced to reduce the number of incidents of drivers "running red lights".

### **Officers Comments**

All of the responses are requesting changes to the road in an attempt to improve safety. The single objection to reducing the speed limit requested improvements to the road layout including the use of red light cameras so as to ensure better observance of the present provision. These comments are in line with a large number of supporters who requested further measures in addition to the reduction in the speed limit.

Lancashire Constabulary is the enforcement authority for offences involving the contravention of traffic signals. Presently there are no red light running cameras operating in Lancashire. Lancashire's recent Safer Roads Fund allocation from the Department for Transport provides for the possible introduction of red light cameras on a section of the A6 in Lancaster. The outcome of this project would be used to guide the potential future rollout to other sites in Lancashire where there is concern over red light running.

Improvements to traffic signals will be kept under review and opportunities taken to upgrade them when this can be justified as part of future transport and maintenance plans.

Consideration has been given to the requests to extend the speed limit to include the roundabout junction with Holborn Hill. Speed limits should be set at an appropriate level to achieve a significant degree of self-enforcement so that the speed limit is respected by the majority of drivers.

The nature of the A59 south of the Fiveways Junction is significantly different to the section of County Road north of the junction towards High Lane. To the South west of the Fiveways junction there are significantly fewer properties fronting on to the A59 County Road and Holborn Hill the accident record is half of that to the north of the junction.

If the speed limit proposal is approved, it is proposed to make changes to the road layout for the reasons stated earlier in this report. The works would include 'gateway' features at the points where the new speed limit commences and a new road layout to narrow the available carriageway widths using road markings.

The costs of this work is estimated at £31,000. A potential source of funding has been identified from a prospective road safety scheme at the A59 County Road/A570 Southport Road Junction which following local consultation is proposed to be abandoned. It is proposed that the funding released by this be utilised for the works outlined in this report.

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Financial**

The estimated cost of the works can be met from a current allocation for a scheme at the A59 County Road/A570 Southport Road Junction (PPMS ID 4949) which is no longer planned to go ahead.

### **Risk management**

The collision record at the junctions of A59 County Road with Southport Road (Fiveways), Green Lane, Yew Tree Road and Burscough Road indicate that there is problems with safety on this road. Implementing this proposal has the potential to improve the collision record.

### **List of Background Papers**

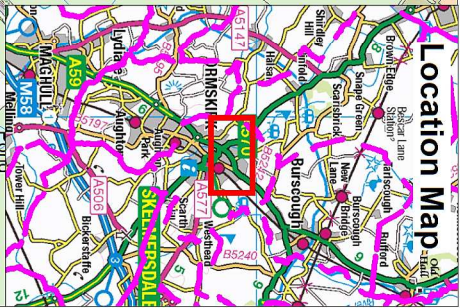
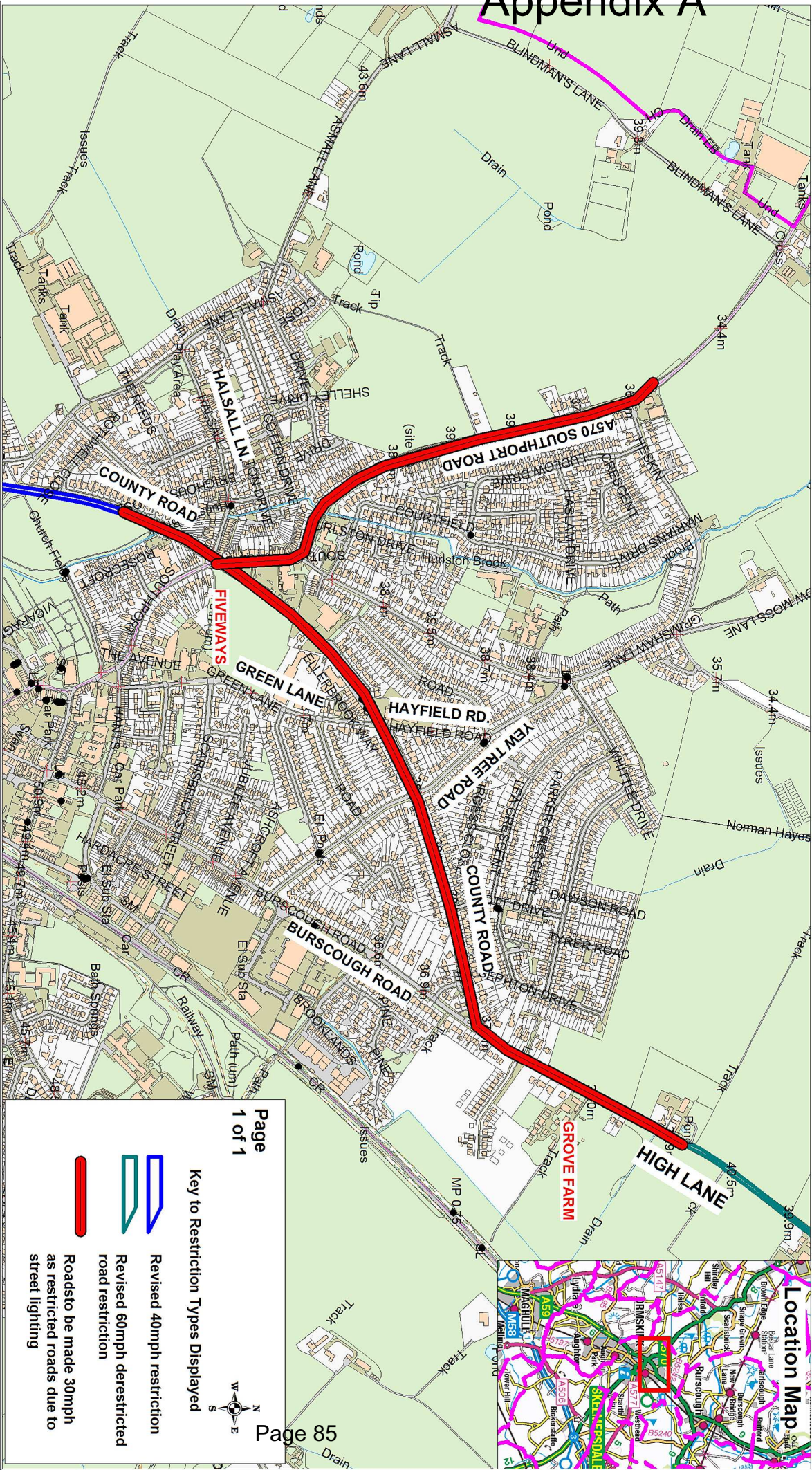
Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
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N/A		
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Page  
1 of 1

Key to Restriction Types Displayed

- Revised 40mph restriction
- Revised 60mph derestricted road restriction
- Roads to be made 30mph as restricted roads due to street lighting



# A59 Ormskirk 30mph Restricted Road due to revocation of other Restrictions

**Community Services**  
**Phil Barrett**  
**Director Community Services**  
P.O. Box 100, County Hall,  
PRESTON PR1 0LD

SCALE  
**1 : 10000**

DATE  
**17/10/2018**

DRAWING No.  
**WL-2018-CR-SOL-1**

DRAWN BY  
**Chris Nolan**

Scale with care as distortion  
may occur







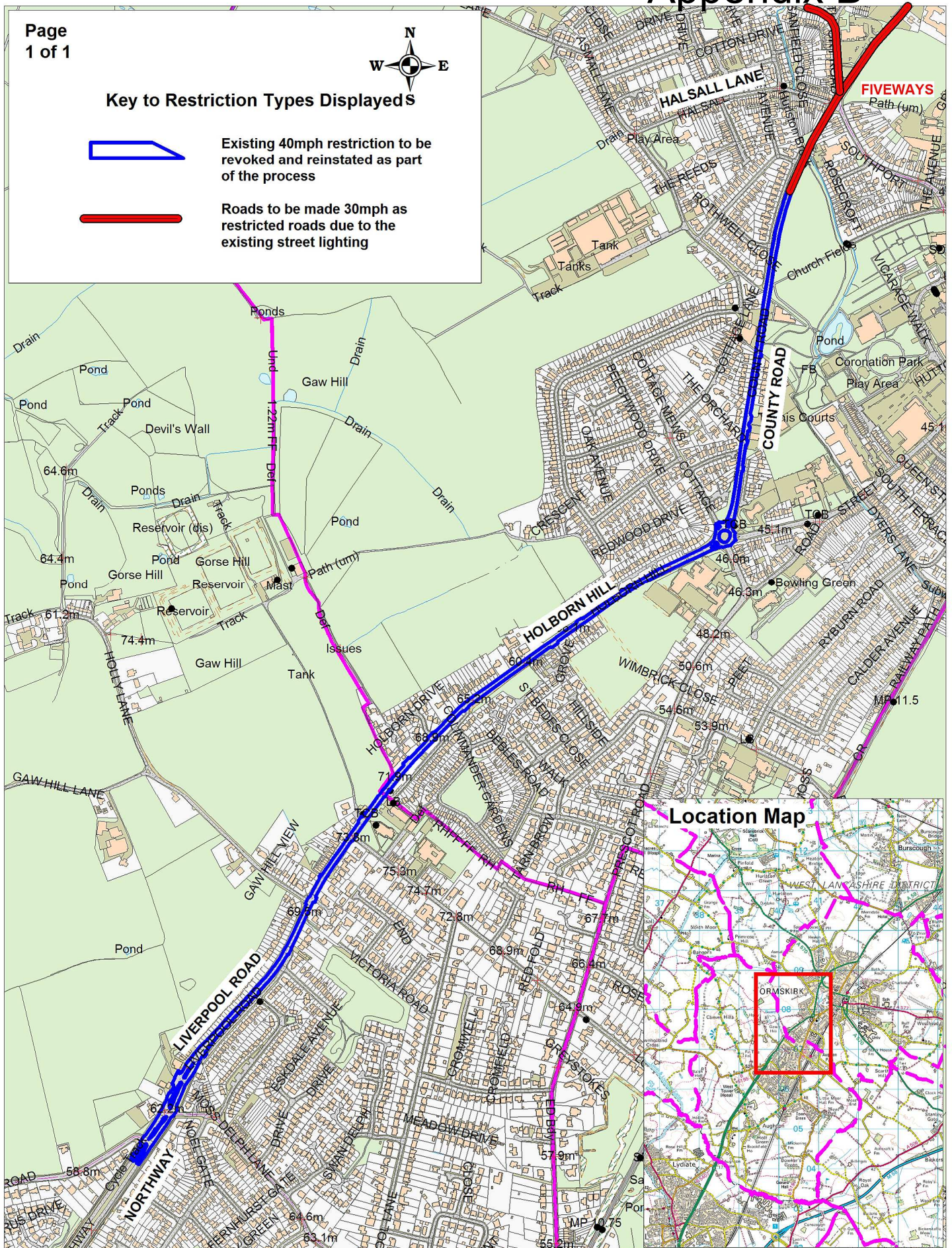
## Key to Restriction Types Displayed



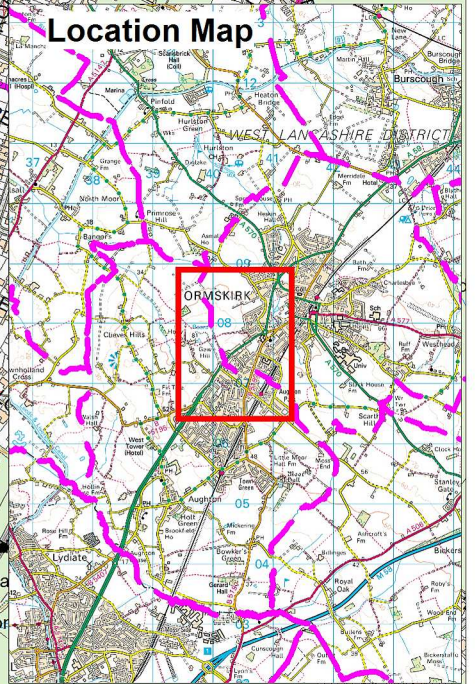
Existing 40mph restriction to be  
revoked and reinstated as part  
of the process



Roads to be made 30mph as  
restricted roads due to the  
existing street lighting



### Location Map







**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**(COUNTY ROAD, HIGH LANE AND HOLBORN HILL, ORMSKIRK, LIVERPOOL ROAD AND  
 NORTHWAY, AUGHTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (REVOCATIONS, 40MPH  
 SPEED LIMIT AND DERESTRICTION) ORDER 201\***

The County Council of Lancashire, in exercise of its powers under 82, 83(2) and Section 84 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 makes the following Order: -

**1. Revocation**

The 'Statutory Instruments 1961 No. 896 Road Traffic, The Trunk Road (Ormskirk and Aughton) (40 M.P.H. Speed Limit) Order, 1961' is hereby revoked.

**2. Revocation**

The 'Statutory Instruments 1994 No. 1401 Road Traffic, The 1570 Trunk Road (Southport Road, Ormskirk) (40 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit) Order 1994' is hereby revoked.

**3. Part-revocation**

That part of the 'Lancashire County Council (Various Roads Including A570 and A577, Burscough, Blaguegate, Ormskirk, Skelmersdale and Westhead, West Lancashire) (Revocation, Restricted Road, De-Restriction, 40mph and 50mph Speed Limits) Order 2015", as set out in Schedule 1A to this Order, is hereby revoked.

**4. Part-revocation**

That part of the 'Lancashire County Council (Bescar Brow Lane, Hall Road, Dam Wood Lane and Southport Road, Scarisbrick And Ormskirk, West Lancashire Borough) (Part Revocation, 30, 40 and 50 MPH Speed Limit Order 2012', as set out in Schedule 1B to this Order, is hereby revoked.

**5. 40mph Speed Limit**

No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 40mph on any of the lengths of road as set out in Schedule 2 to this Order.

**6. Derestriction (national speed limit will apply)**

The length of road as set out in Schedule 3 to this Order shall cease to be restricted road for the purposes of Section 81 of the Act.

**7. Exemption**

No speed limit imposed by this order applies to vehicles falling within regulation 3 (4) of the Road Traffic Exemptions (Special Forces) (Variation and Amendment) Regulations 2011 when used in accordance with regulation 3 (5) of those Regulations.

## **8. Commencement of Order**

This Order shall come into force on the \*\* day of \*\* 201\* and shall be cited as the "Lancashire County Council (County Road, High Lane and Holborn Hill, Ormskirk, Liverpool Road and Northway, Aughton, West Lancashire Borough) (Revocations, 40mph Speed Limit and Derestriction) Order 201\*".

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 the \*\* day of \*\* 20\*\* by the Cabinet

Authorised Signatory

### **Schedule 1A – Part-revocation**

Item d) of Schedule 1 to that Order.

### **Schedule 1B – Part-revocation**

Item c) of Schedule 2 to that Order.

### **Schedule 2 - 40mph Speed Limit**

- a) County Road, Ormskirk, from its junction with Holborn Hill including the roundabout to a point 200 metres south-west of its junction with the centre line of Halsall Lane.
- b) Holborn Hill, Ormskirk, from its junction with Liverpool Road to its junction with County Road.
- c) Liverpool Road, Aughton, from its junction with Northway to its junction with Holborn Hill.
- d) Northway, Aughton, from its junction with Liverpool Road to a point 47 metres south-west its junction with the centre line of Turnpike Road.

### **Schedule 3 – Derestriction (national speed limit will apply)**

High Lane, Ormskirk, from a point 473 metres north of its junction with the centre line of Burscough Road to a point 95 metres south of its junction with the centre line of Liverpool Road South Roundabout,

**Report to the Cabinet**

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 November 2018

**Report of the Head of Service - Children and Family Wellbeing Service****Part I**

Electoral Divisions affected:  
 Burscough & Rufford,  
 Chorley Central, Chorley  
 North, Chorley Rural East,  
 Chorley Rural West, Chorley  
 South, Clayton with Whittle,  
 Hoghton with Wheelton

**Awarding of Small Grants to Third Sector Groups which are Registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, including Grants to Individual Young People**

Contact for further information:

Ruth Gibson, (01772) 538130, Business Support Officer

[ruth.gibson@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:ruth.gibson@lancashire.gov.uk)

**Executive Summary**

This report outlines the work of the District Youth Councils in their role in recommending grant monies to third sector organisations which are registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service.

**Recommendation**

Cabinet is asked to consider and approve the recommendations of the District Youth Councils on the applications for grants from third sector groups which are registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, as set out in the report, and determine the awards it wishes to make.

**Background and Advice**

In Lancashire, there is already a process for third sector groups which are registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, to apply for small grants for the development of the organisation, and for the young people within those organisations who may need help to fund a specific project, i.e. funding for a trip or group activity.

Individual young people can also apply for funding, if they are in need of financial support, which will aid their development and learning, i.e. attendance on an

educational course and equipment needed. If these grants are £250 or less, the District Youth Council has the authority to approve these. Should any applications be received from individual young people which are for more than £250 then currently the Cabinet is asked to consider these, taking into account the views of the District Youth Council.

The details of recent applications received by the registered third sector groups are as follows:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Summary of Purpose</b>	<b>Amount applied for (£)</b>	<b>Amount recommended by District Youth Council (£)</b>
The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association	Chorley	Independence and Wellbeing weekend at Bibby's farm	£1,640	£1,170
		<b>Total</b>		<b>£1,170</b>

The District Youth Councils have met to consider this application and have recommended approval of the amount above based on their assessment. The reasons for the reduced grant offer is the young people of the Youth Council wanted to fund the weekend stay and the food and drink during the stay, but they felt that the mileage claims and preparation and evaluation staffing costs should be met from elsewhere.

The final decision on the amount to be approved lies with Cabinet.

Both sets of grants can be made under Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, which states that "Every local authority is to have the power to do anything which they consider is likely to achieve any one or more of the following objectives:

- The promotion or improvement of the economic well-being of their area
- The promotion or improvement of the social well-being of their area, and
- The promotion or improvement of the environmental well-being of their area.

Section 2 (4) (b) of the 2000 Act includes a specific power to give financial assistance to any person under the well-being provisions.

A sum of grant funding is made available for registered third sector groups. This is to support individual groups or units not supported financially by the county council, and to support individual young people's learning and development. It is currently administered through the Children and Family Wellbeing Service and the 2018/19 annual amount is £111,000. The funding is divided between 12 districts, and 25% of each district's allocation is ring fenced for individual young people's applications. Of the total funding available of £111,000, £83,250 is available to third sector organisations and £27,750 to individual young people.

The total amounts of awards recommended in this report are as follows:

Grants to Third Sector Organisations: £1,170

Grants to support individual young people: There are no recommendations for grants to individual young people in this period.

If these awards are approved by Cabinet, the total allocation of awards and the balance of funding available will be as follows:

	<b>Total available for 2018-19</b>	<b>Grants Approved to date</b>	<b>Balance available</b>
<b>Grants to Third Sector organisations</b>	£83,250	£13,448	£69,802
<b>Grants to support individual young people</b>	£27,750	£1,065	£26,685

### **Consultations**

N/A

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Risk management**

If these grants are not approved then work to positively engage young people by the voluntary organisations may be at risk.

### **Financial**

The full amount of the grant money made available by the Children and Family Wellbeing Service in this financial year 2018/2019 is £111,000. This is divided between the 12 districts, and 25% of each of the districts' allocation is ring fenced for individual young people's applications.

### **List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A





**Report to the Cabinet**

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 November 2018

**Report of the Head of Service - Children and Family Wellbeing Service****Part I**

Electoral Divisions affected:  
(All Divisions);

**Children and Family Wellbeing Service: Responses to Consultation and Final Proposals**

(Appendices 'A' - 'D' refer)

Contact for further information:

Debbie Duffell, Tel: (01772) 532173, Head of Service, Children and Family Wellbeing Service

debbie.duffell@lancashire.gov.uk

**Executive Summary**

At its meeting on 8 February 2018, Full Council approved proposals to reduce the number of settings through which the Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivers its service offer subject to consultation, with the outcome to the consultation to be presented to Cabinet for final approval. This report presents the outcome of the consultation.

Careful consideration has been given to each setting including the local level of need for the service: its location; accessibility; suitability to deliver services; type and scale of service delivery; running costs; condition; time taken to travel there; what other services are provided there; and wider community impact.

Having taken all of these factors into account, and completing an appraisal exercise, a list of the premises has been developed where it is proposed to no longer deliver services from.

The Children and Family Wellbeing Service currently operates from 76 premises. The initial proposal was to:

- retain delivery at 57 settings
- withdraw delivery at 19 settings

A range of accommodation, including within school based settings, will become vacant and consideration will be given to alternate use by county council services. Where this is not possible or appropriate the premises will either be considered for disposal or be transferred across to schools along with the associated premises costs.

Financial Management (Development and School) will be assessing the financial impact on affected schools and working with and supporting them to ensure that they address any financial issues resulting from withdrawal of these services.

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 findings of the consultation as set out in the Consultation report at Appendix 'A'.
- (ii) Approve that the Children and Family Wellbeing Service implements the proposals for 76 buildings.
  - 50 will continue to provide Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery (Appendix 'B' refers) as proposed in the consultation.
  - 12 will no longer provide Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery, (Appendix 'B' refers) as proposed in the consultation.
  - 14 buildings listed in Appendix 'B', will be subject to further consideration taking into account the cost of building adaptations required to accommodate future Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery and further budget option decisions.
- (iii) Note that further proposals on the remaining 14 buildings will be presented to Cabinet once the additional consideration has been given.

### **Background and Advice**

The statutory remit for the Children and Family Wellbeing Service is set out in two key areas of legislation as follows:

#### **(a) Children's Centres (0-11 years' Service Offer)**

With respect to Children's Centres the county council has a duty under the Childcare Act 2006, supplemented by statutory guidance, to ensure so far as is reasonably practicable, that there is sufficient provision of Children's Centres to meet the needs of young children and parents living in the area, particularly those in greatest need of support.

#### **(b) The Young People's Service (12 - 19 years' Service Offer)**

Section 507B of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 provides that a local education authority must, so far as is reasonably practicable, secure for qualifying young persons in the authority's area access to sufficient educational and recreational leisure-time activities which are for the improvement of their wellbeing, and sufficient facilities for such activities.

There are no clearly defined national standards for what the local authority should deem as 'sufficient' in the context of either of the above statutory guidance. It is therefore up to each local authority to determine for itself what it considers effective in discharging its sufficiency duty in the context of local needs and in order to provide a service that meets the needs of children, young people and their families.

It has been identified that there were opportunities for the Children and Family Wellbeing Service to deliver its objectives more efficiently, through better use of buildings and staff resources. To implement these efficiencies, Full Council agreed as part of the 2018/19 budget to apply a permanent reduction of £1.250m to the Children and Family Wellbeing budget. This reduction was made up of a reduction of £0.750m in non-staffing costs, and £0.500m in staffing resources. These reductions impact on the number of settings through which the Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivers its service offer. In order to achieve this a consultation took place in August 2018 to identify the settings which the service could best utilise and make the most effective use of the remaining resources.

Options were considered as to how the service could provide support direct to people in their home settings and deliver in community settings where possible. This would enable Children and Family Wellbeing to become more people focused rather than building based by reducing the number of buildings from which the service is based and works from.

## **Consultation**

The consultation process commenced on 6 June 2018 for an 8 week period ending on 3 August 2018, comprising on-line and hard copy questionnaires, detailing the proposals on a district by district basis.

Paper questionnaires were made available in the buildings where Children and Family Wellbeing services are delivered. An electronic version of the consultation questionnaire was available online at [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk) and was publicised through the "Have Your Say" webpage.

In addition, Creative Exchange were commissioned to facilitate consultation workshops with service users during July 2018. The findings of these are detailed in Appendix 'C'.

The consultation proposals, setting out the methodology that was applied and details of the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, are included in Appendix 'A'.

In total, 729 completed questionnaires were returned (271 paper questionnaire responses and 458 online questionnaire responses). Full details and key findings from the questionnaire can be found in Appendix 'A'.

It was evident when analysing the consultation responses that some of the comments received from individuals and organisations who participated in the consultation were based on a misunderstanding and/or misinterpretation of the detail and implications of the proposals within the consultation. Some key issues are set out below for clarification:

1. Closure of the 19 buildings where we proposed to cease delivering the Children and Family Wellbeing Service.
2. Buildings where the Children and Family Wellbeing Service is the sole occupier will be considered for alternative county council service occupancy or may be considered for disposal. Any other services currently delivered from these buildings will not be unduly affected by the CFW proposals to cease their delivery from these settings.
3. Suggestions for increasing and promoting usage of the 19 buildings where we proposed to cease delivering the Children and Family Wellbeing Service.
  - Buildings where the Children and Family Wellbeing Service is the sole occupier will be considered for alternative county council service occupancy or may be considered for disposal or surrendering of the property interest. Any other services delivered in these buildings will not be unduly affected by our proposals.
4. Suggestions for promoting the Children and Family Wellbeing Service more widely in order to increase usage, the implication being that this would mean they could still deliver services from the 19 buildings proposed to cease delivering a service.
  - The service targets and prioritises children, young people, parents and families most in need, particularly where it thinks that early help will make the biggest difference, so wider promotion to the public would not be appropriate. The implementation of the budget decision has led to a significant reduction in staffing resources, and therefore the service does not have sufficient staff numbers to retain delivery at the 19 buildings where it is proposed that service delivery will no longer continue.
5. Potential impact upon Special Educational Needs and Disabilities activities for children and young people.
  - The proposal will not affect the current Special Education Needs and Disabilities offer delivered by the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, except for at Ashton Young People's Centre where it is proposed to transfer the existing group to Riverbank Children's Centre. 1-1 family support for families with children and young people identified as having Special Educational Needs and Disabilities normally takes place in the family home. The proposal would also not affect the linked Special Educational Needs and Disabilities offer of Free Early Education entitlement to children aged 2 - 4 which some educational establishments provide.

### **Consultation common feedback themes**

1. In some cases respondents did not appear to acknowledge the outreach work the service offers in places like homes, at school or a local café as alternate

venues, which would mitigate concerns about travelling and barriers to using alternate settings.

2. A number of respondents referred to the centres being used for meetings with health professionals; this is part of the universal offer for the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme and these services will continue in nearby centres, schools and communities.
3. Over half of the respondents said that in the last 12 months they had used a building or buildings that we are proposing to keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Services from.
4. About one in seven respondents (14%) said that if the proposal happened they would go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing Service less often than they do now and about a fifth of respondents (22%) said that they would not go at all.
5. The service will work with partners and communities to "reach" children, young people and their families who have previously used Centres where it is proposed to no longer deliver the Children and Family Wellbeing Service. They will ensure that families are aware of where services can still be accessed in each District.

### **Outcomes and revised proposals**

The initial proposals were to continue with service delivery from 57 sites and withdraw delivery from 19 sites. Following the detailed analysis and appraisal work undertaken by the service, and having fully taken into account the responses to the consultation, revised proposals are now presented. These proposals are to:

- Confirm that Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery will continue from 50 existing buildings.
- Approve that 12 buildings will no longer provide Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery.
- Note that 14 buildings, will be subject to further consideration, taking into account the cost of building adaptations required to accommodate future Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery and further budget option decisions.

The full list of which buildings are to continue to provide the service, which will no longer provide the service and which are subject to further consideration is provided at Appendix 'B'.

It is proposed to implement these changes in a phased approach to be completed between November 2018 and April 2019.

### **Service Operation in the Future**

The Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to deliver services in different ways by making the best use of the remaining capacity. The Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to make best use of its available resources, working with partners in order to deliver the best possible service to our children and young people aged 0-19 (25 with Special Education Needs and Disabilities) and their

families. This will include targeting the service at those who have been assessed and have needs identified at Level 2 of Lancashire's Continuum of Need thresholds.

The service will continue to work in partnership with Health partners, district councils, the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector, Police, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and Children's Social Care to offer a joined up seamless service, to make sure that positive outcomes for children, young people and families continue to be achieved. This will continue to be particularly focussed within deprived neighbourhoods, outlying areas, rural communities and anti-social behaviour hotspots.

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Financial Implications**

The £1.250m agreed saving by Full Council in February 2018 was removed from the service budget from April 2018. If Cabinet does not agree these proposals, this will result in £1.250m needing to be re-invested in the service in order to maintain service delivery at the current scale and this will need to be built into the medium term financial strategy from 2019/20. This would create a further pressure and increase the forecast financial gap.

These proposals will have an impact on service delivery from a wide range of settings, including those currently within schools. This will have a financial impact upon the maintained nursery and primary schools listed in Appendix 'B' and will need to be managed. Consideration will need to be given to alternate use by other county council services. Where this is not possible or appropriate the premises will either be considered for disposal or be transferred across to schools along with the associated premises costs. Schools' Finance is working with affected schools to ensure that any financial impact is managed as far as possible.

In order to accommodate the change in service delivery, adaptations will be required in a small number of buildings as detailed in Appendix 'B'. When detailed estimates of these works are available separate Cabinet approval will be sought and funded from the previously approved property review programme.

### **Possible clawback**

A number of buildings identified within this report as no longer being required to deliver the Children and Family Wellbeing pattern of service delivery, are former registered children's centres. If this proposal is approved by Cabinet, there is a potential risk of financial claw back in respect of government funding used to develop these premises when they were first established. The maximum risk of clawback for these premises detailed in Appendix 'B' where it is recommended services are no longer delivered is estimated at £2.5m (2018/19), being calculated on a sliding scale over a period of 25 years. It should be noted that we have not been able to identify any other Local Authority which has had to pay back clawback as a result of reducing their number of designated children centres.

The basis of the clawback provisions is that where local authorities dispose of or change the use of buildings funded wholly or partly through capital grants then they must be re-paid. However, if the Department for Education is satisfied that the funding for the asset will continue to be used for purposes consistent with the grant, then repayment may be deferred.

However, in the event that clawback does arise, the decision to close former children's centres would need to be considered against the ongoing revenue savings in respect of the Children and Family Wellbeing Service referred to above and may need to be funded from the Transitional Reserve.

### **Risk management**

These proposals to cease delivery at a number of buildings involve a potential risk of claw back of Government funding as detailed above.

### **Equality Implications**

The county council is under an obligation to consider each strategic proposal in terms of possible impact upon certain groups (defined in the Equality Act 2010 by reference to protected characteristics).

A full Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is detailed in Appendix 'D'.

### **List of Background Papers**

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





# Children and Family Wellbeing Service

Consultation report – 2018





**Mick Edwardson, Mike Walker, Melissa Sherliker and Jagrutee Patel**

**August 2018**

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# 1. Executive summary

This report summarises the response to Lancashire County Council's consultation on the Children and Family Wellbeing Service.

For this consultation, paper questionnaires were made available in the buildings where children and family wellbeing services are delivered. An electronic version of the consultation questionnaire was available online at [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk). The organisation Creative Exchange also conducted consultation workshops with service users during July 2018.

The fieldwork ran for eight weeks between 6 June 2018 and 3 August 2018. In total, 729 completed questionnaires were returned (271 paper questionnaire responses and 458 online questionnaire responses).

## 1.1 Key findings

### 1.1.1 Use of the Children and Family Wellbeing Service

- More than half of respondents (55%) said that they go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service about once a week or more. About a fifth of respondents (21%) said that they never go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service.
- Respondents who said that they have been to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service, were most likely to say that the Children and Family Wellbeing services they had used in the last 12 months were activities and groups for their baby, toddler or child (62%), information, advice and support services (43%), and family and parenting support (34%).
- Of respondents who said that they have been to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service, over half (55%) said that in the last 12 months they had used a building or buildings that we are proposing to keep delivering children and family wellbeing services from. However, two-fifths of these respondents (40%) said that they had not used one of these buildings in the last 12 months.
- Of respondents who said that they have been to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service, about half (51%) said that in the last 12 months they had used a building or buildings that we are proposing to no longer deliver children and family wellbeing services from. Less than half of these respondents (46%) said that they had not used one of these buildings in the last 12 months.
- About one in seven respondents (14%) said that if the proposal happened they would go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service more often than they do now and about two-fifths of respondents (39%) said that they would go about as often as they do now.

### 1.1.2 The proposal for the Children and Family Wellbeing Service

- About one in seven respondents (14%) said that if the proposal happened they would go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service less often than they do now and about a fifth of respondents (22%) said that they would not go at all.
- About a quarter of respondents (27%) said that they agree with the proposal. However, over half of respondents (54%) said that they disagree with the proposal.
- When asked why they agree or disagree with the proposal, respondents most commonly responded that centres provide valuable support to local communities and their family (47%), they support merging/consolidating centres to improve the utilisation of facilities (16%), the closures will make it difficult/impossible to access these services (15%), it will negatively impact on the most vulnerable families (15%) and it will have a negative impact on other services provided in the building (eg nursery) possibly leading to closure and job losses (14%).
- When asked how the proposal would affect them, if it happened, respondents most commonly responded that it would be more difficult/impossible for people in the local area to access children and family wellbeing services and get the support they need (50%) and that the centre is important for the local community (29%).
- When asked if they think there is anything else that we need to consider or that could be done differently, respondents most commonly responded that we should find money elsewhere in our budget to keep the centre open/invest in them (22%), people may miss out on the services/support they need (18%), consider the future impact of the closure (17%), stop closing centres – we need more of them (17%) and that we could find alternative uses/options for building rather than closing/merging (16%).
- Section 4.3 outlines the key issues raised by respondents for the buildings we are proposing to no longer deliver Children and Family Wellbeing service from, where more than ten respondents commented in the building. The buildings covered are Walton Lane Children's Centre (92 responses), Willows Park Children's Centre (38 responses), the Chai Centre Children's Centre (26 responses), Sharoe Green Library and Cherry Tree Children's Centre (25 responses) and Fairfield Children's Centre (24 responses).

### 1.1.3 Other responses to the consultation

- Section 5 includes any other responses that we received during the consultation period. These responses are
  - a response from Ribble Valley Borough Council about the centres in Ribble Valley
  - a response from Graham Jones MP about Fairfield Children's Centre
  - a response from Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust covering several buildings (particularly the Chai Centre and Colne Children's Centre)
  - a response from Fulwood and North Preston Labour Party Branch about the proposals in general
  - a response from an Independent Chair of the Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board about the proposals in general
  - a response from Bretherton Parish Council about the proposal in general
  - a response from the Leader of Hyndburn Borough Council about Fairfield Children's Centre and Great Harwood Young People's Centre
  - a response from Preston City Council about Ashton Young People's Centre, Sunshine Children's Centre and Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre
  - 19 emails from members of the public
  - a petition with 1,067 signatories to save Chai Centre services.

## 2.Introduction

The Children and Family Wellbeing service in Lancashire identifies as early as possible when a child, young person or their family needs support, helping them to access services to meet their needs, preventing any problems getting worse and reducing the demand for specialist support services. Working together with key partners, they make sure that they have maximum impact on achieving positive outcomes for families. The Children and Family Wellbeing service prioritises vulnerable groups, individuals and communities, based on assessed levels of need under the following themes:

- Safeguarding and supporting the vulnerable
- Supporting family life
- Enabling learning
- Preparing for work
- Improving community safety
- Promoting health and wellbeing
- Developing healthier places.

The service works with the people they support in different ways and places like:

- one-to-one support between a worker and a family
- group-based sessions held in different community buildings, like a village hall
- outreach in places like homes, at school or a local café
- their work with young people can even be on the streets.

The Children and Family Wellbeing service is implementing a budget reduction of £1.25 million as agreed by Full Council in February 2018. As part of this, the service needs to identify the most effective use of buildings to support their service delivery.

We looked at evidence of how the Children and Family Wellbeing Service made a difference to children, young people and families and how the service could become more effective. The service focussed on how they could provide support direct to people in their home settings where possible and delivering in community settings where best. This would enable them to become more people focused rather than building based. By doing this, the service plans to reduce the number of buildings where they are based and work more flexibly in the community.

We proposed to cease delivering the service from 19 buildings whilst still delivering a service in 57 buildings. The other services delivered in these buildings would not be affected by our proposals.

We looked at what is good about the buildings we use now and what could be better about them, such as:

- how easy it is to get to the buildings
- how much need there is for our services in different places
- how much each building is used and what it is used for
- how suitable the buildings are for delivering our services
- each buildings' running costs and condition

- what other services are provided in the building
- the likely impact on the local community.

Using this information, we identified which buildings we thought we should continue to deliver Children and Family Wellbeing services from and which buildings we thought we should withdraw delivering services from.

We will also commission a 12-19 years youth offer through the voluntary, community and faith sector to support our delivery of services to young people across Lancashire.

### 3. Methodology

For this consultation, paper questionnaires were made available in the buildings where children and family wellbeing services are delivered. An electronic version of the consultation questionnaire was available online at [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk). The organisation Creative Exchange also conducted consultation workshops with service users during July 2018.

569 stakeholders with interests in the Children and Family Wellbeing Service were emailed at the beginning of the consultation. These stakeholders were informed that the consultation had started and that they could respond online, or by picking up a paper questionnaire from one of the buildings where children and family wellbeing services are delivered.

The fieldwork ran for eight weeks between 6 June 2018 and 3 August 2018. In total, 729 completed questionnaires were returned (271 paper questionnaire responses and 458 online questionnaire responses).

First, the questionnaire outlined the proposal for the Children and Family Wellbeing Service and then identifies, by district, the 57 buildings we propose to keep delivering children and family wellbeing services from and the 19 buildings we proposed to no longer deliver Children and Family Wellbeing services from.

The main section of the questionnaire included nine questions. The first four questions asked respondents about their use of children and family wellbeing services and the buildings these services are delivered from. This section of the questionnaire included the questions, 'Generally, how often do you go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service?', 'Which of the following Children and Family Wellbeing services have you used in the last 12 months?', 'In the last 12 months, have you used any of the buildings we are proposing to keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing services from?' and 'In the last 12 months, have you used any of the buildings we are proposing to no longer deliver Children and Family Wellbeing services from?'. The next five questions asked respondents about their views on the proposal and how it would affect them. This section of the questionnaire included the questions, 'If the proposal happened would you go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service more often, about the same as now, less often or not at all?', 'How strongly do you agree or disagree with the proposal?', 'Why do you say this?', 'If the proposal happened, how would this affect you?', and



'Thinking about this proposal, please tell us if you think there is anything else that we need to consider or that could be done differently.'

The remaining questions asked respondents for information about themselves; for example, if they or male or female. This information is presented in appendix 1.

In this report respondents' responses to the open questions have been classified against a coding frame to quantify the qualitative data. Coding is the process of combining the issues, themes and ideas in qualitative open responses into a set of codes. The codes are given meaningful names that relate to the issue, so that during close reading of responses it can be seen when similar issues relate to a similar code. As the analysis process continues the coding frame is added to and refined as new issues are raised by respondents. All responses to open questions are then coded against the coding frame, and can be subsequently analysed as quantitative data.

### **3.1 Limitations**

In charts or tables where responses do not add up to 100%, this is due to multiple responses or computer rounding.

In the open questions respondents were asked to identify any buildings relevant to their comments. The buildings identified by respondents are discussed in table 1 and section 4.3. Not every respondent identified a building because their response related to the Children and Family Wellbeing Service in general. Some respondent's comments focused on areas, such as Oswaldtwistle, without commenting on specific buildings. Other respondents didn't clearly identify the building they were referring to. Therefore, when processing the data and selecting which building a comment should be attributed to some judgement was required. Where a comment didn't clearly identify which building was being referred to, such as the Zone, or if the comment focused on an area, such as Ribble Valley, then these comments are presented in table 1 and section 4.3 as they were written by the respondent.

A small number of completed questionnaires were received over a week after the main data was processed. These responses have not be included in the results in charts 1 to 9. However, the responses do form part of the information in table 1 and in section 4.3.

## 4. Main findings

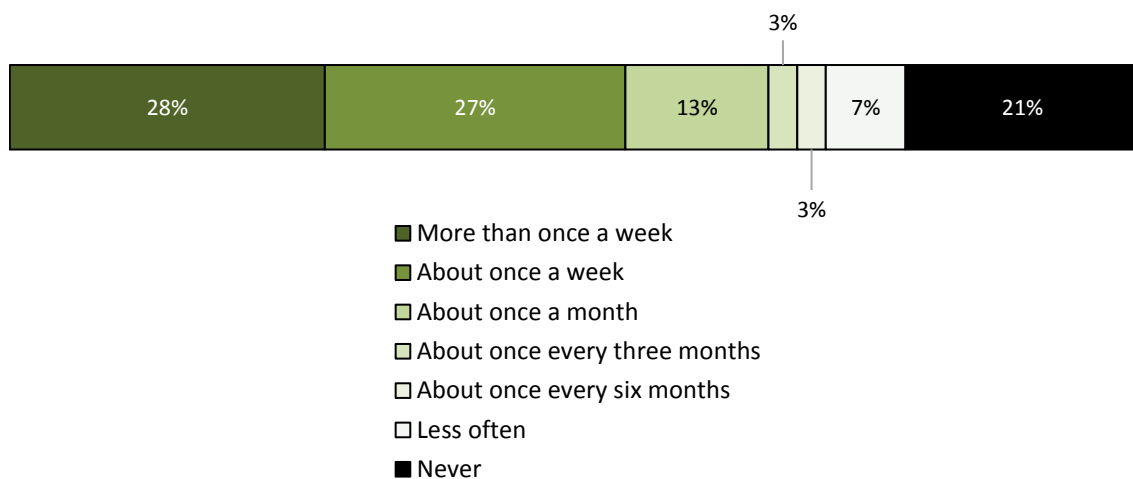
### 4.1 Use of the Children and Family Wellbeing Service

Respondents were first asked how often they go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service.

More than half of respondents (55%) said that they go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service about once a week or more.

About a fifth of respondents (21%) said that they never go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service.

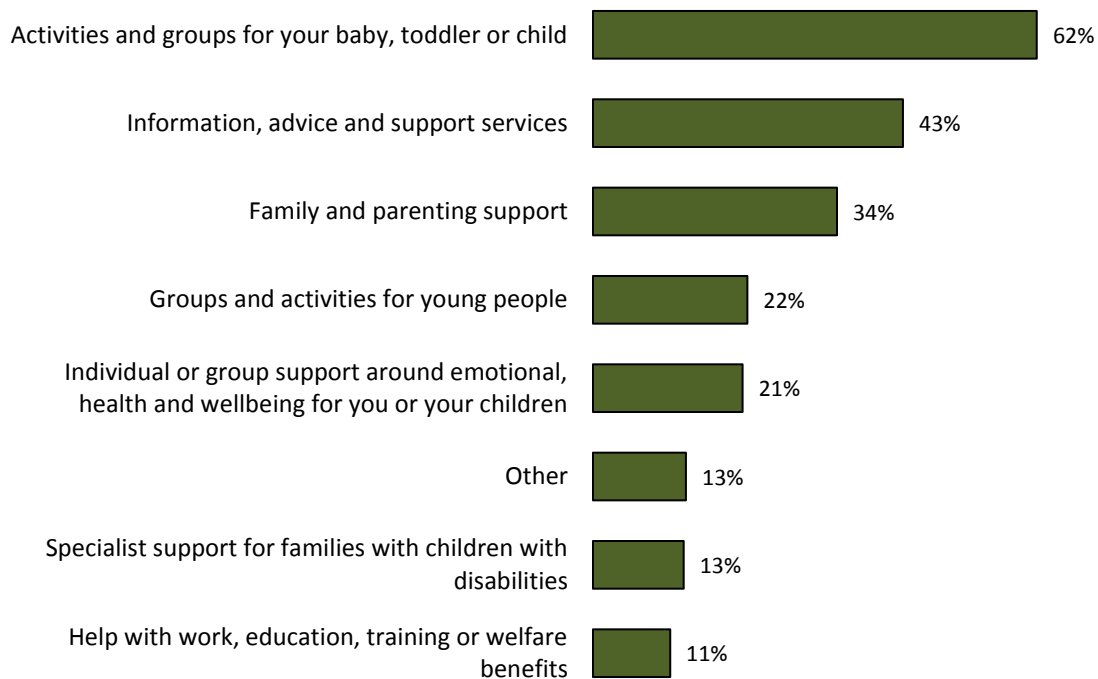
**Chart 1 - Generally, how often do you go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service?**



Base: all respondents (710)

Respondents who said that they have been to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service were then asked which services they used in the last 12 months. These respondents were most likely to say that the Children and Family Wellbeing services they had used in the last 12 months were activities and groups for their baby, toddler or child (62%), information, advice and support services (43%), and family and parenting support (34%).

**Chart 2 - Which of the following Children and Family Wellbeing services have you used in the last 12 months?**

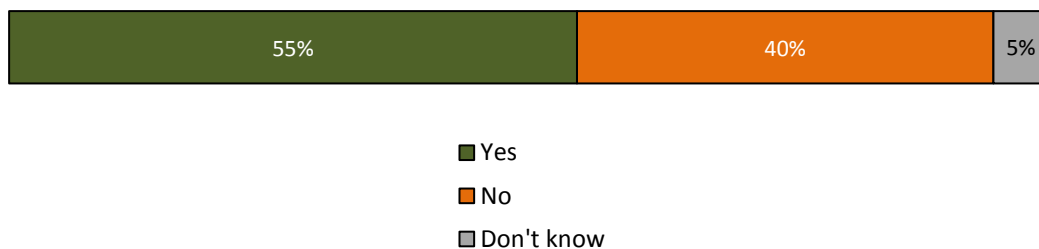


Base: respondents who have been to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service (582)

Respondents who said that they have been to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service were then asked if they had used, in the last 12 months, any of the buildings we are proposing to keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing services from.

Over half of these respondents (55%) said that in the last 12 months they had used a building or buildings that we are proposing to keep delivering children and family wellbeing services from. However, two-fifths of these respondents (40%) said that they had not used the one of these buildings in the last 12 months.

**Chart 3 - In the last 12 months, have you used any of the buildings we are proposing to keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing services from?**

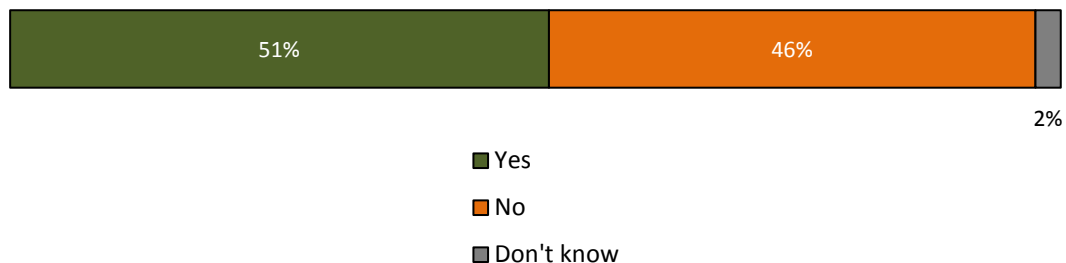


Base: respondents who have been to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service (679)

Respondents who said that they have been to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service were then asked if they had used, in the last 12 months, any of the buildings we are proposing to no longer deliver Children and Family Wellbeing services from.

About half of these respondents (51%) said that in the last 12 months they had used a building or buildings that we are proposing to no longer deliver children and family wellbeing services from. Less than half of these respondents (46%) said that they had not used the one of these buildings in the last 12 months.

**Chart 4 - In the last 12 months, have you used any of the buildings we are proposing to no longer deliver Children and Family Wellbeing services from?**



Base: respondents who have been to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service (667)

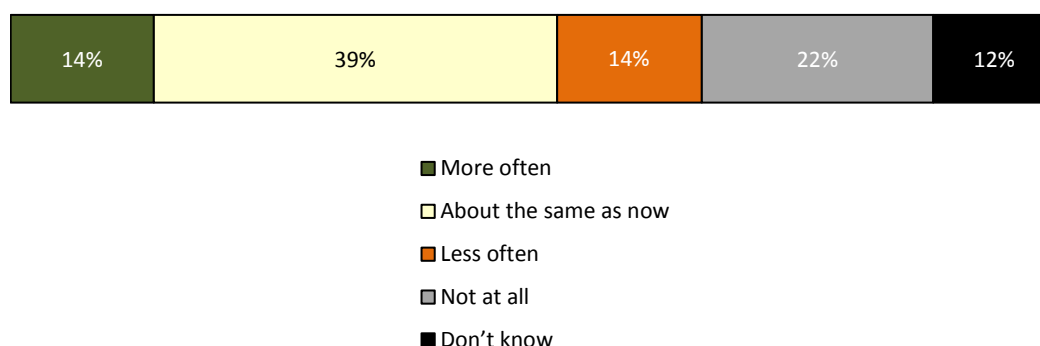
## 4.2 The proposal for the Children and Family Wellbeing Service

All respondents were then asked if the proposal happened would they go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service more often, about the same, less often, or not at all.

About one in seven respondents (14%) said that if the proposal happened they would go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service more often than they do now and about two-fifths of respondents (39%) said that they would go about as often as they do now.

About one in seven respondents (14%) said that if the proposal happened they would go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service less often than they do now and about a fifth of respondents (22%) said that they would not go at all.

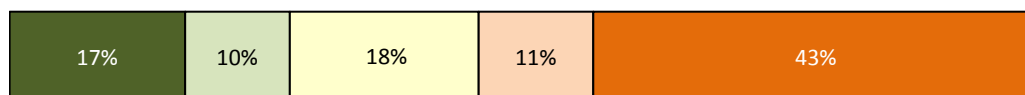
**Chart 5 - If the proposal happened would you go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service more often, about the same as now, less often or not at all?**



Base: all respondents (700)

Respondents were then asked how strongly they agree or disagree with the proposal. About a quarter of respondents (27%) said that they agree with the proposal. However, over half of respondents (54%) said that they disagree with the proposal.

**Chart 6 - How strongly do you agree or disagree with the proposal?**

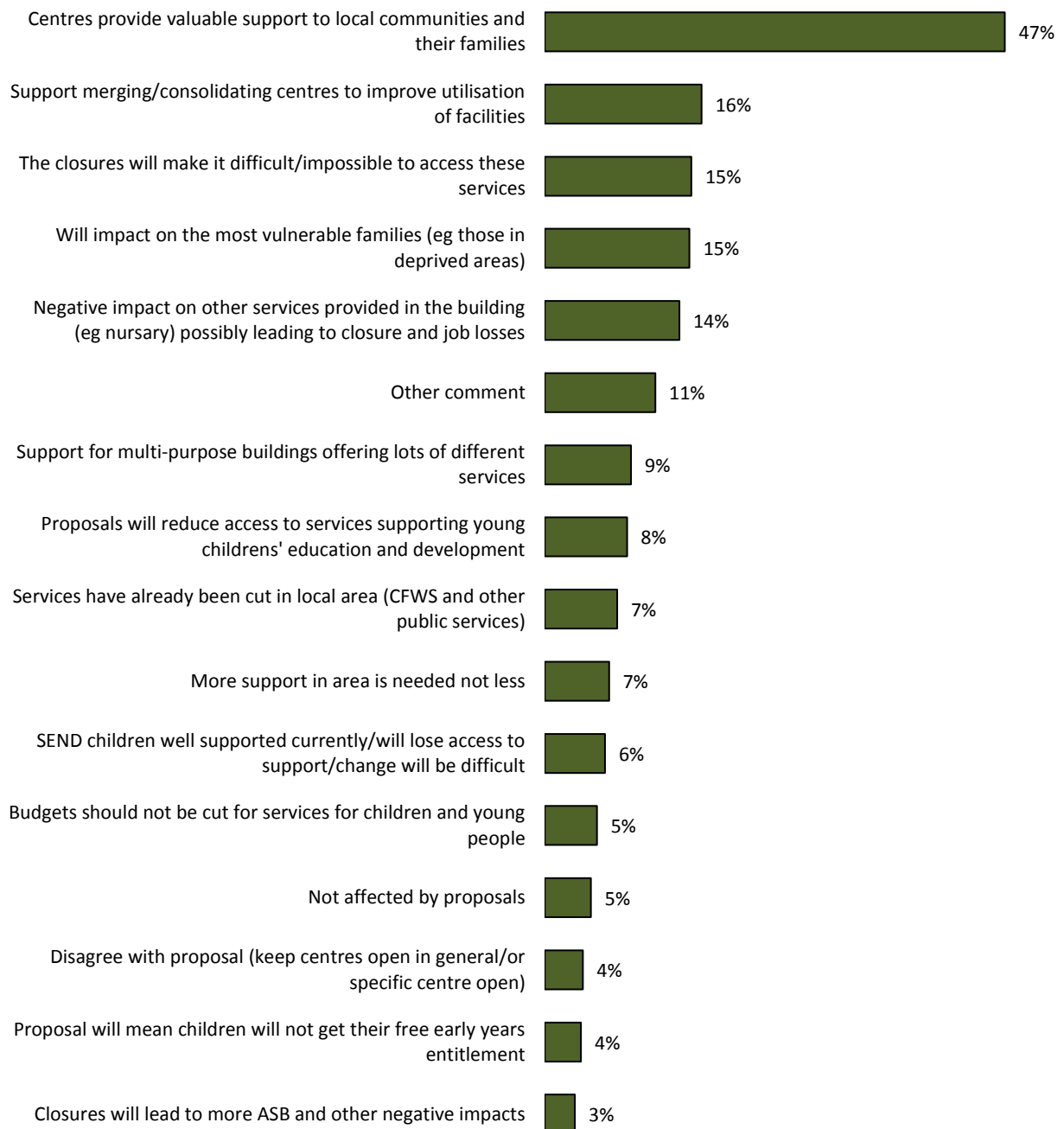


- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree

Base: all respondents (709)

Respondents were then asked why they agree or disagree with the proposal. Respondents most commonly responded that centres provide valuable support to local communities and their family (47%), they support merging/consolidating centres to improve the utilisation of facilities (16%), the closures will make it difficult/impossible to access these services (15%), it will negatively impact on the most vulnerable families (15%) and it will have a negative impact on other services provided in the building (eg nursery) possibly leading to closure and job losses (14%).

**Chart 7 - Why do you say this?**

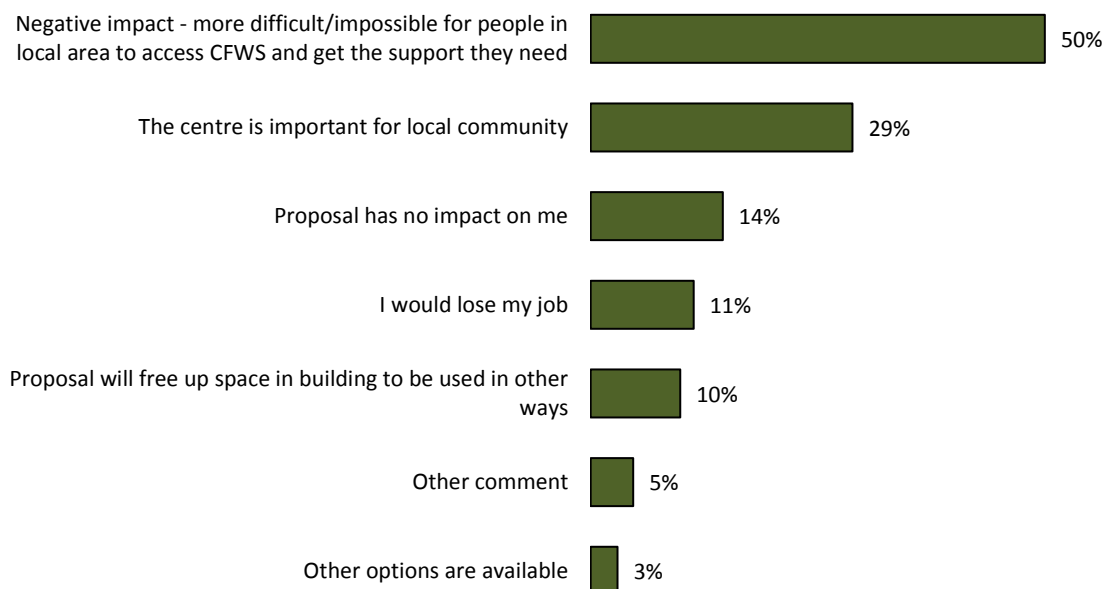


Base: all respondents (488)



Respondents were then asked if the proposal happened how it would affect them. Respondents most commonly responded that it would be more difficult/impossible for people in the local area to access children and family wellbeing services and get the support they need (50%) and the centre is important for the local community (29%).

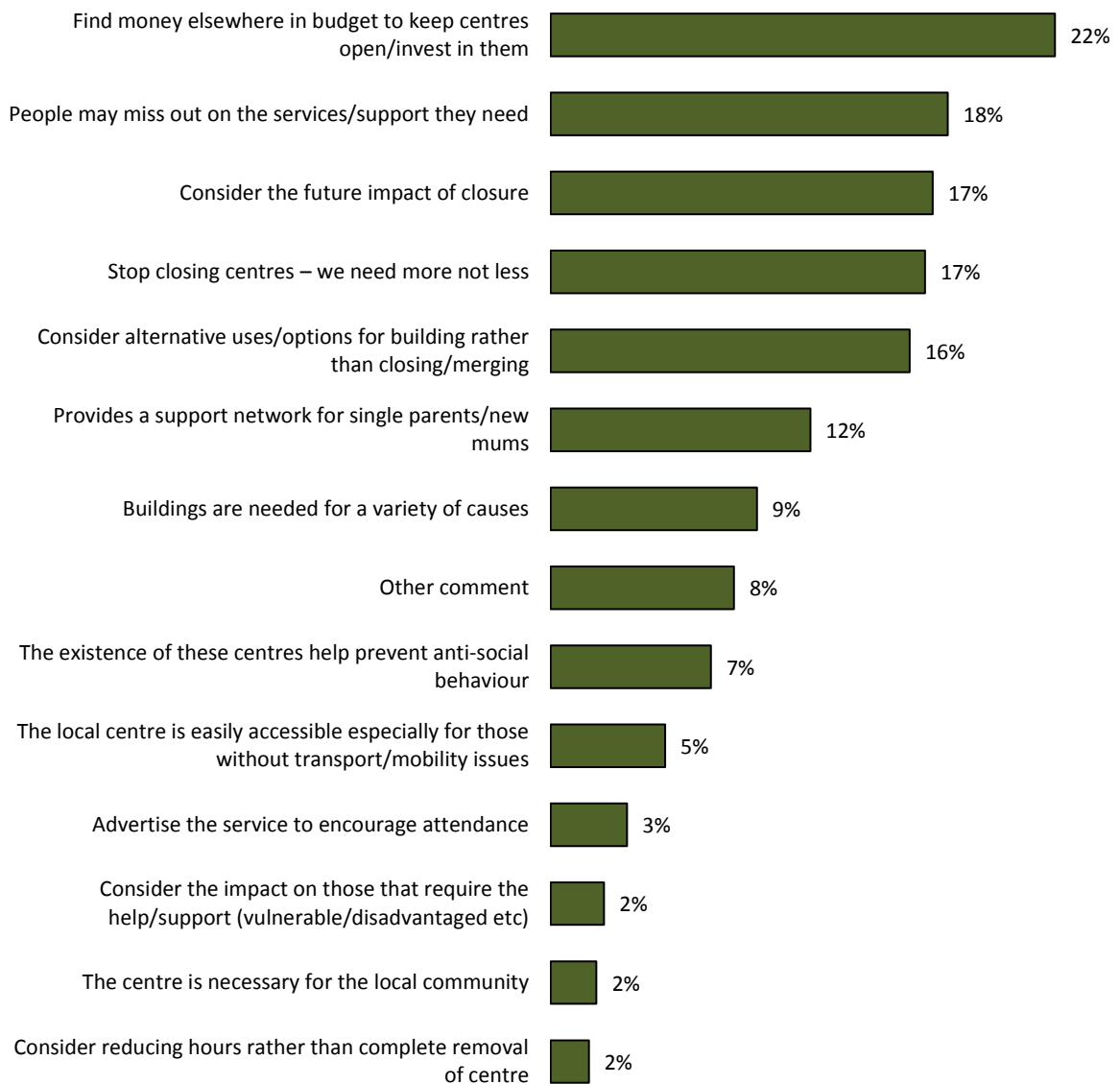
### Chart 8 - If the proposal happened, how would this affect you?



Base: all respondents (408)

Respondents were then asked if they think there is anything else that we need to consider or that could be done differently. Respondents most commonly responded that we should find money elsewhere in our budget to keep centre open/invest in them (22%), people may miss out on the services/support they need (18%), consider the future impact of the closure (17%), stop closing centres – we need more not less (17%) and could alternative uses/option for building be considered rather than closing/merging (16%).

**Chart 9 - Thinking about this proposal, please tell us if you think there is anything else that we need to consider or that could be done differently.**



Base: all respondents (294)

In the previous three questions<sup>1</sup> respondents were asked to provide their comments on the proposal for the Children and Family Wellbeing Service using free text boxes. Respondents were asked to identify any buildings relevant to their response. Not every respondent identified a building (or, as some respondents did, identified a general geographic area), as their response related to the Children and Family Wellbeing Service in general.

The most commonly mentioned buildings were Walton Lane Children's Centre (92 respondents), Willows Park Children's Centre (38 respondents), Longridge Young People's Centre (30 respondents), The Chai Centre Children's Centre (26 respondents), Sharoe Green Library and Cherry Tree Children's Centre (25 respondents) and Appletree Children's Centre (23 respondents).

**Table 1 - Buildings or areas mentioned in respondent's responses**

	Count
Walton Lane Children's Centre	92
Willows Park Children's Centre	38
Longridge Young People's Centre	30
The Chai Centre Children's Centre	26
Sharoe Green Library and Cherry Tree Children's Centre	25
Fairfield Children's Centre	24
Appletree Children's Centre	23
Coppull Children's Centre	10
Ashton Young People's Centre	9
Halton Library and Children's Centre	9
Whitegate Children's Centre	9
Longridge	8
Sunshine Children's Centre (New Hall Lane Drop-in)	7
Fleetwood Children's Centre	6
St John's Children's Centre (Skelmersdale)	6
Colne	5
First Steps Children's Centre	5
Lancaster	5
Morecambe	5
Colne Children's Centre	3
Earby Community Centre	3
Family Tree Children's Centre	3
Fleetwood Children's Centre (Flakefleet satellite)	3
Morecambe Library	3
Poulton Children's Centre	3
Reedley Hallows Children's Centre	3
Ribblesdale Children's Centre	3
Whitworth Children's Centre	3
Burnley Wood Children's Centre	2

<sup>1</sup> Q7 – Why do you say this?

Q8 – If the proposal happened, how would this affect you?

Q9 – Thinking about this proposal, please tell us if you think there is anything else that we need to consider or that could be done differently

	Count
Clayton-le-Moors and Altham Children's Centre	2
Colne Young People's Centre	2
Copper House Children's Centre	2
Eccleston Blossomfields Children's Centre	2
Heysham Children's Centre	2
Lune Park Children's Centre	2
Ribble Valley	2
Rothwell Drive Neighbourhood Centre	2
The Carnforth Hub Children's Centre and Young People's Centre	2
The Zone in Rossendale	2
Whitworth	2
Ightenhill Children's Centre	2
Adlington	1
Barnoldswick Young People's Centre	1
Chorley	1
Civic centre	1
Colne Centre	1
Garstang Neighbourhood Centre (Garstang Library)	1
Gawthorpe	1
Gisburn Road Children's Centre	1
Great Harwood Young People's Centre	1
Heysham, Dallas Road	1
Highfield Children's Centre	1
Leyland	1
Preston East Children's Centre	1
Rossendale	1
South West Burnley Children's Centre	1
Stoneyholme and Daneshouse Young People's Centre	1
The Grove Young People's Centre and Children's Centre	1
The Maden Centre	1
The Park	1
The Zone	1
The Zone in Pendle	1
The Zone in West Lancashire	1
Thornton Children's Centre	1
Westgate Children's Centre	1
WLNSRHC	1
Young People's centre - Hyndburn	1
Young People's centre - Ribble Valley	1
Youth Zone Chorley	1
Hyndburn	1
Accrington	1
Clayton-Le-Moors	1
Oswaldtwistle	1

Base: all respondents (349)

## 4.3 Key issues by building

The following section outlines the key issues raised by respondents for the buildings we are proposing to no longer deliver Children and Family Wellbeing service from, where more than ten respondents commented on the building.

### 4.3.1 Walton Lane Children's Centre (92 responses)

Many respondents felt that removing services from this centre will leave the nursery at risk of closure. Some respondents noted that Walton Lane Children's Centre supports a high number of children with special educational needs and disabilities. There was a feeling that other centres/providers in the region would not be able to meet the needs of the children who use the centre.

### 4.3.2 Willows Park Children's Centre (38 responses)

Although not universal, many respondents agreed Willows Park Children's Centre was under used and supported moving services to Longridge Young People's Centre.

Many respondents were keen to see the floor space used by Willows Park Children's Centre be taken over by the gym that already operates in building.

### 4.3.3 The Chai Centre Children's Centre (26 responses)

Respondents felt that the Chai centre is positioned in the heart of the community and is very accessible, particularly for those without their own transport. Respondents noted that the Chai Centre is a multi-purpose building and is close to other local facilities and services. Respondents noted that the centre supports minorities and those with disabilities.

Some respondents commented that they were concerned that the nearest alternative centre (Stoneyholme and Daneshouse) does not provide the same support offered by the Chai Centre.

### 4.3.4 Sharoe Green Library and Cherry Tree Children's Centre (25 responses)

Respondents commented that the centre is the hub of the community. Respondents also noted the good parking facilities and that the combination of library and children's centre in one building works well.

### 4.3.5 Fairfield Children's Centre (24 responses)

Many respondents felt that removing services from this centre would leave the nursery at risk of closure and would impact on the viability of delivering other services in the building. There was a feeling that other centres/providers in the region would not be able to meet the needs of the children who use the centre. For example, those who speak little English, or those with special educational needs or disabilities.

Respondents commented that many people who attend the centre walk to it and that the nearest alternative centres aren't a comfortable walking distance and that this would discourage people from accessing the services and support that they need.

#### **4.3.6 Appletree Children's Centre** (23 responses)

Respondents said that the centre is in the heart of a community that has a high level of deprivation. In comparison, White Cross is in the centre of a business park that isn't easily accessible for any part of the community and isn't close to the retail centre.

Respondents also noted that the centre benefits from an abundance of parking nearby and that service users benefit from being able to access a number of services at the building.

## 5. Other responses

### 5.1 Ribble Valley Borough Council

"I am pleased to confirm the views of Ribble Valley Borough Council on your proposals. This issue has been carefully considered by members of the RV Health and Wellbeing partnership who wish to confirm their view that it is critical that services to support children and families continue to be provided and the council would not support any reduction in services and indeed would wish to see services expanded particularly to address the needs of those who may be more isolated across the rural community.

Your specific proposal in regard to Clitheroe with a focus of delivery through the facilities at the Zone at Trinity, are supported. Similarly members held the view that the proposal to consolidate existing Longridge services at the Youth Centre at Berry lane and to close the offer from the civic hall was supported. I must stress that members wish to emphasise their view that overall there should be no reduction in service and that where possible opportunities to widen access perhaps through increased use of village halls for groups should be explored."

### 5.2 Graham Jones MP

"I am concerned about Lancashire County Council's proposals to remove the service from Fairfield Nursery School in Accrington. At present, as the Children and Family Wellbeing Service operates out of the nursery building, it contributes towards the maintenance and building costs. If the service is removed from Fairfield Nursery it will have severe consequences for the nursery and its budget, as this financial contribution would be removed.

Maintained nursery schools are already facing extreme financial pressures. As the government have revised the funding formula for early year's education, maintained nurseries have seen their funding reduced. At present, 75% of Lancashire's maintained nurseries are in, or face, financial deficit, with some at risk of closure. Whilst supplementary funding has been provided until 2019-20, there are extreme concerns of a funding shortfall after this period has ended.

Yet Fairfield Nursery School is a fantastic nursery, and is one that we cannot risk to lose. It provides high quality education to children; it is rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted and has repeatedly received this classification. As a maintained nursery, it also gives priority to children who have Special Education Need or disability (SEND). Therefore, it is vital for providing education to local SEND children.

Maintained nurseries serve some of our most vulnerable and deprived children. Fairfield exemplifies this and it was recognised by Ofsted that the school provides excellent support to disadvantaged children. This is crucial to assisting social mobility within Hyndburn.

Therefore I am deeply concerned about the impact that the removal would have on Fairfield Nursery's budget, and the wider consequences that this would have on local children and families."

### 5.3 Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust

"Further to your email 8th June to inform the Trust that the Council are seeking views on a proposal to reduce the number of buildings where the Children and Family Wellbeing Service is based and to work more flexibly within the community.

The Trust has carefully considered the proposals put forward in the consultation and our response is set out in this letter. We will also be feeding these views directly into the online questionnaire, although that appears mostly geared to consultation with members of the public rather than organisations, and so we felt this letter would help capture our response more fully.

The following table illustrates those buildings proposed for cessation of the Children and Family Wellbeing Service where LCFT currently delivers services from and the activity in question.

Building	Current LCFT activity
Chai Centre, Burnley	Base for 0-19 staff Baby Clinic
Colne Children's Centre	Base for 0-19 staff Baby Clinic
Whitworth Children's Centre	Baby Clinic
Great Harwood Children's Centre	Baby Clinic
Whitegate Children's Centre	Baby Clinic

The following buildings would also be affected by the proposals but do not currently involve any direct service provision by LCFT or serve as staff bases for the Trust

Coppull Children's Centre
St John's Children's Centre, Skelmersdale
Ashton Young People's Centre
Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre
Sunshine Children's Centre, Preston
Ribblesdale Children's Centre, Clitheroe
Willows Park Children's Centre, Longridge
Earby Community Centre
Walton Lane Children's Centre, Nelson
Fairfield Children's Centre, Accrington

In addition to the above, 4 buildings from the 19 affected by the proposals are based in the North of the County, which is covered by Blackpool Teaching Hospitals 0-19 services – Apple Tree and Halton (Lancaster); Westview Children's Centre (Fleetwood) and Fleetwood Children's Centre

The proposals, if taken forward, would impact adversely on the Trust and more broadly to service provision for Children and Families as follows

1. **The Chai centre** management is overseen by a charitable body on behalf of the Trust, LCC and Calico Housing. The departure of LCC staff would result in a rental loss of £40K per annum, which could threaten the viability of other services operating from the Chai centre, reduce crucial joint working and create a financial pressure for the remaining occupants. The building is also subject to restrictive covenants on its



disposal and future use and the Trust therefore has very significant concerns about the proposed cessation of the Child and Family Wellbeing service from this building in terms of its financial and wider impact on our services and those in the VCFS. It would also be helpful to know if Calico have been consulted directly in relation to the proposals referred to in this letter

2. **Colne Children's Centre** is owned and managed by the Trust. The proposals you have put forward would result in a rental income loss of £56.5K per annum to the Trust as well as reducing collaborative joint work between services for vulnerable children and families.

3. The **potential wider impact on communities experiencing deprivation**. A number of the buildings in the proposals are located in such communities. There is therefore a potentially major adverse impact in ceasing the Children and Family Wellbeing Service bases from within specific neighbourhoods where health outcomes and life chances are particularly challenged and families may be hard to reach in the first instance. Furthermore, the ability and willingness of families to travel to alternative bases and engage with services could be further compromised.

4. **The impact on joint working with the Council** and other partners where there is existing co-location with the 0-19 service, particularly in relation to the Chai centre and Colne Children's Centre. Our view is that the proposals would prove counterproductive in terms of fostering further integration and collaborative, holistic approaches to health and social care support we believe that there is a potential impact on the Specification for Trust 0-19 services given the emphasis on joint working between LCFT and the Children and Family Wellbeing service.

5. The consultation does not say **how the risks associated with the proposals will be managed and mitigated**, so sight of the equality impact assessment undertaken for this work would be most welcome. Furthermore the consultation information does not include any information about how deprivation weightings and other factors, such as the potential for greater integrated working, have been specifically applied to reach the proposals. It would therefore be helpful if you could provide more information about the methodology used to reach the conclusions which form the basis of these proposals.

6. It is also noted that the Council will also commission a **12-19 years youth offer** through the voluntary, community and faith sector to support delivery of services to young people across Lancashire, although no specific are provided with regard to this so more information on this would be welcome."

#### 5.4 Fulwood and North Preston Labour Party Branch

I am writing on behalf of Fulwood and North Preston Branch Labour Party regarding the proposed closure of Sure Start Centres.

Closing such centres unless amalgamated with another centre is a retrograde step in the socio-economic and educational development of young children and adults in deprived areas. On a personal level, I spent many years as a councillor actively working with Sure Start and was on the Board of the first tranche of Sure Start programmes. Over the years there have been many changes to services such as, Lad's and Dad's Clubs, Parenting classes, Healthy eating programmes to name a few. These community hubs are now outreach centres signposting people to other services for example, GPs, advice on Domestic Violence, Smoking and Drinking. In the past I have spoken to new mums who have overcome depression and mums who have taken further education courses to provide a better life style for them and their families, all due to Sure Start.

The outcomes of Early Years Learning are well documented with empirical evidence that children with pre-school education are better equipped to adapt socially and educationally into the school environment. Closing the door will create an uneven playing field where children in deprived areas will be denied access to a better start in life which is the right of every child in Preston and Lancashire.

As a group, we strongly urge you to reconsider your intention of closing Sure Start Centres.

#### 5.5 Independent Chair – Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board

"Having read the consultation document and had a look at the "Have your Say" form – the document does not really work for my particular and unusual position – hence this brief response.

Without the underpinning research referred to, respondents have to trust that the rationale for which buildings to cease to use is sound – we cannot see this for ourselves!

In light of the above my only comment about the locations chosen is that it seems odd to be pulling out of buildings in some areas of high deprivation whilst staying in all the venues in, for example, South Ribble.

The consultation only refers to loss of locations but I had understood that a significant number of posts were also to be removed. Have I missed this in the document – if there are to be reduced posts then this should be explicit? I am aware that these may be vacant posts and as such will not lead to a reduction in the service per se but it does reduce service potential at a time when pressure on the delivery of Early Help has never been greater. Reducing the capacity to respond early is counter-productive and will very likely lead to a need for more costly services down the line. It reduces the capacity to offer strength based support to families early on.

Overall the work the LSCB does and the reports it receives all support increasing rather than decreasing access to early help."

## 5.6 Bretherton Parish Council

"The Parish Council feels that the County Council should be guided by the views and responses from those directly affected and organisation who work to support children and families."

## 5.7 Miles Parkinson, leader of Hyndburn Borough Council and County Councillor for the Great Harwood, Rishton & Clayton-le-Moors Ward

"As a District Council we want to work with Lancashire County Council (LCC) to help make the best possible decisions for the people of Hyndburn. We would like LCC to clarify their presence and intentions with the Copperhouse Centre in Rishton and the Civic Centre in Clayton-le-Moors.

We also have concerns about the Young People's Centre in Great Harwood (Lowerfold) and feel this is an important facility to the local community. With this in mind we would be keen for this building to be transferred over to Hyndburn Leisure who could make this facility an asset to the local community of Great Harwood and beyond.

However, as leader of Hyndburn Borough Council I am disappointed with the proposal to close the service at the Fairfield Centre in Accrington. This centre provides a valuable service to a large number of vulnerable people across Accrington situated in a deprived part of the town. The service also covers a large part of the town where Hyndburn and Lancashire County Council struggles with take up to services due to the diverse makeup of the community. We feel we should be encouraging people from this local community rather than taking services away. The alternative nearest centre is over two kilometres away which would put a large number of parents / children off from participating at these facilities resulting in a large number of vulnerable families missing out on all the important activities and services provided."

## 5.8 Preston City Council response to LCC consultation

"Lancashire County Council is inviting views to their proposal to reduce the number of buildings where the children and family wellbeing service is based across Lancashire. In Preston three out of the nine buildings offering the service will be affected.

Proposals for buildings to no longer deliver Children and Family Wellbeing services:

1. Ashton Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Ashton Young People's Centre)  
Tulketh Crescent, Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston, PR2 2RH
2. New Hall Lane Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Sunshine Children's Centre (New Hall Lane Drop-in))  
184 New Hall Lane, Preston, PR1 4DX

3. Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre (Sharoe Green Library and Cherry Tree Children's Centre)  
8 Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 8ED

Councillor Nweeda Khan, Cabinet Member for Communities and Social Justice, Preston City Council:

“Preston City Council regrets Lancashire County Council’s proposal to close the three centres in Preston: Ashton Young People’s Centre; New Hall Lane Drop-in; and Sharoe Green Neighbourhood centre, and would urge LCC to reconsider the closure of these valued community centres.

The Ashton Young People’s Centre in Ashton-on-Ribble in particular is one of only two venues in Preston that caters for young people with disabilities and we understand that Lancashire County Council uses the Star Youth Club to deliver around half of all its services for 11-19 year olds with disabilities in Preston. This is undoubtedly a valued service that would be lost to the community or at the very least cause distress and disruption to current users should an alternative venue or way of delivery be proposed.

The centre has also recently undergone major work of around £50,000 in 2014 to improve its facilities, making its closure so soon after these improvements economically unsound.

I also understand that it used as an after school club and more recently as a holiday food market facility, something which will chime with both PCC’s and LCC’s fairness ambitions.

Local councillors are very keen for LCC to reconsider its proposal in this instance to allow them to continue to build on this kind of activity and to provide a real resource for the community in Ashton. There are real opportunities for a venue of this nature to be the focal point for many community activities covering health and wellbeing for all of the community in the area such as drop-in advice centres (eg financial inclusion), food clubs, work clubs, perhaps even on a co-operative basis.

As with all the centres, we are certain that the closure of these venues would be a huge loss to their communities and there is great opportunity to build on their usage to help LCC deliver its services in Preston.

Generally councillors have expressed their concerns to me saying closing down the three Children Centres in Preston would have a “devastating impact on the local communities they serve as the most vulnerable children and families will lose out the most.” Children Centres provide help to those families who need support in an environment local to them that they trust so they can raise their children to have the best chance to succeed in life. Closing these centres will exacerbate inequality in Preston and deny families and children the support they deserve and need. Keeping the centres open means that every child; no matter where they are born, has every chance to succeed.

Whilst we can sympathise with maintaining services with fewer resources, and that LCC states it is not reducing its frontline service in this respect, we would very much urge you not to view the centres merely as buildings, rather as much valued community facilities and therefore review your decision to close them."

#### **5.9 Email 1**

"Pilling will have a new village community centre at Taylors Lane, Pilling PR3 6AB in which we are expecting to provide space and accommodation to deliver such services. We would be interested in working with Lancss CC to serve any local need.

Besides being able to provide accommodation in our new premises we have a newly open Trim Trail and 1200m of Wheel Chair friendly pathways on our site along with extensive children's recreation and leisure facilities and two football pitches. We aim to provide a variety of services on site for all age groups.

We would be pleased to be kept abreast of developments and prepared to enter into discussions asap in order to explore collaborative working in this area."

#### **5.10 Email 2**

"I have no finger in this pie but heard of a charity (helps when money short!) called HENRY. Good talk on radio 4 re childhood obesity early prevention. You can find Henry on net & 8 Elm Place, Witney Rd Oxfordshire OX29 4BD. Good if helpful no bother if not Good wishes"

#### **5.11 Email 3**

"This consultation is meaningless without the list of buildings for closure. I fully understand the Council's financial position and assume that it is legally required to provide "a service". Why not close all the buildings and work from some of the school based former Children's Centres on a part time basis. This would support school budgets and utilise quality under used buildings."

#### **5.12 Email 4**

"I am very concerned to read of the possible closure of Cherry Tree Children Centre which currently provides a wide range of family support services. As a retired Health Visitor I am only too well aware of the importance of these facilities to family health and wellbeing. Toddlers benefit from shared play and socialising with other children and mothers are able to be supportive of one another.

The close proximity to the Library is another important benefit to young families. I feel concerned that whilst the service will remain in Brookfield this is not easily accessible for a mother with a baby and toddler and no car!! ----- particularly if she has been up during the night or has postnatal low mood!

It is important to bear in mind that the services offered provide the support that may prevent family problems requiring future Council support and funding.

I feel that this Neighbourhood Centre has a vital role in the wellbeing of the local community and that its closure would be a very retrograde action."



### 5.13 Email 5

"Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre - This centre organizes more than five essential parenting and learning courses. This is a crucial information and support service for young and old and in particular for parents of young babies. Closing this facility of basic needs would be disgraceful and a disappointment in the Lancashire County Council."

### 5.14 Email 6

"I write to express my objection to the closure of Childrens Centres in Preston and in particular Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre. These centres provide a much needed and utilised facility for children and families in Preston. They are local amenities for local communities providing essential input and support especially to vulnerable children. LCC are responsible for the welfare of the residents it purports to represent and would be failing miserably if it were to remove these services. You must reconsider this action and keep these centres open."

### 5.15 Email 7

"I am writing to state my concern that the County Council proposes to close the Cherry Tree Children Centre. This has provided a valuable local service for my family and other parents and their young children."

Council Leader Driver has stressed the importance of maintaining local services. It is regrettable that under his control the County Council devoted scarce resources to re-opening libraries closed as economy measures, but must now make savings by closing centres for health care instead.

Under the Government's continuing austerity measures, the County Council will have to make further substantial cuts to local services. Which services does Councillor Driver consider most important to the community - local libraries, health centres or another service? And which areas does he consider have the greatest need of council services? Where will he strike next?"

### 5.16 Email 8

"Proposed closure of Sharon Green Neighbourhood centre - I am sad and surprised to learn the future of our local Neighbourhood centre is under threat of closure. The facility is a great asset in our area for families to access health provision. I'd like to register my objection to this proposal."

### 5.17 Email 9

"I'm extremely shocked and surprised to hear of the proposed closure of cherry tree children's centre."

The baby led stay and play group was a massive advantage when I had my children. I used this in 2008 and 2014. I met some amazing mums and we all supported each other and still do. My husband accessed the dads group too! The breastfeeding support I received there was excellent which helped me give both children the best start in life! The sensory room was an added bonus as well as baby massage and weaning talks.

This children's centre has a real community feel. If anything it should be utilised more. With it being next door to the library it is a perfect location.

I believe if this children's centre closes down it would be extremely detrimental to the health and well being of new mums and dads who need support at such an important time."

**5.18 Email 10**

"I was so saddened to hear that Cherry Tree Children's Centre is due to close. I attended baby and toddler groups and it was a great comfort to be able to meet other mums there. As a first time mum, having somewhere local to meet other new mums was a great help to my mental health. I really looked forward to going to the groups and made friends for life there. It worries me that places like this will close and new mums won't have the same access I did to local services at a time when they are most vulnerable. I really do hope that this decision is reconsidered."

**5.19 Email 11**

"Cherry tree needs to stay open it's a lifeline for most people in the area!!"

**5.20 Email 12**

"Disappointed to hear of the proposed closure of Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre. Almost five years on I am close friends with a group of mum's I met at the centre. I turned up on my own and found friends and support that will last many years. The city is growing and this service should remain to help many many more families."

**5.21 Email 13**

"I am writing to complain about the proposed closure of the Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre. This is a vital local asset that provides support for the most needy in our community and it should remain open."

**5.22 Email 14**

"I am emailing about the proposed closure of Sharoe Green Neighbourhood centre.

I attended the Stay and Play sessions here on Tuesday mornings until I went back to work a couple of months ago. These free sessions are important for parents to meet other local parents of babies and toddlers, to get out of the house and to encourage their babies development. In these times of austerity, the fact that they are free also enables all local parents to attend. With better advertising for the centre and it's services I believe there would be many more local parents wishing to use it. The centre is in a good location with easy parking at the library and with nice, informative and friendly staff - it should stay open!"

**5.23 Email 15**

"I am writing in response to the proposal of closing cherry CC.

I feel strongly this should remain open for the following reasons:

The CC is in a neighbourhood with a high population of children and families which they can currently access with ease as it is in a central area of Fulwood, on a bus

route, has good parking facilities and it is some distance to access other childrens centre.

I have used childrens centres in the past to access baby groups, make other mums, meet health professionals, access health groups and resources and would intend to use this particular children centre in the future if I have another child. I feel childrens centres can be a valuable form of support and help reduce post natal depression which affects all mums regardless of their background.

If the facility is closed then not only the most vulnerable families in Fulwood will be significantly affected but also all families that require additional support and will be unable to access valuable groups, access health visitor and health professionals on a regular basis"

#### **5.24 Email 16**

"I am writing regarding the proposed closure of Sharoe Green children's centre. I have found it to be a fantastic centre with great staff. I have used it for baby clinics, stay and play, and parenting courses. I believe it is vital to have local services such as this in the community and feel that its closure would be a great loss to the local area."

#### **5.25 Email 17**

"I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed closure of the Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre. My son is older now, so it is some time since I have visited it, but I know how important it is for services to be provided locally for the parents of young children. Child development and education are essential to the creation and maintenance of a safe, stable and fair society and I would urge our councillors to consider carefully whether short-term savings will have far reaching costs."

#### **5.26 Email 18**

"I hear that you are considering closing the Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre, and I am writing to ask that you don't close the centre.

We all know that pre-school activities and health care are absolutely vital to ensuring that children aren't disadvantaged before they get to school. If we want to have any chance of a society where people can prosper regardless of their background, we need to be expanding such centres, not closing them down.

Financially, it must cost less to invest in pre-school facilities than pay the costs of dealing with kids who are disruptive in school, and worse, because they are so far behind their peers."

#### **5.27 Email 19**

"I am very concerned to hear about the proposed closure of the Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre.

During my pregnancy and as a new mum I have visited the Centre for Support and Guidance for specific issues I was going through at the time which were dealt with in an extremely positive manner to help me overcome my anxieties and worries.



In addition, it opened doors which I did not expect in meeting other people and I am very much still in touch with this support network to this day going through similar experiences, whereby I am now an Advocate to help others. This was as a direct result of visiting the Centre.

I believe, without this support I would not have coped and ultimately the strain would have been put on the NHS where services are already overstretched.

Please, please continue to keep the Centre open to help people like me."

### **5.28 Petition - Save Chai Centre services**

1,067 signatories (138 online, 929 paper) in support of the following statement.

"We the undersigned, petition Leader of the Council and Lancashire County Council as follows:

We object to the proposed Conservative cuts to LCC Children and Family Wellbeing (CFW) services at the Chai Centre in Daneshouse and Stoneyholme ward, in Burnley Central East division."

## Appendix 1 - Demographic breakdown

**Table 2 - Are you...?**

	%
A Lancashire resident	89%
An employee of Lancashire County Council	14%
An elected member of Lancashire County Council	<1%
An elected member of a Lancashire district council	1%
An elected member of a parish or town council in Lancashire	2%
A private sector company/organisation	5%
A member of a voluntary or community organisation	14%
Other	5%

Base: all respondents (695)

**Table 3 - Are you...?**

	%
Male	19%
Female	78%
Prefer not to say	2%

Base: all respondents (707)

**Table 4 - Have you ever identified as transgender?**

	%
Yes	1%
No	95%
Prefer not to say	4%

Base: all respondents (695)

**Table 5 - What was your age on your last birthday?**

	%
Under 16	3%
16-19	2%
20-34	40%
35-64	47%
65-74	5%
75+	1%
Prefer not to say	3%

Base: all respondents (706)

**Table 6 - Are you a deaf person or do you have a disability?**

	%
Yes	6%
No	91%
Prefer not to say	3%

Base: all respondents (700)

**Table 7 - Which best describes your ethnic background?**

	%
White	85%
Asian or Asian British	9%
Black or black British	1%
Mixed	1%
Other	1%
Prefer not to say	4%

Base: all respondents (702)

**Table 8 - What is your religion?**

	%
No religion	34%
Christian	47%
Buddhist	<1%
Hindu	<1%
Jewish	0%
Muslim	9%
Sikh	<1%
Any other religion	1%
Prefer not to say	7%

Base: all respondents (701)

**Table 9 - What is your sexual orientation?**

	%
Straight	87%
Bisexual	2%
Gay man	<1%
Lesbian/gay woman	0%
Other	1%
Prefer not to say	10%

Base: all respondents (698)

**Table 10 - Are there any children or young people in your household aged under 20?**

	%
Yes, aged under 5	50%
Yes, aged 5-8	24%
Yes, aged 12-16	19%
Yes, aged 9-11	17%
No children aged under 20	16%
Yes, aged 17-19	9%
Prefer not to say	5%
No, but expecting	3%

Base: all respondents (706)

**Table 11 - Are there any disabled young people aged under 25 in your household?**

	%
Yes	11%
No	85%
Prefer not to say	4%

Base: all respondents (701)

**Table 12 - Does your household have access to the internet (dial-up, broadband or mobile internet)?**

	%
Yes	93%
No	4%
Don't know	2%
Prefer not to say	1%

Base: all respondents (708)

**Table 13 - Respondent postcode by district**

	%
Burnley	15%
Chorley	4%
Fylde	3%
Hyndburn	7%
Lancaster	14%
Pendle	20%
Preston	12%
Ribble Valley	8%
Rossendale	4%
South Ribble	2%
West Lancashire	7%
Wyre	3%

Base: all respondents (673)



The table below lists the 50 buildings where the proposal is to continue to provide Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery

Building	Service Delivery Offer (Current)	Consultation Proposal	Comments
<b>Burnley</b>			
Burnley Wood Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Burnley Wood Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Ightenhill Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Ightenhill Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Reedley Hallows Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Reedley Hallows Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
South West Burnley Children and Family Wellbeing Services (South West Burnley Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Burnley Central Neighbourhood Centre (The Zone in Burnley)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
<b>Chorley</b>			
Duke Street Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Duke Street Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Highfield Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Highfield Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Chorley neighbourhood centre (Chorley Library)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Integrated Team location.
Clayton Green neighbourhood centre (Clayton Green Library)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Adaptations required to enable Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery offer will intensify utilisation of Library without impacting on library service and will benefit both services.

Building	Service Delivery Offer (Current)	Consultation Proposal	Comments
Eccleston Blossomfields Children's Centre	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
<b>Fylde</b>			
Sydney Street Neighbourhood Centre (Children's Social Care (Sydney Street) and Oak Tree Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Fylde Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Zone in Fylde)	0-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Weeton Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Weeton Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
<b>Hyndburn</b>			
Clayton-le-Moors Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Clayton-le-Moors and Altham Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Rishton Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Copper House Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Great Harwood Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Great Harwood Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
The Park (Sure Start Hyndburn - Church and West Accrington Children's Centre (The Park)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
New Era Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Zone in Hyndburn)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Integrated Team location.
<b>Lancaster</b>			
Lune Park Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Lune Park Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Centre provides 0-19.



Building	Service Delivery Offer (Current)	Consultation Proposal	Comments
Carnforth Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Carnforth Hub Children's Centre and Young People's Centre)	0-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Centre provides 0-19.
Westgate Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Westgate Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
White Cross Neighbourhood Centre (White Cross Education Centre)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Poulton Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Poulton Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Morecambe central Neighbourhood Centre (Morecambe Library)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Centre provides 0-19.
<b>Pendle</b>			
Whitefield Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Beacon Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Colne Children's Centre	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Brierfield Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Family Tree Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Integrated Team location.
Gisburn Road Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Gisburn Road Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Barnoldswick Young People's Centre	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	

Building	Service Delivery Offer (Current)	Consultation Proposal	Comments
Brierfield Young People's Centre	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
<b>Preston</b>			
Moor Nook Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Moor Nook Young People's Centre)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Integrated Team location
Preston West Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Preston West Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Ribbleton Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Ribbleton Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Stoneygate Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Stoneygate Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Cost of adaptations to be considered.
Preston East Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Preston East Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
<b>Rossendale</b>			
Haslingden Link (Haslingden Community Link Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Bacup Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Maden Centre)	0-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Integrated Team location.
Rawtenstall Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Zone in Rossendale)	0-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
<b>South Ribble</b>			
West Paddock Neighbourhood Centre (The Zone in South Ribble)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Integrated Team location.

Building	Service Delivery Offer (Current)	Consultation Proposal	Comments
Wade Hall Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Wade Hall Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Bamber Bridge Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Walton-le-Dale Young People's Centre)	0-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Kingsfold Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Kingsfold Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
<b>West Lancashire</b>			
Eavesdale Children and Family Wellbeing Services (First Steps Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Skelmersdale Park Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Park Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Burscough Neighbourhood Centre (The Grove Young People's Centre and Children's Centre)	0-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Southway Neighbourhood Centre (The Zone in West Lancashire)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Currently 12-19 delivery only, centre can also accommodate 0-11 delivery and will provide alternative provision for families using Birch Green.
<b>Wyre</b>			
Flakefleet Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Fleetwood Children's Centre (Flakefleet satellite))	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	
Fleetwood Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Zone in Wyre)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Integrated Team location. Town centre location. Adaptations to accommodate 0-11 service delivery from Fleetwood Children's Centre.
Thornton Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Thornton Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	

Building	Service Delivery Offer (Current)	Consultation Proposal	Comments
Garstang Neighbourhood Centre (Garstang Library)	0-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Minor adaptations required to enable Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery offer will intensify utilisation of Library without impacting on library service.

The table below lists the 12 buildings where the proposal is to no longer provide Children and Family Wellbeing Service delivery

Building	Service Delivery Offer (Current)	Consultation Proposal	Comments
<b>Chorley</b>			
Coppull Children's Centre	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the local community.
<b>Hyndburn</b>			
Fairfield Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Fairfield Children's Centre)	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the local community.
Great Harwood Young People's Centre	12-19+	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the Great Harwood community.
<b>Lancaster</b>			
Appletree Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Appletree Children's Centre)	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Lune Park and White Cross are both within pram pushing distance of Appletree. Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the Marsh community.
Halton Library and Children's Centre	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the Halton community. There are universal services available in Halton Library and Halton Community Centre.
<b>Pendle</b>			
Earby Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Earby Community Centre)	12-19+	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the Earby community.
Colne Young People's Centre	12-19+	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the local community.

Building	Service Delivery Offer (Current)	Consultation Proposal	Comments
<b>Preston</b>			
New Hall Lane Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Sunshine Children's Centre (New Hall Lane Drop-in))	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the local community.
Sharoe Green Neighbourhood Centre (Sharoe Green Library and Cherry Tree Children's Centre)	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the Fulwood community. There are universal services available in Sharoe Green Library.
<b>West Lancashire</b>			
Birch Green Children and Family Wellbeing Services (St John's Children's Centre (Skelmersdale))	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Alternate provision will be available at Southway Neighbourhood Centre. Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the local community.
<b>Wyre</b>			
Rothwell Drive Neighbourhood Centre (Children's Social Care (The Anchorage Fleetwood) and West View Children's Centre)	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Service delivery to continue at Fleetwood Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Zone in Wyre) and Flakefleet Children and Family Wellbeing Services. Children and Family Wellbeing Service will continue to provide 121 family support in homes in the local community.
Fleetwood Children's Centre	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service	Pram pushing distance to alternative provision at Fleetwood Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Zone in Wyre).

## List of 14 buildings subject to further consideration

Building	Service Delivery Offer	Consultation Proposal
<b>Burnley</b>		
Stoneyholme and Daneshouse Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Stoneyholme and Daneshouse Young People's Centre)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
The Chai Centre	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
Padiham Young People's Centre	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
Whitegate Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Whitegate Children's Centre)	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
<b>Pendle</b>		
Bradley Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Zone in Pendle)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
Marsden Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Walton Lane Children's Centre)	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
<b>Preston</b>		
Preston Central Neighbourhood Centre (Riverbank Children's Centre)	0-11	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
Ashton Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Ashton Young People's Centre)	12-19+	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
<b>Ribble Valley</b>		
Clitheroe Children and Family Wellbeing Services (The Zone in Ribble Valley)	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
Ribblesdale Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Ribblesdale Children's Centre)	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
Longridge Young People's Centre	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
Longridge Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Willows Park Children's Centre)	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
<b>Rossendale</b>		
Whitworth Young People's Centre	12-19+	Keep delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service
Whitworth Children and Family Wellbeing Services (Whitworth Children's Centre)	0-11	No longer delivering Children and Family Wellbeing Service





## Lancashire County Council's Children and Family Wellbeing Service Consultation

**August 2018**

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### Background and Objectives

This consultation was commissioned by Lancashire County Council in June 2018 and was carried out by Creative Exchange in July and August of the same year.

The two main broad objectives for the consultation were given as:

- to create face to face opportunities to explore local service user needs, share and discuss their thoughts on the impact of proposals for changes to Children and Family Wellbeing Service (CFWS) patterns and locations for service delivery, and for service users to have the chance to articulate what they feel may be the direct impact of the proposals on their lives and families.
- to explore service users' ideas and views on potential alternatives to the proposals as set out – in terms of other considerations that they may wish for the council to consider – particularly in mitigating the impact of the proposals on families.

To meet these objectives a total of 17 fully participative consultation workshops were programmed for the month of July in 15 different locations across the county in accessible venues and at times of day when service users were most likely to attend.

Most of these workshops had a district focus, with one held per Lancashire District Council area. However, additional meetings were held with specific targeted groups; young people, young LGBT people and parents of families with children and young adults using the SEND services.

Not all the workshops were well attended, and on some occasions, they were not attended at all, despite the considerable efforts made by locally based staff to phone people, offering to provide transport or child care support. Refreshments were always available at the sessions. It is impossible to say why they were poorly attended, but, particularly at venues where no major changes were planned, it is easy to imagine that services users (who typically have very little money or time) would choose not to come to an event to talk about what they might see as matters that weren't significant to them and their families.

By the same token, it should be appreciated that those who did attend meetings did so out of the very limited amount of time and money available to them. They did so because of passionately held concerns, providing a great deal of relevant material for the consultation.



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## Findings

### Positive outcomes from services

There was a great deal of overlap and consensus between groups about the positive outcomes that CFWS produces for individuals, families and communities. The most widely cited were:

- A growth in confidence, self-esteem and the ability to communicate with others - for parents and for children
- Feeling listened to and having problems acknowledged
- Improved mental health and support in coping with stress – making a huge difference to families
- Help with identifying health and mental health problems such as depression
- Information and advice about parenting
- Creating and strengthening bonds between parents and young children
- The opportunity to share problems in a non-judgemental setting and help each other find solutions, particularly for parents of children with special educational needs
- Empowerment and an increased ability to make the most of life
- Providing a structure for personal development and identifying personal milestones
- Access to skills for employment such as interview and CV skills
- Coaching, reassurance and assistance in crises
- Referral and signposting to other services such as debt and benefits advice, cooking and healthy eating, health clinics, foodbanks, housing and eviction advice, sleep challenges etc.
- The ability to take up employment opportunities
- Breaking down social isolation, providing opportunities to socialise and making long-lasting friendships that continue beyond the centre for parents and children
- Building trust through friendships and communities, between parents and amongst children and young people
- Increasing independence in children and young people
- Learning and skills building for children, parents and families through positive experiences
- Increasing educational attainment at school
- Sustaining families and keeping them together
- Feeding into, influencing and improving other service area plans such as health
- Providing enjoyment, warmth, shelter and opportunities to have fun together with others
- Preparing children for school and spotting educational development needs at an early stage of a child's life
- Facilitating access to further and higher education opportunities
- Access to physical resources and facilities such as messy play, sensory rooms, IT equipment, safe outside play space etc.
- Safe spaces for children to develop, including in holiday periods
- Places for children to practice and display different behaviours than those displayed in the home
- Respite and 'time to breathe' for parents

While this is an impressively long list, perhaps even more impressive was the importance that participants placed on these services. In some cases, they were identified as literally life-saving.

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One person quite clearly said *'I wouldn't be alive without them. Without their support I would not be here now.'*

Another person added *'If you lose these services, you'll lose lives.'*

Several people involved in the consultation pointed out how small changes could have large effects on families with little margin for error or reserves. In all cases, the services - from Cook and Eat sessions to messy play to access to mental health services to being able to start a new job - were making a significant contribution to the quality of families' lives.

One person spoke of the particularly stressful difficulties single mothers have finding access to work or education while avoiding benefit traps and convincing potential employers that their single status didn't signify unreliability. The support from CFWS had been invaluable to her in finding her feet, in her, as she put it – *'fight for survival'*.

Another person in describing her experience said *'I didn't have the confidence to pick up the phone and now I do public speeches.'*

In all of this, the proximity, affordability and accessibility of services were seen as very important.

One young person spoke movingly about how he had been made homeless at 15 years old and how CFWS had been vital in helping him rebuild his life. He went on to say, *'Now I can speak out for myself and other people. It's a real life-changer.'*

## **Negative aspects of the services**

Participants were also asked to reflect on the shortcomings of the services currently provided by CFWS and how these could be improved.

Many of the comments concerned the buildings that services were currently delivered from. These included;

- Exposed hot water pipes that are hazardous for babies and young children
- The lack of private spaces to talk through confidential issues
- The lack of reliable internet connections
- The lack of printing facilities in a number of locations
- The lack of safe and adequate parking not on a main road
- The lack of fit-for-purpose baby changing (and disabled young people's changing) facilities
- The state of decoration of some premises, both inside and out in a number of locations
- Lack of clarity about opening hours and what services are on offer across all locations
- Opening hours that sometimes didn't match user needs, particularly for young people who were in full time education and the failure of services to use social networks like closed facebook pages to inform group members of changes to services in a more timely and effective way

Another recurring theme was the underuse of premises targeted for closure and the feeling that these places could become sustainable if they were better used or marketed. While

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CFWS staff were highly praised in general, it was sometimes felt that staff at these places did not take an active enough role in promoting the venue to new users.

Some participants felt that in some centres, services were cancelled or arranged at short notice and that there was not enough encouragement for new parents to join in and belong. Examples of this were **Walton Lane** and **Rossendale Zone**.

It was sometimes felt that the outward appearance of buildings or the irregularity of opening hours made people think they were no longer in use and so it was pointless looking for services in them. Examples cited were **West Paddock**, and **Clitheroe Zone** where one user said *'A lot of the time it seems to be shut. I don't know if it's okay to come in or not to come in. And it's inconsistent. They're not using social media to let us know. When it's open it's fantastic. But it feels like getting to see them, it's getting harder and harder.'*

One person also felt that there could be more structure to the different services on offer, and they could be more linked and focused rather than being more open-ended and sometimes feeling more like a social event than a chance to learn, for example in **Rossendale Zone** where it was felt that a more sequenced topic related programme, for example weaning and sleep challenges, could be of more benefit to new mothers. Here also it was suggested that improved communication was necessary to avoid the sense that there was an 'in group' and an excluded group of potential users who simply weren't confident enough to find their way in. A simple suggestion they came up with was a visible notice board, possibly with sign-up strips to show what sessions were taking place across the district and where.

Better communication with service users and potential service users through word of mouth, or signboards or social media or making links to other organisations like Women's Refuges or neighbouring schools and nursery schools was a frequent plea. *'It feels like – take it or leave it.'* we were told.

Finally, a commonly held and perhaps predictable view was that there simply weren't enough services and that they should be expanded rather than contracted.

Participants from the POUT group for LGBT young people told us that this was the only local authority provision for their community across the whole of Lancashire, and that it was now running at full capacity and couldn't accommodate any new members at **West Paddock**. Members of this group felt however that they were now able and confident to help others set up similar groups in other parts of the county if they were given some initial support and included in the appropriate networks. They also pointed out that there was no related provision across the county for young people aged 11 or 12 years old, a group that was rapidly becoming a lot more vocal in questioning their sexuality.

This idea of growing capacity in young members of the community and equipping them to become sessional workers in their own right, *'like a sort of mini-apprenticeship'* was echoed powerfully in discussions with a range of impressive young people and young parents at the **Clitheroe Zone**.



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Many people were convinced from personal experiences that the unmet need was there, but that the people who would benefit most from services would find it hardest to access them because of the difficulties they were coping with in their day-to-day lives. Practically everyone involved in the consultation pointed out how geographically circumscribed most service users' lives are. Transport costs or simply insecurity about going to new places and settings were raised again and again as important factors.

## **The impact of the planned closures**

As might be expected, the list of negative impacts is, in many ways, the mirror of the positive outcomes previously listed. They span:

- Increased isolation and deteriorating communities
- Declining mental health and strain on already overstretched mental health services
- Increased strain on family budgets
- An increase in health problems in parents and children, particularly relevant to Lancashire which has one of the highest infant mortality rates in England
- A drop in the number of people using the service because of transport difficulties
- A drop in the number of people using the services because of the need to inform existing or new service users about changes – the existing client base will decline and it will take time to build it back up
- A lack of diagnoses and early interventions to address problems such as delayed speech and language development
- A knock-on effect on employment with some parents having to give up work or find new jobs to fit new pick up and drop off patterns
- A knock-on effect on families and the stress other family members will experience
- Reducing use of other services such as neighbouring nursery schools which will, in turn, endanger their sustainability and the local authority's investment in them
- Current users and their children falling out of the net of support
- Reduced educational attainment by the children whose parents can't accommodate to the changes with a knock-on effect on schools and other pupils
- Loss of supportive relationships

One participant summed up the effect of all these impacts coming together – *'Without their support people won't be able to function'*. Another said, *'They'll be invisible.'* Another summed it up as, *'So all that stuff that improves their life – they wouldn't get anymore.'*

The issue of isolation and mental health was seen by many as crucial. One person said, *'People will be stuck inside with a child all the time. Their mental health will just suffer.'* Another said, *'There can be a four month wait for people with severe mental illnesses who have two children and not able to get out of bed because of depression.'* Another said, *'Without that I don't know what I'd do. 63% of LGBT people suffer from mental health conditions. There's nowhere else.'*

Certain other issues also need to be reported in more detail.

Firstly, the difficulties of added travel were mentioned very often, in fact by all but three participants. What might seem a short distance on a map, seemed like a profoundly difficult obstacle course on the street, involving scarce extra time and money. In particular cases it was pointed out to us that crossing 'territorial' boundaries was a real issue. For example, in Fleetwood

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where we were told that people don't move off Chatsworth estate (West View) so are unlikely to travel to another centre – particularly the young people. And that people from Flakefleet don't associate with Chatsworth, but that Flakefleet people are more likely to move out of the neighbourhood to access services at, for example, Milton Street.

The list of quotes below is not exhaustive but gives a flavour of these concerns.

*'Don't think parents will go to the other centre.'*

*'I don't drive. Places like this – it's too far.'*

*'Can you get a double pram on a bus?'*

*'If you're a parent who's anxious – don't know how to get there, don't know people, don't know what to expect.'*

*'How do you meet a friend you make at the centre?'*

*'Just no chance. I don't drive. Too far to walk. Far too far.'*

In some cases in urban areas we were told that the changes would necessitate two bus journeys – to Preston town centre and out again. The problem of transport is obviously particularly acute for any rural communities affected by the changes, where infrequency of buses may make it simply impossible to fit visits to the services in with other family commitments.

It seems almost certain from what we were told that many current service users will no longer be able to access the service because of closures. It was an open question raised by many, whether this endangered remaining services. As one participant put it, *'It seems to me like they want it to fail.'*

All these difficulties are compounded in the case of children with special educational needs and their families. Provision for these children is, in any case, limited. Parents told us that it was extremely difficult to find provision. One said that she had rejected or been rejected by nine different nurseries. The lack of an obligation for children with special educational needs on private providers was noted by several.

In particular, for those parents using Walton Lane Nursery and the Play Inclusion Project at **Ashton**, there was the concern that the reduction of services would make other provision uneconomical or unviable. As one person said, *'If the money goes, there's nowhere for them to go so I won't be able to work and that has a knock on effect on my family.'* This view was passionately echoed in relation to discussions about the impact of service reduction at **Fairfield Children's Centre** on Fairfield Nursery.

Transport difficulties, anxiety, adapting routines and relationships, fitting in with other schedules, recruiting new volunteers – all of these present additional, complex and severe difficulties for children with special educational needs and their parents. For example, we were told of one young person with severe epilepsy for whom an increase of walking time to services from five to twenty minutes increased the risk of a drop seizure many times over.

Also, in the case of these children it is not clear that the premises they are being asked to move to will be adequate. Will there be fit-for-purpose, private changing facilities? Will there be enough space for several wheelchair users to access the space at the same time? Will there be access

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to equipment? Will space be safe and not overlooked by other users? All of these were given as concerns.

Another issue that worried participants was the idea that services could be shared between young children and babies *and* young people. This was frequently commented on as problematic. Three people specifically felt that the presence of young people might be seen as threatening by young families.

At the same time, none of the young people consulted felt immediately comfortable with the idea of using a space that was clearly designed for the needs of very young children. One who had experienced this said in genuine horror, *'I came in one day and there was, like, baby stuff everywhere.'* Tables, chairs, doors, what was on the walls, all of these, we were told, could easily alienate one group or the other.

Another said, *'What it's called is important. Images are important. It might just as well be called 'Just for Babies'.'* The name of the building to be used was seen as a key decision by many. Any title given to a building that stressed one group's use, it was thought, would lead to it becoming less attractive to another. Obvious religious affiliations also might alienate some potential users and it was suggested that, in Clitheroe, the locally used name for The Zone - The Trin - would create a greater sense of community engagement and also overcome the word Trinity being seen to have potentially excluding religious connotations.

There was divided opinion if the same practice of sharing applied to staff. Some people felt that staff were being asked to work with groups for whom they were not qualified or familiar. For example, one person said, *'They're nice, but they don't really know what's going on.'*

However, two people had had very good experiences of working with staff members who were new to them and their area of work because the staff member had been eager to listen to them and to learn from and with them.

Another person stressed the ability of staff to empathise with service users was the key element. He said, *'Part of the reason I'm comfortable here and safe is because they built up a rapport with me when I was in a dark place.'*

We were regularly reminded by participants that children, and in particular the most deprived and vulnerable children, would be affected most by these changes.

## **Mitigating the negative impacts**

Many participants in the consultation were both imaginative and creative when it came to suggesting how the expected negative impacts could be mitigated. The main ones were:

- Using centres threatened with closure more and involving other services to make them more sustainable and family friendly – for example, increasing evening use or encouraging hot desking or meeting room hire
- Providing transport for groups including, possibly, the loan of car seats (though it was acknowledged that group travel arrangements were liable to disruption through a group member not turning up and/or running late)



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- Subsidising transport costs, for example by providing free day tickets for the bus (already offered by some services for young people) or securing private sponsorship in the case of the Cook and Eat sessions
  - Identifying other local venues that are more convenient for existing users
  - Providing a clear programme of what is on offer at the centre and advertising it well, encouraging higher usage
  - Offering outreach sessions in communities where buildings might be closing
  - Getting parents involved more through promotions like fun days and doing more consultation about new ideas
  - Using volunteers while bearing in mind what volunteers can and can't do
  - Using social media better to let people know what's going on

On the first of these points, two people at one session came up with a list of possible new uses for a centre that included meeting rooms for small businesses, senior coffee mornings, multicultural cookery lessons, language café sessions in order to make the existing youth centre more visible, family friendly, better used and central to the life of its community – in this case, **Clitheroe**.

Using social media better was mentioned by most participants, and increasing the role in updating social media by service users was suggested. It was acknowledged that this was not always possible, particularly in the case of vulnerable people and younger people, but it was felt that this was an area that could usefully be explored to build and empower groups of service users.

Finally a point was made about the whole consultation having been carried out in English, both the face-to-face to face sessions and the online questionnaire. Whether this is actual or merely perceived, it was pointed out that few people are really confident about expressing themselves just using these channels and that whole communities were being missed out of the process as a result.

### **Specific locations of concern**

The preceding sections of this report contain comments about services provided by CFWS in general. They can be used to form a checklist of provision across all Lancashire districts and venues.

This final section of the report highlights specific locations where the positive outcomes the service delivers are most at threat as a consequence of the planned changes, where negative impacts appear to us most likely to occur and where further consideration of those changes is warranted by the comments of those consulted. These are in: Ribble Valley, Pendle, Preston, Wyre and Hyndburn.

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## **Ribble Valley**

There were strongly held views about this change, focused on issues of whether Clitheroe Zone can accommodate use by young children and babies and whether the needs of service users from Ribblesdale and Longridge Children's Centres can be catered for within this building.

Real concerns were expressed about how the culture and 'feel' of the building itself could facilitate this change while staff within the building were unanimously praised for being welcoming and supportive when contact was made. It was felt that service users may be inadvertently excluded by the proposed changes. The point was made that while Clitheroe is an affluent town, many of Clitheroe's residents are not well-off. As one person said, *'It's a five-minute walk from Booths car park and all the Range Rovers to the Foodbank.'*

At the same time it was felt that the Zone – maybe particularly if it was renamed The Trin – had the potential to become a real community hub if the right investments were made in the building and if a satisfactory way of combining uses could be found. It was, however, acknowledged that this would not be easy - because of for example, issues relating to parking - and would probably need greater involvement by local residents in its redesign and reprofiling.

## **Pendle**

There was considerable concern that the closure of the Marsden Children's Centre would undermine the viability of Walton Lane Nursery, particularly its rare SEND provision which a number of parents sang the praises of. And it was made clear that it should not be assumed that parents will find it easy to move from Walton Lane to use and to support the services at the Beacon Centre.

There was a clear message from the consultation that SEND children, their parents and families were especially at risk from the planned changes and further consideration needed to be given to them. The many comments in other sections of this report about SEND children should be referred to again here.

This was the location where pleas were made for extra, active promotion of the facility to increase its use and hence its sustainability.

## **Preston**

The vulnerability of SEND children was also stressed to us by staff and users of the Play Inclusion Project for disabled children and young people (currently held at Ashton). They simply could not see how they will cope with the move and find suitable accommodation in any of the Preston centres that will remain open.

Change of either time or location, or both, could:

- produce high levels of anxiety and disruption to users
- significantly impact on the availability of volunteers who are essential in delivering that service
- reduce the time and quality of the respite benefits to parents and carers
- have profound negative impacts on the quality of life of the families involved.
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It appears to us that additional, detailed consultation on buildings and facilities with this group is needed.

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## Wyre

Milton Street was highly regarded and the mother and baby group at West View was deemed invaluable. There was discussion around the possibility for adult, of utilising Broadway Medical Centre because of its location on the boundary of Flakefleet and Chatsworth and, as a result, is seen as neutral. But there was a real sense that that building was just not young people friendly.

Attendees at the workshop assumed that if West View will still be delivering children's social care, what about incorporating evening sessions there for targeted young people's services?

Or, it was suggested that since Mount View Medical Centre is opposite Kemp Street and close to Milton Street, this could potentially be used in the same way for adults.

## Hyndburn

Considerable concerns were expressed about the closure of services at Fairfield and suggestions were made about providing transport from Fairfield to the Park to enable people to continue accessing sessions like the Cook and Eat six-week programme. A minibus was proposed for this as *'they come from The Park anyway, so it would just be us using the same petrol for us to get to them now.'* At the same time it was felt that The Park was not a very nice building *'It's not very welcoming, it feels really dark when you go in.'*

## And finally...



CFWS staff did not attend the consultation meetings. The consultation was exclusively with service users. All the staff we encountered during this process were professional, kind and welcoming, but it must be stated that the staff running the Tuesday evening session for children and young people with a wide range of needs at Bradley Children and Families Wellbeing Centre (formerly the Pendle Zone) were among the most impressive we have ever encountered.

This was the only time staff attended the consultation, for obvious reasons, and they were exceptional in their multi-skilled supportive approach to empowering the young group members whose permission we have to include the photograph above.

The closing words of this report will begin with the quote from a young woman whose statement *'Stop thinking about money and start thinking about lives and people.'* we promised to convey.

We firmly believe that this consultation has shown that within the pressing financial constraints it is grappling with, Lancashire County Council is doing precisely that through this process.

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## APPENDIX I

The ten questions forming the basis of the co-design process of consultation were as follows:

### Stage 1

1. Shall we start by finding out who we all are?
2. Which centres do you use and which services?
3. How often do you use the services?
4. How would you describe the positive things that you and your family get out of the services?
5. Can you think of any negative things?
6. Which sessions work best for you?
7. What would make the sessions even better for you?

### Stage 2

The council is having to make changes to the way it delivers its services now – do you know about this?

8. How will this affect you?
9. How easy is it for you to get to the centre you use?  
What about getting to other centres – how easy is it to get there?
10. What do you think could be done so the changes the council are going to make wouldn't be as bad for you?

Section 4

# Equality Analysis Toolkit

**Children and Family Wellbeing Service v5**  
**For Decision Making Items**

**November 2018**

**Question 1 - What is the nature of and are the key components of the proposal being presented?**

To make savings of £1.25m to the Children and Family Wellbeing Service by ceasing service delivery from a number of settings, including some school based settings.

The proposal follows on from a Cabinet Report submitted in January 2018 where it was agreed that £1.25 million savings would be made from the Service's budget.

The Children and Family Wellbeing Service in Lancashire identifies as early as possible when a child, young person or their family needs support, helping them to access services to meet their needs, preventing any problems getting worse and reducing the demand for specialist support services. Working together with key partners, they make sure that they have maximum impact on achieving positive outcomes for families. The Children and Family Wellbeing Service prioritises vulnerable groups, individuals and communities, based on assessed levels of need under the following themes:

- Safeguarding and supporting the vulnerable;
- Supporting family life;
- Enabling learning;
- Preparing for work;
- Improving community safety;
- Promoting health and wellbeing;
- Developing healthier places.

The Service works with the people they support in different ways and places like:

- One to one support between a worker and a family
- Group based sessions held in different community buildings, like a village hall
- Outreach in places like homes, at school or a local café
- Their work with young people can even be on the streets.

The Service needs to identify the most effective and efficient use of buildings to support their service delivery.

In developing this proposal, the Service has looked at evidence of how it has made a difference to children, young people and families and how the service could become more effective. The Service have focussed on how they could provide support direct to people in their home settings where possible and delivering in community settings where best. This would enable them to become more people focussed rather than buildings based. By doing this, the Service plans to reduce the number of buildings where they are based and work more flexibly in the community.

As part of this proposal the Service also intend to commission a 12-19 years youth offer through the voluntary, community and faith sector to support our delivery of services to young people across Lancashire.

## **Question 2 - Scope of the Proposal**

Is the proposal likely to affect people across the county in a similar way or are specific areas likely to be affected – e.g. are a set number of branches/sites to be affected?

It is proposed that going forward the Service will retain service delivery at 57 settings. It is proposed to cease delivering the service from 19 buildings, although this includes putting into effect decisions to no longer use premises taken in the 2016 Property Strategy alongside proposals to no longer use other identified buildings to deliver the children and Family Wellbeing Service.

The proposal will affect each District of the county but specific buildings have been proposed to no longer be used for delivering the Children and Family Wellbeing service. These settings/buildings have been identified after consideration of a range of criteria including:

- How easy it is to get to the buildings;
- How much need there is for our services in different places;
- How much each buildings is used and what it is used for;
- How suitable the buildings are for delivering our services;

- Each building's running costs and condition;
- What other Services are provided in the building;
- The likely impact on the local community.

The advantages and disadvantages of not using each building have also been considered in light of this.

The buildings proposed to cease delivering the Children and Family Wellbeing service at the beginning of the consultation and any possible nearest alternative provision identified are:

- Lancaster - Halton Children Centre (alternatives Lune Park Centre approx. 2.8 miles or White Cross approx. 3.3 miles away);
- Lancaster - Appletree Children Centre (alternatives White Cross approx. 1.9 miles or Lune Park Centre approx. 2.2. miles away);
- Wyre - West View Children Centre - The Anchorage, Fleetwood (alternatives Flakefleet approx. 0.8 or The Zone, Milton Street approx. 1.5 miles away);
- Wyre - Kemp Street Children Centre, Fleetwood (alternatives Flakefleet approx. 0.8 miles or The Zone, Milton Street approx. 0.4 miles away);
- Preston - Star Young Peoples Centre, Ashton, (currently no realistic alternatives as Moor Nook is approx. 4.1 miles away and building alterations would be needed for 12-19+ provision at Riverbank Children Centre 0.5 miles away);
- Preston - Cherry Tree Children Centre, (alternative Preston East Children Centre approx. 1.7 miles away);
- Preston - Sunshine satellite Children Centre, New Hall Lane, (alternative Stoneygate Children Centre approx. 1 mile away);
- West Lancashire - St Johns Children Centre, (alternative The Zone, West Lancashire approx. 2 miles away);
- Hyndburn - Fairfield Children Centre, (alternative The Zone in Accrington approx. 1.2 miles away);
- Ribble Valley - Ribblesdale Children Centre, Ribble Valley (alternative The Zone in Clitheroe approx. 0.5 miles away);



- Ribble Valley - Willows Park Children Centre, Ribble Valley (alternative Longridge Young Peoples Centre approx. 0.3 miles away);
- Rossendale - Whitworth Children Centre, (alternative Whitworth Young Peoples Centre approx. 0.3 miles away);
- Burnley - Whitegate Children Centre, Burnley (alternatives Padiham Young Peoples Centre approx. 0.7 miles or Ightenhill Children Centre approx. 1.6 miles away);
- Burnley - Chai Children Centre, (alternatives Reedley Hallows Children Centre approx. 0.6 miles or Stoneyholme and Daneshouse Centre approx. 0.5 miles away);
- Pendle - Earby Community Centre, Pendle (alternative at Barnoldswick Young People Centre approx. 2.7 miles away is unlikely to be realistic due to public transport availability);
- Pendle - Walton Lane Children Centre. (alternative The Zone, Nelson approx. 0.7 miles away).

In the assessment process, consideration was also given to alternative settings which could potentially be available to people, young people and children we support and those identified/prioritised are listed above, along with opportunities for mobile and outreach service delivery.

### **Question 3 – Protected Characteristics Potentially Affected**

Could the proposal have a particular impact on any group of individuals sharing protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, namely:

- Age
- Disability including Deaf people
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race/ethnicity/nationality
- Religion or belief
- Sex/gender
- Sexual orientation
- Marriage or Civil Partnership Status

And what information is available about these groups in the County's population or as service users/customers?

In broad terms, the protected characteristics most likely to be affected by the proposal are:

**Age** – particularly children and young people given the scope of the service. Specifically 16 of the settings proposed to cease delivering service include provision for 0-11 year old children and four premises include provision for 12-19+ young people (Earby Community Centre has 0-19+ provision).

**Pregnancy and Maternity** – Children Centres provide support services for women who are pregnant or on maternity leave so the proposal will affect people from this protected characteristic group. The service provides a range of "parent to be" courses for targeted pregnant mums, particularly teenage parents to be and a range of support services for parents/carers of babies and toddlers.

**Disability** – disabled young people can potentially use the Young Peoples service until their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday so may be more adversely impacted than other groups. The service has a specific service offer for children with special educational needs and disabilities providing **at minimum** two group based opportunities per week dedicated to children and young people with SEND, in each District area, once focussed around children (0-11 years) and a second focussed on young people (over 11 years and to 25 years). Of those premises specified in the proposal, Ashton Young People's Centre (Star Centre in Ashton) hosts a young disabled persons' session at present.

As part of the services' targeted early help offer each district will also deliver a parenting programme opportunity (lasting 10-12 weeks) dedicated to parents and carers of children and young people with SEND at least once a year, in addition to the one to one targeted family support and group based programmes which are accessible to all parents and carers.

**Sexual Orientation and Gender Reassignment** – the service provides a range of support to LGBT young people. The focus group element of consultation/engagement has identified that the POUT

group for LGBT young people is, however, the only local authority provision for their community across Lancashire and it is running at full capacity and couldn't accommodate any new members, though they felt with support they could set up more local groups. They were also concerned that there is no provision for 11-12 year olds who were increasingly vocal in questioning their sexuality.

**Sex/Gender** – the service provides some boys only and girls only sessions for the 12-19 (25) age group which focus on issues such as health and relationships. Culturally, single sex groups can be welcomed by some communities.

The service also provide Dad's Only groups where fathers and children can engage in activities together, particularly where the fathers are the primary carers.

**Race/Ethnicity** – English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses are run from a number of centres with this element being commented on in relation to the proposal for Fairfield Children Centre in Hyndburn. However, for some communities the availability of 1 to 1 support at home is seen as removing a potential barrier to use of the service – e.g. for communities close to the Chai Centre. In Preston there is a Polish Group supported by the Service, where members of the Polish community can come together socially for help, support and advice.

The Children and Family Wellbeing service also has a long tradition of being inclusive and of supporting young people – e.g. who are LGBT - and of raising awareness and understanding of equality and cohesion issues across its service delivery and workforce.

#### **Question 4 – Engagement/Consultation**

How have people/groups been involved in or engaged with in developing this proposal?

The proposal was subject to an 8-week public consultation which ran from 6 June to 3 August 2018.

For this consultation paper copies of the questionnaire were made available in buildings where Children and Family Wellbeing services are delivered. An electronic version of the consultation questionnaire was available at [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk). In addition a series of focus groups/consultation workshops with people and young people we support took place in July 2018 facilitated by the organisation Creative Exchange. 569 stakeholders with an interest in the Children and Family Wellbeing service were alerted to the consultation and how they could participate in it by email at the start of the consultation period.

The consultation questionnaire outlined the proposal for the Children and Family Wellbeing service and then identified by district the 57 buildings proposed to continue delivering Children and Family Wellbeing services and the 19 buildings proposed to no longer deliver Children and Family Wellbeing services.

In total 729 completed questionnaires were received, 271 paper questionnaires and 458 on-line.

In terms of the demographic breakdown of respondents who responded to these questions:

- 89% of respondents were residents of Lancashire;
- 78% of respondents were female and 19% were male. Although county council consultations often have more women respondents this is a comparatively high response and significantly higher than the county's gender profile. This probably reflects the nature of the service and of the facilities at some premises included in the consultation.
- 1% of respondents identified as being Transgender, which is a slightly higher response rate than for many other consultations where this protected characteristic is included in demographic questions.
- In terms of age: 3% of respondents were aged under 16, 2% were aged 16-19. 40% were aged 20-34 and 47% were aged 35-64. 5% of respondents were aged 65-74 and 1% were aged over 75. Given the nature of the service, the age profile of consultation respondents is not unexpected.

- 6% of respondents identified as having a disability or being a Deaf person which is a little lower than for other consultations and might have been expected to be higher given the nature of the service offer. However, 11% of consultation respondents said they had disabled children or young people in their household which is higher than the 2% figure recorded in many other service consultations.
- 3% of respondents had no children but were expecting, a slightly higher level of response than for many other service consultations. 50% of respondents had children aged under 5 in their household which is higher than in many consultations but reflective of the children centre element of the service. 24% had children aged 5-8, 19% had young people aged 12-16 in their household, 17% had children aged 9-11, 9% had young people aged 17-19 in their household and 16% of respondents had no young people in their household.
- 85% of respondents to the consultation were White, 9% identified as Asian or Asian British, 1% identified as Black or Black British, 1% identified as Mixed Race/Ethnicity and 1% as Other. The percentage of respondents who are Asian or Asian British is higher than for many other service consultations whilst the percentage of White respondents is lower. The response rate is also slightly different from the Lancashire population where in the 2011 Census 92% of the population was identified as White and 7.8% as from BME communities.
- 9% of respondents also identified as being Muslim in the religion or belief protected characteristic question, a higher figure than in many service consultations and as recorded in the 2011 Census. The percentage of Christian consultation participants was lower than in many other service consultations and the percentage who had no religion was slightly higher, other religions were represented in broadly similar terms to other service consultations where this question is included.
- 2% of consultation respondents identified as being bisexual which is slightly higher than in many other service consultations. Other response rates for this question were broadly in keeping

with many other service consultations where the sexual orientation question is included.

- 20% of respondents identified as being from Pendle, 15% from Burnley, 14% from Lancaster and 12% from Preston of those who answered this question. The lowest percentages of respondents were from South Ribble (2%), Wyre and Fylde at both 3% and Chorley at 4%.

About 55% of respondents said that they go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service about once a week or more. 21% of respondents never go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service.

Of those who had used a building, 62% of those who had used a service in the last 12 months had used baby, toddler or child activities or groups, 43% had used information, advice or support and 34% had used family and parenting support. Other items of relevance to this analysis include 22% of respondents had used groups and activities for young people, 21% had accessed individual or group support around emotional health and wellbeing for a parent or their children, 13% had accessed specialist support for families with children with disabilities and 11% accessed help with work, education, training or welfare benefits.

Respondents were asked if they had used any of the buildings in the last 12 months which the service proposes to continue using. 55% of respondents had used these buildings and 40% had not used any of these buildings.

Similarly respondents were asked if they had used any of the buildings in the past 12 months which the service proposed to no longer deliver its services from. 51% of respondents had used these buildings and 46% of respondents had not.

About 14% of respondents said that if the proposal happened they would go to a Children and Family Wellbeing service building less often than they do now and 22% said that they would not go at all. About 14% of respondents said they would go to a building to use a Children and Family Wellbeing service more often than they do now if

the proposal happened, and 39% of respondents said they would go about as often as they do now.

When asked how the proposal would affect them, if it happened, 50% of respondents said it would be more difficult/impossible for people in the local area to access Children and Family Wellbeing services and get the support they need and 29% said that the centre is important for the local community. 14% of respondents said the proposal would have no effect on them, 11% of respondents said they would lose their jobs whilst 10% said it would free up space in the building to be used in other ways.

About 27% of respondents agree with the proposal and 54% said that they disagree with it.

When asked why they agree or disagree with the proposal 47% of respondents said that centres provide valuable support to local communities and their family, 16% supported the merging or consolidating of centres to improve the utilisation of facilities, 15% said the proposed changes will make it difficult/impossible to access these facilities, 15% said it will negatively impact on the most vulnerable families and 14% felt it would have a negative impact on other services provided within the building (e.g. nursery) possibly leading to their closure and job losses. Other responses with a particular equalities reference included 8% of respondents who said the proposals will reduce access to services supporting young childrens' education and development, 6% said SEND children are well supported currently/will lose access to support/change will be difficult, 5% said that budgets should not be cut for services to children and young people, 4% of respondents said that the proposal will mean that children will not get their free early years entitlement and 3% said that closures will lead to more anti-social behaviour and other negative impacts.

Finally respondents were asked if there was anything else we needed to consider or that could be done differently. 22% of respondents said that money should be found from elsewhere in the county council's budget to keep the centres open/invest in them, 18% said people may miss out on the support they need, 17% said that the future impact of the closures should be considered, 17% said stop closing centres as

we need more of them and 16% said find alternative uses/options for the buildings rather than merging/closing them. Other responses with a specific protected characteristics element included 12% of respondents who said the centres/service provides a support network for single parents/new mums; 7% said the existence of these centres helps prevent anti-social behaviour, 5% said the local centre is easily accessible especially for those without their own transport or with mobility issues and 2% who said consider the impact on those that require help/support (vulnerable/disadvantaged, etc).

A number of responses mentioned some centres specifically but this analysis must exercise some caution in using this information as although, for example, 92 respondents mentioned Walton Lane Children Centre and 38 mentioned Willows Park Children Centre, the numbers of specific mentions alone may not fully reflect the value placed on any individual centre. However, comments included in the consultation report referring to a specific building which have a specific relevance to protected characteristics are summarised below:

Walton Lane Children Centre – many respondents felt that removing the service may leave the nursery at risk of closure, that the centre supported a high number of children with special educational needs and disabilities and that other centres/providers in the area may not be able to meet the needs of children using the centre.

The Chai Centre Children Centre – this is felt to be positioned in the heart of the community and to be easily accessible by those without their own transport. Respondents noted that the centre supports minorities and those with disabilities.

Sharoe Green Library and Cherry Tree Children Centre – respondents noted the good parking facilities and that the combination of a library and children centre in one building works well.

Fairfield Children Centre – respondents were concerned that removing services from this centre might leave the nursery and other services at risk of closure. There was also a feeling that other services in the area may not be able to meet the needs of the children using this centre with children with disabilities and those who speak little English given



as examples. Many people who use the centre walk to it and the alternatives are not a comfortable walking distance away so people may not be able to use them.

Appletree Children Centre – respondents commented that the alternative suggestion of White Cross is in the centre of a business park that isn't easily accessible for any part of the community and isn't close to the retail centre whereas there is an "abundance" of parking near the Appletree centre and a number of other services can be accessed at the building.

Willows Park Children Centre – a number of respondents, though not all, supported the proposal to move services to Longridge Young Peoples Centre.

Other responses have been received from borough and parish councils, an MP, Lancashire Care Foundation Trust which provides services in a number of the Children and Family Wellbeing service's buildings, and other organisations and individuals. Many expressed concerns about the potential impact on services of withdrawing from the buildings listed in the consultation or other service buildings which respondents also identified. A number of the individual email responses identified the importance of support for "new mums" from the centres and peer support from meeting people at "stay and play" or other sessions. The ability to access locally health provision and clinics was also identified, along with breastfeeding support, access to dads' groups and the help such groups can be to the mental health of some of those attending. Others mentioned that it brought parents together from all backgrounds who were experiencing similar situations/concerns or anxieties and the centres helped new parents and others feel less isolated.

The focus group element of the consultation sessions were held in each of the 12 Districts and additional sessions were held for specific targeted groups, e.g. young people, LGBT young people and parents of families of children and young adults using the SEND service. All were held in accessible premises and at times when service users were more likely to be able to attend. Attendance did vary, it was suggested this was possibly because some areas may be more

affected by the proposals than others. The report identified that those who attended were passionate about and very interested in the service.

Some of the themes of most relevance to this analysis are:

**Positive Outcomes from services** – people mentioned a growth in confidence, self-esteem and the ability to communicate with others for both parents and children; improved mental health and support in coping with stress – making a huge difference to families; help in identifying health and mental health problems such as depression; information and advice about parenting; creating and strengthening bonds between parents and young children; the opportunity to share problems in a non-judgemental setting and to help each other find solutions, particularly for parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities; access to skills for employment such as interview and CV skills; referrals and signposting to other services such as debt and benefits advice, cooking and healthy eating, health clinics, foodbanks, housing and eviction advice, sleep challenges, etc; the ability to take up employment opportunities; breaking down social isolation, providing opportunities to socialise and making long-lasting friendships that continue beyond the centre for parents and children; building trust through friendships and communities, between parents and amongst children and young people; increasing educational attainment at school; preparing children for school and spotting educational development needs at an early stage of a child's life; facilitating access to further and higher education opportunities; access to physical resources and facilities such as messy play, sensory rooms, IT equipment, safe outside play space, etc; safe space for children to develop including in holiday periods and respite and time to breathe for parents.

**Negative Aspects of the service** – many of these were specific to individual buildings but some of the more general themes which have an equalities element included the lack of fit for purpose baby changing facilities and disabled young people's changing facilities; lack of clarity about opening hours of buildings and what services are on offer across all locations and opening hours that sometimes didn't

match users' needs particularly for young people who were in full time education.

**The impact of the planned closures** – comments on the impact of the proposed withdrawal of service delivery in the proposed settings with an equalities theme/relevance included: increased isolation and deteriorating communities; declining mental health and increased strain on already overstretched mental health services; an increase in health problems in parents and children, particularly relevant to Lancashire which has one of the highest infant mortality rates in England it was said; a drop in the number of people using the service because of transport difficulties; a lack of diagnoses and early interventions to address problems such as speech and language development; a knock on effect on employment with some parents having to give up work or find new jobs to fit around pick up and drop off times/patterns; reducing use of other services such as neighbouring nursery schools which could in turn endanger their sustainability; reduced educational attainment by the children whose parents can't adapt to the service changes and a knock on effect on schools and other pupils; loss of supportive relationships;

**Mitigating the negative impacts** – suggestions made included providing transport for groups, including possibly the loan of car seats (although the limitations of group travel were also acknowledged); subsidising transport costs, for example by providing free day tickets for the bus; identifying other local venues that are more convenient for existing users; or offering outreach sessions in communities where buildings might be closing.

It is not anticipated that formal staff consultation will be required as many of the premises identified provide sessional services delivered by staff who are based elsewhere.

## **Question 5 – Analysing Impact**

Could this proposal potentially disadvantage particular groups sharing protected characteristics and if so which groups and in what way? This

pays particular attention to the general aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty:

- To eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation because of protected characteristics;
- To advance equality of opportunity for those who share protected characteristics;
- To encourage people who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life;
- To contribute to fostering good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not/community cohesion;

The Service has emphasised throughout that it will continue to deliver services in areas where buildings are proposed to no longer be used, although the service may be delivered in a different way or at a different location or time. It is the view of the Service that there was no suggestion of, and there was no intention to, close the majority of these buildings. Only a small number of the buildings included are solely used by the Children and Family Wellbeing Service – e.g. Ashton/Star Young Peoples Centre, – and these buildings may close.

In the majority of cases other services also use the buildings. It is the service's view that any other services delivered in these buildings should not be unduly affected by this proposal. Some consultation responses and consultation workshop feedback may not have fully appreciated this or fully reflected this position and have perceived that services will cease and buildings will close entirely in all cases.

It also appeared that some respondents had not recognised that the service already delivers services through outreach work in places like individual's homes, at schools or in local cafes, etc as alternative venues. This may allay some concerns about having to travel to or other barriers to using alternative settings.

There will remain a level of universal service available to those assessed as at Level 1 on the Lancashire Continuum of Need in the form of information, advice, and guidance and signposting only. This

will include libraries and other venues, some of which are adjacent to or near buildings which the service proposes to no longer use for its service delivery.

Other recent budget decisions concerning staffing have meant the service stretching to maintain reach and statutory universal commitments as part of the children centre core offer becoming extremely difficult with this level of capacity reduction. Therefore suggestions for promoting the Children and Family Wellbeing service more widely in order to increase usage, cannot be taken forward. The service targets and prioritises children, young people, parents and families most in need, particularly where it thinks that early help will make the biggest difference, so wider promotion to the public would not be appropriate. The new structure of the service in terms of its buildings delivery will allow the service to function more efficiently with teams no longer being split between different buildings.

Those assessed as being on Level 2 of the Lancashire Continuum of Need, are prioritised with a greater level of support being available to them. Included amongst the prioritised groups are those with disabilities or SEND, those affected by domestic abuse, groups such as Travellers, asylum seekers or refugees – these groups represent those with the disability, ethnicity and sex/gender protected characteristics.

The service will deliver 1 to 1 support, often at home, for those who live in areas affected by the proposal who require it. In a number of cases this will benefit individuals, and particularly in some communities – e.g. those of Pakistani or Bangladeshi heritage in the east of Lancashire – this has been a positive way to remove barriers to accessing the service and so contributes to advancing equality of opportunity for those individuals. More widely, the vast majority of casework for individuals is carried out on a one to one basis in the person's own home.

Potentially the greatest impact of the proposals may be on the group work element of service delivery. Although there will be an outreach service delivery offer, some parents/families, children and young people the service supports may face increased travel time to use

building based group work services and some may be unable to use them due to the time or cost of reaching an alternative venue. The service has noted that the maximum journey to an alternative building to access group work services (of those building proposed for cessation of CFW services) is less than 3 miles, with the majority being less than 1 mile. Those who are heavily pregnant or with very young babies may be particularly affected by this, as could young people and those who have disabilities where travelling independently may present increased difficulties.

Some group work sessions are already over-subscribed and potentially increased demand on a smaller number of children centres or other resources may exacerbate this difficulty and impact on some people's ability to participate in some activities. As parts of the service assist with developing skills for parenting, employability, etc this may impact people's equality of opportunity and ability to participate in public life adversely. A number of consultation responses and comments within the focus groups referred to this concern.

There were also comments that the service contributes to a range of education related activities such as identifying some developmental issues for young children, helping children become school ready and encouraging parents to access further or higher education and other types of training. Employment related help such as CV writing or interview skills training are also available. Should this become less easily available to individuals, this may also impact adversely on the advancing of opportunity PSED general aim and its related aim of encouraging participation in public life.

A reduction in buildings used by the service and any subsequent impact on access to group work sessions, may increase social isolation particularly for the more vulnerable service users, coupled with the loss of peer support, mixing with people from different backgrounds and social status and the value of resources and support/help/advice. Outreach sessions may assist people to access services in small numbers but potentially it may not fully replace the larger group or peer support sessions currently available locally. Mixing with people from different backgrounds and/or social status contributes towards community cohesion and fostering good relations

between communities. Some consultation respondents, focus group members and email comments received have referenced this point and spoke of how trust had developed between individuals and different communities in some areas.

Conversely, where people now need to access services at a different location there may, at least initially, be concerns about building up relationships with people from different parts of a town/district, or from different ethnic or social backgrounds which may make some people reluctant to use or anxious about using alternative provision. There may also be possibilities that staff people work with might also change and it may take time to build up rapport, relationships and confidence with them. If groups are larger because there are fewer buildings offering these sessions, this might also create anxiety for some people.

The possibility of increased anti social behaviour resulting from the proposed changes, was raised by a small number of consultation respondents. However, any rise in anti social behaviour can have an adverse effect on fostering good relations or community cohesion particularly if there is a perception that a particular protected characteristics group or part of a group is responsible for these activities.

Consultation respondents and consultation workshop respondents highlighted the importance of some facilities such as centres having sensory rooms or other activities and that services such as ESOL classes were available. These have particular significance for some protected characteristics groups – e.g. children and young people with disabilities, people from ethnic minority communities – and can contribute to advancing equality of opportunity and assist in improving participation in public life.

A number of respondents referred to concerns about reductions in or the loss of service for SEND children and young people, their parents and families. The service believes that in most cases the proposals will not affect the current SEND offer delivered by the service. 1 to 1 family support for families of children and young people who are SEND is often delivered at the family home. The proposal would also not affect the linked SEND offer (FEE) to children aged 2-4 which some

educational establishments provide. The proposal would mean that the SEND group currently meeting at Ashton Young Peoples Centre would no longer be able to meet there, currently the proposal is to transfer this group to Riverbank Children Centre. This group may be adversely impacted as although travel and the ability to respond to change may vary amongst its members, all will need to become used to a different building where facilities might also be different from those they have been used to.

Whilst a number of potential alternative service buildings have been proposed and identified as being in pram pushing or walking distance of those which will no longer be used, some building adaptations may be required to the alternative venues. This may, at least initially, have an impact on use of the buildings and the range of services on offer within them.

### **Question 6 –Combined/Cumulative Effect**

Could the effects of this proposal combine with other factors or decisions taken at local or national level to exacerbate the impact on any groups?

This proposal comes within 2 years of the Property Strategy which resulted in the ceassation of similar facilities from other service centres. Some users of Children Centres and Young Peoples Centres may have already had to travel further to use the service following on from the Property Strategy's implementation and may now need to use different buildings at different times. Whilst it cannot be said that this will adversely impact all parents, children and young people we support and will require them all to travel further, it may affect some who use the service. This proposal would also see the Property Strategy's proposals to no longer use Great Harwood Young Peoples Centre, Colne Young Peoples Centre and Coppull Children Centre put into effect.

Over recent years the support given by the county council to subsidise non-commercial bus services has changed and has been focussed on



retaining support for weekday services. The reduced support for evening bus services which are not commercially viable could affect the ability of young people to attend alternative buildings where they are reliant on buses to travel there.

The Children and Family Wellbeing service are also currently looking to commission a 12-19 years youth offer through the voluntary community and faith sector to support our delivery of services to young people across Lancashire.

In regards to proposals to no longer use Ashton Young Peoples Centre in particular, this should be viewed alongside the recent decision not to go ahead with the Preston Youth Zone project. This may increase the impact for young people and young disabled people in Preston as the Youth Zone project was proposed to offer a very accessible and inclusive venue.

Lancashire Care Foundation Trust in its consultation response had highlighted the potential impact on the delivery of some of its services which may result from these proposals. Other health service providers may have similar concerns as the children centres were identified as hosting a range of health related support and services or as services which were signposting people to other health related services. There was also a concern that the future viability of some premises – e.g. the Chai Centre – could be in doubt as a result of the proposals. Although it is not anticipated that this should be the outcome of the proposal, the possibility of an impact on other services cannot be entirely dismissed.

## **Question 7 – Identifying Initial Results of Your Analysis**

As a result of the analysis has the original proposal been changed/amended, if so please describe.

A Task and Finish Officer Group was established to review comments made about specific buildings and the proposal overall. In relation to specific buildings the following responses have been provided:

Walton Lane – there are other SEND services provided by Children and Family Wellbeing Service, e.g. Colourful Voices – and 12-19 SEND support and other support services for SEND children and young people provided by other agencies – e.g. charities;

Willows Park – responses are broadly supportive of the proposal to move services to Longridge Young Peoples Centre;

The Chai Centre – there are currently 3 centres within a mile of each other. Both the remaining buildings are within walking distance of the Chai. Many services are already delivered to people in their own homes rather than using the Chai Centre in response to addressing cultural barriers to service use. The Chai centre will not close as it provides other services and will continue to serve the community.

Sharoe Green library will remain open and offers a universal children's offer. There is a regular bus service/bus route from Sharoe Green library to the alternative facility at Preston East.

Fairfield Children Centre – services will be available at the Park in Accrington and at New Era in the town centre, which are both on bus routes. There are also 0-11 and 12-19 SEND group provision delivered by Children & Family Wellbeing service at New Era and there are other SEND services available in the area provided by other organisations.

Appletree Children Centre - alternative centres are available within walking distance at Lune Park and White Cross Education Centre, White Cross is within walking distance of Lancaster Town Hall. There have also been issues with parking at Appletree Children Centre.

It has been emphasised that the county council does not anticipate any other services withdrawing from the identified buildings or them closing as a result of this proposal in most cases.

Arising from these considerations for 76 buildings it is now proposed that:

- The service will continue to be delivered from 50 buildings.
- The Children and Family Wellbeing Service will no longer be delivered from 12 buildings. These are: Coppull Children Centre,

Colne Young Peoples Centre, Great Harwood Young Peoples Centre, Fairfield Children Centre in Accrington, Appletree Children Centre in Lancaster, Halton Children Centre, Earby Children and Family Wellbeing Centre, Sunshine Children Centre in Preston, Cherry Tree Children Centre in Sharoe Green, Preston, St John's Children Centre in Skelmersdale, The Anchorage Children Centre in Fleetwood and Kemp Street/Fleetwood Children Centre in Fleetwood.

- The proposals are clear on the future of 62 buildings
- There will be further consideration of the future of 14 buildings. Of these the following were included in the original proposal: Whitegate Children Centre, Burnley; The Chai Centre, Burnley; Willows Park Children Centre, Longridge, Ribble Valley; Ribblesdale Children Centre, Ribble Valley; Star/Ashton Young Peoples Centre, Preston; Walton Lane Children Centre, Pendle and Whitworth Children Centre, Rossendale. Their futures will be considered alongside neighbouring buildings which are: Stoneyhome and Daneshouse Centre, Burnley; Padiham Young Peoples Centre; The Zone in Pendle; Riverbank Childrens Centre, Preston; The Zone in Ribble Valley; Longridge Young Peoples Centre; and Whitworth Young Peoples Centre with the possibility of further specific and targeted consultation as to which buildings in the area should no longer be used to deliver the service.

### **Question 8 - Mitigation**

Will any steps be taken to mitigate/reduce any potential adverse effects of the proposal?

The county council does not anticipate any other services withdrawing from the identified buildings as a result of this proposal. There was no suggestion of, and there is no intention to, close most of the buildings which will no longer deliver the Children and Family Wellbeing service. It is also the view of the service that any other services delivered in these buildings should not be unduly affected by these proposals.

Where appropriate, alternative uses will also be sought for the space currently used by the service. It is accepted, however, that a small number of the buildings – e.g. Ashton Young Peoples Centre – do not have other services within them and may close.

The service will continue to be delivered through sessions at buildings and locations which suit best the children, young people and families it supports. This includes:

- The availability of detached, mobile and outreach services as part of the Children and Family Wellbeing Service Offer. The outreach work the service offers takes place at individuals' homes, schools, local cafes or other alternative venues, which should mitigate for many concerns about having to travel to or barriers to using alternative settings. The vast majority of 1 to 1 casework is already delivered in peoples' homes and for some communities the availability of this option has removed potential barriers to accessing the service.
- Group work sessions will be available at remaining buildings and where required the service will support individuals to attend them such as by supporting them to travel to the new location, learning the route or helping them integrate into the new group for an agreed time, where these issues are a barrier to individuals.
- Ensuring services are accommodated in a way that meets the diverse needs of children, young people, and their families which includes implementing safeguarding arrangements as appropriate;
- Centres will continue to be equipped to meet the needs of the service provided in them and some will offer increased flexibility wherever possible such as extended opening hours, meeting rooms, areas for group work and private rooms for interviews and consultations. In some cases these facilities are not available at the buildings identified for closure and this has informed the proposal. In other cases this will involve some minor alterations to existing premises but these will be carried out and the feasibility of doing this has been included in considerations.

- The use of alternative community venues or outreach services is actively being considered for those areas where it is proposed to no longer deliver services from a current centre. This could include finding an alternative venue for the SEND group which meets at Ashton Young People's Centre, where transferring the group to Riverbank Children Centre is being considered.
- Where alterations are required to alternative venues, the service will either seek to continue delivery from existing venues until work is completed where this is practicable or to find an alternative "work around" to ensure services are available.
- Funding for SEND places in nurseries is separate and should not be affected by the outcome of this proposal. The proposal will not affect the linked SEND offer (FEE) to children aged 2-4 which some educational establishments provide.

There should be no substantial changes to staff arising from this proposal as most work across their district area and should continue to work from their current location or one which is close by.

## **Question 9 – Balancing the Proposal/Countervailing Factors**

This weighs up the reasons for the proposal – e.g. need for budget savings; damaging effects of not taking forward the proposal at this time – against the findings of the analysis.

The budget option to reduce £1.25million from the Children Family and Wellbeing service budget must be seen in the context of the Medium Term Financial Strategy which has forecast a shortfall of £135.3 million by 2022/23 in the county council's revenue budget, based on expected reductions in government funding, increased costs and increased demand for statutory and other services.

The Service is firmly of the view that it will continue to deliver services in the areas where buildings currently used will cease to deliver it and that overall the service will be delivered more efficiently. Use of other buildings or using different methods of service delivery such as

outreach or one to one work will deliver the service more effectively. It is also of the view that any other service delivered in those buildings should not be unduly affected by this proposal.

It is acknowledged, however, that the proposal could adversely impact some members of various protected characteristics groups. Children and young people, disabled young people and those who are pregnant or on maternity leave and other protected characteristics groups who access services at those buildings/settings which will cease to deliver the Children Family and Wellbeing service offer may be the most disadvantaged as they may need to travel to new locations to use services or may find it is no longer practical to access the service in the same way. This is most likely to impact on those who access group work or peer support activities

There may also be an impact on users of other Children and Family Wellbeing service buildings where there may be "knock on" effects of larger groups for group sessions, changes in the composition of groups or those attending sessions and a need to build up rapport with different staff.

It is anticipated that those who have one to one support in their own home will be largely unaffected.

Mitigation measures will be put in place including:

- The availability of detached, mobile and outreach services as part of the Children and Family Wellbeing Service Offer. The outreach work the service offers takes place at individuals' homes, schools, local cafes or other alternative venues, which should mitigate for many concerns about having to travel to or barriers to using alternative settings.
- Group work sessions will be available at remaining buildings and where required the service will support individuals to attend them such as by supporting them to travel to the new location, learning the route or helping them integrate into the new group for an agreed time, where these issues are a barrier to individuals.
- Ensuring services are accommodated in a way that meets the diverse needs of children, young people, and their families which

includes implementing safeguarding arrangements as appropriate;

- Centres will continue to be equipped to meet the needs of the service provided in them and some will offer increased flexibility such as extended opening hours, meeting rooms, areas for group work and private rooms for interviews and consultations. In some cases these facilities are not available at the buildings identified to no longer be used, and this has informed the proposal. In other cases this will involve some alterations to existing premises but these will be carried out and the feasibility of doing this has been included in considerations.
- The use of alternative community venues or outreach services is actively being considered for those areas where it is proposed to no longer deliver services from a current centre. This could include finding an alternative venue for the SEND group which meets at Ashton Young People's Centre, where transferring the group to Riverbank Children Centre is being considered.
- Where alterations are required to alternative venues, the service will either seek to continue delivery from existing venues until work is completed where this is practicable or to find an alternative "work around" to ensure services are available.
- Funding for SEND places in nurseries is separate and should not be affected by the outcome of this proposal. The proposal will not affect the linked SEND offer (FEE) to children aged 2-4 which some educational establishments provide.

However, these may not eliminate or reduce the impact for all users with protected characteristics – e.g. children and young people, disabled young people and those from the pregnancy and maternity protected characteristic groups in particular.

There should be no substantial changes to staff arising from this proposal as most should continue to work from their current location or one which is close by.

## Question 10 – Final Proposal

In summary, what is the final proposal and which groups may be affected and how?

For 76 buildings it is now proposed that:

- The service will continue to be delivered from 50 buildings.
- The Children and Family Wellbeing Service will no longer be delivered from 12 buildings. These are: Coppull Children Centre, Colne Young Peoples Centre, Great Harwood Young Peoples Centre, Fairfield Children Centre in Accrington, Appletree Children Centre in Lancaster, Halton Children Centre, Earby Children and Family Wellbeing Centre, Sunshine Children Centre in Preston, Cherry Tree Children Centre in Sharoe Green, Preston, St John's Children Centre in Skelmersdale, The Anchorage Children Centre in Fleetwood and Kemp Street/Fleetwood Children Centre in Fleetwood.
- The proposals are clear on the future of 62 buildings
- There will be further consideration of the future of 14 buildings. Of these the following were included in the original proposal: Whitegate Children Centre, Burnley; The Chai Centre, Burnley; Willows Park Children Centre, Longridge, Ribble Valley; Ribblesdale Children Centre, Ribble Valley; Star/Ashton Young Peoples Centre, Preston; Walton Lane Children Centre, Pendle and Whitworth Children Centre, Rossendale. Their futures will be considered alongside neighbouring buildings which are: Stoneyhome and Daneshouse Centre, Burnley; Padiham Young Peoples Centre; The Zone in Pendle; Riverbank Childrens Centre, Preston; The Zone in Ribble Valley; Longridge Young Peoples Centre; and Whitworth Young Peoples Centre with the possibility of further specific and targeted consultation as to which buildings in the area should no longer be used to deliver the service.



## Question 11 – Review and Monitoring Arrangements

What arrangements will be put in place to review and monitor the effects of this proposal?

The Children and Family Wellbeing Service has an extensive range of review and monitoring arrangements already in place which can be used to measure the impact of the changes which are implemented.

Equality Analysis Prepared By            Jeanette Binns

Position/Role            Equality and Cohesion Manager

Equality Analysis Endorsed by Line Manager and/or Service Head

Debbie Duffell (Service Head: Childrens Family and Wellbeing Service)

Decision Signed Off By

Cabinet Member or Director

For further information please contact

Jeanette Binns – Equality & Cohesion Manager

[Jeanette.binns@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:Jeanette.binns@lancashire.gov.uk)



**Report to the Cabinet**

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 November 2018

**Report of the Head of Service Policy, Information and Commissioning (Live Well)****Part I**

Electoral Division affected:  
(All Divisions);

**Implementation of the Care Act 2014 - Approval of Revised Adult Social Care Policies and Procedures: Deferred Payments**  
(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Kieran Curran, Tel: 01772 536068, Policy, Information and Commissioning Manager (Live Well), kieran.curran@lancashire.gov.uk

**Executive Summary**

Following the introduction of the Care Act 2014, the county council has undertaken to review all adult social care policies, practice and guidance to ensure compliance.

A new policy is now presented for approval:

- Deferred Payments (Appendix 'A')

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 implementation of the Deferred Payments policy as set out at Appendix 'A'.
- The increase in the administration charge for arranging a Deferred Payment Agreement from £500 to £810.

**Background and Advice**

The Care Act 2014 significantly altered the landscape of adult social care for local authorities. In response, a comprehensive review of the county council's adult social care policies, procedures and guidance has been undertaken and key policy

documents have been identified for development and/or revision, as part of a phased programme to ensure compliance.

This phased programme continues with the submission of a new policy, procedures and guidance document:

- Deferred Payments

### **Current arrangements**

[A new framework was approved in March 2016 to ensure compliance with the Care Act.](#)

### **Summary of Revised Policies and Procedures and Guidance documents**

A new document, Deferred Payments, is now ready for approval by Cabinet.

### **Deferred Payments**

This document sets out the county council's response to powers under Sections 34-36 of the Care Act 2014 allowing it to enter into a Deferred Payment Agreement with an individual so that a person can use the value of their property to help pay for residential or nursing care.

This is a revised policy whose main changes are:

- Amended wording on debt recovery to align the Deferred Payments policy with the county council's Income and Debt Policy.
- A statement that, unless exceptional circumstances apply, the county council will require Deferred Payments Agreements to be repaid via Direct Debit.
- An increase in the applicable administration charge for arranging a Deferred Payment Agreement from £500 to £810.

A copy of the policy is set out at Appendix 'A'.

### **Consultations**

Wider public consultation has not been necessary as the documents in question reflect new duties and requirements placed on the county council under the Care Act.

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Workforce**

Our support for Lancashire residents is guided by the county council's adult social care policies, procedures and practice guidance. The accuracy and relevance of

these documents is essential to support practice and the delivery of high quality services.

The Care Act and supporting guidance place a series of new duties and responsibilities on the county council in regard to care and support for adults. All revised or new documents have been reviewed and cleared by the county council's legal team before being presented to Cabinet for final approval. All documents will be publically accessible as part of this process, with the aim of reducing legal challenge and complaints due to a lack of understanding or transparency.

## **Equality and Diversity**

The Care Act itself was implemented following a period of consultation and its provisions were assessed for their equality impact. Policies and procedures guidance documents are primarily intended as a guide for social care employees in applying the Care Act 2014 and ensuring delivery of quality care and support. It is an intrinsic requirement that these are applied objectively and fairly to all people with protected characteristics (age, disability, gender identity, gender, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity and marriage or civil partnership status) and that, where necessary, reasonable adjustments are made to assist disabled people to participate in the process, or that other steps are taken to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

Furthermore, in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, each policies and procedures guidance document has been considered by the Equality and Cohesion Manager and a short appendix added to highlight the aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty and protected characteristics in a proportionate manner. It is intended that this will provide staff with a bespoke summary of how each policies and procedures guidance may impact on protected characteristics groups and that this is a proportionate means of showing due regard in relation to each individual policies and procedures guidance document.

## **Financial**

A person's eligibility for care and support provided by the county council will be determined, following a proportionate assessment. The person must have needs arising from a physical or mental impairment or illness and be unable to achieve two or more outcomes, as defined in the Care Act 2014. This is further explained in our Eligibility Criteria policy. Information is provided during the assessment period as to the potential financial implications to the person receiving care and support when the outcome of the assessment has been determined and agreed by both the assessor and the person being assessed and/or a suitable person e.g. family member, advocate and/or attorney. This will detail how a person's contribution to care is worked out and — where an assessment determines that future care needs would be best met in a residential setting – describes the implications to the person if they own a property and the deferred payment options offered by the council.

Following the assessment stage, the individual's estimated personal budget must be shared when the care and support plan is being drafted.

Any financial implications that result from a needs assessment or care and support plan are addressed via the specific commissioning, delegation and funding arrangements governing each individual social care service, if so required.

## **Charges**

Under the Care Act 2014 the county council is able to levy an administration charge to cover the actual cost incurred in the provision of a Deferred Payment Agreement. The current charge of £500 per agreement was set when the scheme was introduced in 2014. This covered a number of costs including legal and valuation services. The scheme has operated now for almost four years, and this provides an opportunity to review the actual costs incurred in order that the charge can be updated for current costs.

A comparator group was selected which included all of the other 26 county councils in England. The amounts charged by these councils was analysed. As a result, the following two options for the approach to charging was identified:

- 1) A single one-off charge, fixed from the outset, as current
- 2) A charge based on the actual costs for each individual case

### Single one-off charge

The advantages of this approach are that the service user has a known cost for the lifetime of the agreement and it is administratively simpler to levy a single fixed charge compared to multiple charges based on actual costs per year of the agreement.

Based on the current costs (including overheads), the new one-off charge on this basis would be £810 per agreement, which will result in full cost recovery. As a comparison, the equivalent charge from the comparator group of 26 councils ranges from £450 to £1,337 for those that operate this type of approach to charging.

### Charged as actual

The advantage of this approach is that the service user receives a cost more directly related to the cost of administering their own agreement. However, using the actual costs the charge received by a service user would vary depending on the length of the agreement and the cost of the valuation.

For illustration purposes, the minimum, most frequent and five year case has been calculated:

	Lifetime charge estimate
Minimum	£575
Most frequent length and valuation	£877
Five year case	£1,453

## Review

The administration charge will be subject to an annual review to ensure that any cost increases related to the provision of an Agreement are covered by the charge. Any subsequent uplifts to the charge will be made under the Scheme of Delegation to Heads of Service.

## Recommendation

A single, one-off charge of £810 is recommended, due to the simplicity for the service user, and the efficiency in administration for the council.

The increase in charge is estimated to generate additional income to the council of £54,000 per annum.

## **Risk management**

The Care Act Statutory Guidance sets out that the county council should develop and maintain policies in relation to a number of subject areas covered in the Act, including a publicly-available list of administration charges that a person may be liable to pay. If the recommendations are not taken forward, the county council may be at risk of future legal challenges.

## **List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
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N/A		
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# Adult Social Care Policies and Procedures

## DEFERRED PAYMENTS

**WARNING!** Please note if the review date shown below has passed this procedure may no longer be current and you should check the PPG E Library for the most up to date version

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## POLICY VERSION CONTROL

<b>POLICY NAME</b>	Deferred Payments		
<b>Document Description</b>	This document sets out Lancashire County Council's response to powers under Sections 34-36 of the Care Act 2014 allowing it to enter into a Deferred Payment Agreement with an individual so that person can use the value of their property to help pay for residential or nursing care.		
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## 1. POLICY STATEMENT

A deferred payment allows people to use the value of their home to help pay for the costs of living in a care home or supported living accommodation.

If an individual's main home is not disregarded in the financial assessment then they may be able to enter into a Deferred Payment Agreement ("Agreement") with the county council. A Deferred Payment Agreement allows an individual to defer (that is, to delay the payment of) the cost of their residential or nursing care against the value of their property until a later date.

This means that they do not have to sell their property to pay for residential or nursing care charges in their lifetime. When the individual's home is sold, the county council will then collect the deferred costs.

It should be stressed from the onset that the payment is *deferred* not written off and **will have to be repaid** by the individual, or by a third party on their behalf, at a later date. It is also important to note that the county council is required to enter into a 'loan-type' Deferred Payment Agreement with individuals who qualify for one but whose needs the county council is not meeting

In all cases, a Deferred Payment Agreement relates to the deferment of charges due to the county council for the costs of meeting needs in a care home **or** supported living accommodation.

The aims of this policy are that:

- It complies with legislation and statutory guidance;
- It makes Deferred Payments available to those who are eligible;
- Those that are eligible for the scheme should not have to sell their home against their wishes to pay for care during their lifetime;
- Those that are eligible are fully informed about the Agreement and signposted to independent advisors when appropriate,
- The county council aims to complete the contract within 12 weeks of the individual's permanent placement in a care home or supported living accommodation,
- The county council will make sure that everyone who can pay for some or all of their care costs does pay for them,
- The county council will collect any unpaid charges in line with our Income and Debt Policy.

Therefore to fulfil its duty under Sections 34—36 of the Care Act, the county council will, working with its statutory, voluntary and private sector partners, comply with the national threshold relating to care and support in a manner that is relevant, coherent, timely and sufficient.

The county council will make all reasonable adjustments to ensure that all disabled people have equal access to participate in the eligibility decision in line with the Equality Act 2010.

The geography and population of Lancashire is diverse and our policies and practice will aim to deliver services and supports that are representative of the communities in which we work.

The county council will follow relevant legislation, policies and guidance to ensure our practice is of high quality and legally compliant. Where our customers or those we come into contact with wish to challenge or raise concerns in regard to our decisions, regarding eligibility the [county council's complaints procedures](#) will be made available and accessible.

## 2. KEY DEFINITIONS AND PRINCIPLES

### 2.1 Types of Deferred Payment Agreements

There are two types of Deferred Payment Agreements that the county council can offer:

**Traditional type:** Where the county council holds the contract with the care home or supported living accommodation and will pay the care home or supported living accommodation directly.

**Loan type:** Where the individual holds the contract with the care home or supported living accommodation, and the county council loans the individual the money to pay the care home or supported living accommodation. (This could result in the individual paying higher costs as a care home is not subject to any restrictions when entering into a contract with an individual rather than the council).

**The county council will always enter into a "traditional type" agreement, unless the individual specifically requests a "Loan type" agreement.** It is also important to note that the county council is required to enter into a 'loan-type' Agreement with individuals who qualify for one but whose needs the county council is not meeting.

### 2.2 Care costs

All costs charged to a person by a care provider, including any top-ups and core care costs. This includes where appropriate the costs associated with the provision of extra care.

### 2.3 Disregard

[Annex B \("Treatment of Capital"\) of the Care Act Statutory Guidance](#) sets out the circumstances in which the value of the person's main or only home must be disregarded. See paragraph 34 of the Annex for more details.

### 2.4 Equity

Equity in a property is the market value of a homeowner's unencumbered interest in their property, that is, the difference between the home's fair market value and the outstanding balance of all liens on the property. The property's equity increases as the

debtor makes payments against the mortgage balance, and/or as the property value appreciates.

## 2.5 12-Week Disregard

The county council must disregard the value of a person's property for the first 12 weeks of the individual moving into a care home on a permanent basis, provided their other savings total less than £23,250 in England and provided they meet the county council's eligibility criteria' (i.e. the council agrees the person needs to move into a care home). This means that -- for the first 12 weeks of a person's residential care – the value of the home is not taken into consideration in the assessment of how much the person should contribute to their care home costs.

This gives the person breathing space to decide whether they want to stay in care permanently, without the pressure of having to sell their home straight away.

## 3. PROCEDURES

### 3.1 Qualifying for a Deferred Payment Agreement

To qualify for an Agreement the individual must meet **all three** of the following criteria:

- Receiving permanent care in a care home or supported living accommodation; and
- Has £23,250 or less in savings and assets, not including the value of their main home; and
- Their main home is not disregarded, for example it is not occupied by a spouse or dependent relative as defined in regulations on charging for care and support.

Even if the individual meets the criteria above, the county council may refuse a Deferred Payment Agreement if:

- It cannot secure a first charge on the property, (a "first charge" is the first or the primary mortgage or loan availed against the property in question).
- Someone is seeking a top up (which may make an Agreement unsustainable over time), or
- The individual does not agree to the terms and conditions of the Agreement (e.g., a requirement to insure and maintain the property).

If the individual does not want to sell their property and chooses not to enter into an Agreement the county council will ask the individual to make payments directly to the care home or supported living accommodation.

If the county council refuses a request for deferred payment, the decision will be notified in writing to the individual. The decision will set out the grounds for refusal and provide information on how to appeal.

### 3.2 Information and Advice

Information and advice will be provided so that the individual can understand what is happening when they ask for a Deferred Payment Agreement. This will include:

- Eligibility requirements.
- How an Agreement may affect the individual's income, benefit entitlements, and charges.
- Any fees that are being charged. Please note that an administration charge of £810 will be applied to all applications.
- How interest will be charged on any deferred amount.
- What the county council will need the individual to do during the Agreement.
- When the county council may stop deferring charges.
- What happens when the Agreement comes to an end.
- What happens if the individual does not repay the charges that they owe.
- An overview of potential advantages and disadvantages of taking out a Deferred Payment Agreement.
- An explanation of the 12-week disregard which will afford those who qualify for it some additional time to consider their options in paying for care.
- The types of security that the county council is prepared to accept.
- An explanation that the total amount a person can defer will be governed by an equity limit (discussed in section 3.4 below) which may change if the value of the security changes.
- Advising the individual to consider taking independent financial advice and highlight the existence of a regulated financial advice sector.
- And that, if a home is used to defer payments against, it may need to be sold at a later date to repay any charges that the individual owes.

Where a person lacks capacity to request a deferred payment, a Deputy or Attorney (a person with a relevant Enduring Power of Attorney or Lasting Power of Attorney) may request a deferred payment on their behalf.

Where the county council is the Deputy for a person, then the Deputy may apply for deferred payments where this is in the best interests of the person.

A Deferred Payment Agreement will not be entered into with a person lacking the requisite mental capacity unless the proper arrangements are in place.

### 3.3 Conditions of a Deferred Payment Agreement

The Agreement will only take effect once the individual or appointed representative has signed the Agreement. The individual or appointed representative entering into the Agreement must abide by the following conditions:

- The property is maintained in reasonable standard of repair and condition.
- All outgoings associated with the property (e.g. Council tax, service charges, ground rent, insurance) are paid.
- Any rental income received is assessed within the financial assessment.

- Acknowledge that the county council has advised the individual they should seek independent financial advice before committing themselves to this Agreement.
- Provide any evidence required by the county council in support of the application.
- Where the property is jointly owned, the co-owners as well as the applicant must agree to the county council's form of charge. See Section 3.13 ("Obtaining Security") for more information.
- Notify the county council of any change in circumstances which would affect the value of the property or the sustainability of the deferred payment.
- Insure the property throughout the length of the Agreement term until the debt to the county council is paid.

### 3.4 The amount that can be deferred

The total amount the individual can defer depends on how much equity is in the asset.

The county council will need to consider if the amount to be deferred is possible. This will depend on:

- The amount of equity in the property
- The amount the individual is contributing to the cost of care from other sources, including income, savings, financial products or a third-party; and
- The total care costs including any top-ups.

The amount of equity available will be the value of the property minus 10%, minus a further £14,250 (the lower capital limit).

For example, the amount of equity available for a house worth £165,000 would be:

$$£165,000 - £16,500 \text{ (10\% of £165,000)} - £14,250 = £134,250$$

A, verified independent valuation of the property will be carried out on behalf of the county council, at a cost to the individual.

When calculating progress towards the equity limit, the county council will include any interest or fees to be deferred. The county council will not allow additional amounts to be deferred beyond the equity limit. However, interest and administrative charges will still accrue beyond this point until the full debt is repaid.

The individual may meet the costs of their care and support from a combination of any of four primary sources:

- income, including pension income;
- savings or other assets they might have access to (this might include any contributions from a third party);
- a financial product designed to pay for long-term care; or
- an Agreement which enables them to pay for their care at a later date out of their assets (usually their home).



The county council will require a contribution towards care costs from the individual's income. However the individual has a right to retain a proportion of their income which is called the 'disposable income allowance'. The disposable income allowance is a fixed weekly amount of £144. At their discretion, the individual may want to keep less than the disposable income allowance as it will reduce the amount deferred and the amount of interest charged.

If the individual decides to rent out their property during the course of their Agreement, the county council can permit that the individual retains a proportion of any rental income from the property. The county council will review these arrangements as part of the Financial Assessment.

### **3.5 Top ups**

If the individual is considering a top-up, the county council will consider whether the amount or size of the deferral requested is sustainable given the equity available from their property. See paragraph 3.4, above, for more information on how the total amount the individual can defer depends on how much equity is in the asset.

To ensure sustainability of the deferral, the county council has discretion over the amount an individual is permitted to top up. The county council will accept any top-up deemed to be reasonable given considerations of affordability, sustainability and available equity.

If the person is requesting a top-up, it is important that the county council discusses what might happen to any top-up requested if the person reaches the equity limit and moves on to local authority support in paying for their care, and ensures that a written agreement is in place.

### **3.6 Sustainability**

The county council will calculate the sustainability of a Deferred Payment Agreement by taking into account:

- the likely period the individual would want an Agreement for (this a formula-based calculation);
- the equity available;
- the sustainability of any contributions from their savings;
- the flexibility to meet future care needs; and
- the period of time the individual would be able to defer their care costs for.

A discussion of sustainability with the individual will be helpful in all cases to ensure the person is aware of how much care their chosen form of security would afford them.

### **3.7 Interest and administration charges**

Interest and administration charges will be added to the total amount deferred as they are accrued, although the individual may request to pay these separately if they choose. The interest will accrue on a compound basis.

The county council must inform people before they make the Agreement if interest will be charged on a daily compound basis and when interest rates are likely to change. This is to enable people to make well-informed decisions about whether a Deferred Payment Agreement is the best way for them to meet the costs of their care.

The county council will charge an interest rate equalling the county council's average borrowing rate over the preceding financial year. The interest rate charged will not however exceed the maximum amount specified in the Care Act Regulations on Deferred Payments.

Interest will accrue on the amount deferred until the point that the deferred amount is repaid. If the county council cannot recover the debt and seeks to pursue this through the County Court system the county council may charge the higher County Court rate of interest.

The county council will levy an administration charge of £810 based on the actual costs incurred in providing the Deferred Payment Scheme. These costs include, but are not limited to:

- registering a legal charge with the Land Registry against the title of the property, including Land Registry search charges and any identity checks required;
- undertaking relevant postage, printing and telecommunications;
- costs of time spent by those providing the service;
- cost of valuation and re-valuation of the property;
- costs for removal of charges against property;
- overheads, including where appropriate (shares of) payroll, audit, management costs, legal service

If an individual applies for a Deferred Payment Agreement then subsequently decides not to continue with the application the individual will still be required to pay any administration charges.

The administration charge will be subject to an annual review to ensure that any cost increases related to the provision of an Agreement are covered by the charge. Any subsequent uplifts to the charge will be made under the Scheme of Delegation.

### **3.8 Circumstances where the county council may stop deferring care costs**

The county council may stop deferring any more charges if:

- The individual's total assets fall below the level of the means test, and they become eligible for local authority support in paying for their care;
- The individual no longer has need for or is no longer receiving care and support in a registered residential or nursing care home or supported living accommodation;
- The individual breaches the terms of their Agreement;
- Under the charging regulations, the property becomes disregarded for any reason and the individual consequently qualifies for local authority support in paying for their care.

- The individual reaches the equity limit that they are allowed to defer. Interest would continue to accrue on the amount deferred until the Agreement was terminated and the amount deferred was repaid.

If a decision is made to stop deferring care costs, the repayment will be subject to the usual terms of termination. The county council will provide a minimum of 30 days advance notice that further deferrals will cease.

### 3.9 Obtaining security

The county council must have adequate security in place when entering into a Deferred Payment Agreement.

The county council will accept a first legal mortgage charge as adequate security. The county council will consider a second legal charge or restriction as adequate security at its discretion.

In cases where an Agreement is to be secured with a **jointly-owned property**, the county council **must** seek both owners' consent (and agreement) to a charge being placed on the property. Both owners will need to be signatories to the charge agreement, and the co-owner will need to agree not to object to the sale of the property for the purpose of repaying the debt due to the county council. This is consistent with the procedure to be followed in cases where an individual is the sole owner of a property.

The county council will obtain similar consent to a charge being created against the property from any other person who has a beneficial interest in the property. The county council has full discretion in individual cases to refuse an Agreement if it is not satisfied that adequate security is in place.

### 3.10 Drawing up the Deferred Payment Agreement

Where an individual chooses to enter into a Deferred Payment Agreement, the county council will aim to have the Agreement finalised and in place by the end of the 12-week disregard period, or within 12 weeks of the individual approaching the county council regarding a Deferred Payment Agreement in other circumstances.

A hard copy of the Deferred Payment Agreement will be given to the individual or their representative, and they will be given at least a two-week period to read and consider the Agreement. The Agreement will clearly set out all terms, conditions and information necessary to enable the individual to ascertain his or her rights and obligations under the Agreement.

### 3.11 The county council's responsibilities whilst the Agreement is in place

The county council will provide six-monthly updates, which will include:

- the amount of fees deferred,
- interest and administrative charges accrued to date,
- the total amount due

- and the equity remaining in the property.

The county council will review the amount being deferred on a regular basis to ensure the deferred amount does not exceed the equity limit. The county council will obtain a further valuation of the property once the amount deferred exceeds 50% of the value of the security and periodically thereafter, and adjust the equity limit and review the amount deferred if the value has changed.

When the individual is approaching or reaches the point at which they have deferred a substantial proportion of the equity available in their property, the county council will:

- review the cost of their care with the individual,
- discuss when the individual might be eligible for any means-tested support,
- discuss the implications for any top-up they might currently have,
- and consider jointly whether a Deferred Payment Agreement continues to be the best way for the individual to meet these costs.

### **3.12 Terminating the Agreement**

An Agreement will be terminated when:

- The individual or representative repays the deferred debt in full. This can happen during a person's lifetime or when the Agreement is terminated through the Agreement holder's death; or
- The property is sold and the county council is repaid in full; or
- The individual dies and the amount is repaid in full from their estate.

On termination, the full amount due includes all interest accrued and any administration fees charged.

Responsibility for arranging for repayment of the amount due in the case of payment from the estate falls to the Executor of the will. Interest will continue to accrue on the amount owed to the county council after the individual's death and until the amount due to the county council is repaid in full.

If terminated through a person's death, the amount owed to the county council falls due 90 days after the person has died. After this 90 day period, if the county council concludes active steps to repay the debt are not being taken, for example if the property is not for sale on the property market or the county council concludes the Executor is wilfully obstructing the sale of the property, then the county council may enter into legal proceedings to reclaim the amount due to it.

### **3.13 Appeals and Complaints**

An individual can appeal the outcome of a deferred payment application if they feel that:

- The decision to refuse the application failed to take into account all the available and relevant information

- There are eligible care costs which the county council have failed to take into account.

Requests for an appeal should be made within 20 working days of being notified of the outcome of the application for a Deferred Payment Agreement. This period can be extended if there are exceptional circumstances.

If the person remains dissatisfied with the outcome of the appeal then they can request that this matter is dealt with under [Lancashire County Council's Adults Social Care Complaints procedure](#).

If an individual is unhappy with the way that the deferred payments application process has been dealt with they can submit a complaint to [Lancashire County Council's Adults Social Care Complaints Team](#).

## 4. CASE STUDIES

### Case Study 1

Lucille develops a need for a care home placement. She lives alone and is the sole owner of her home. Her home is valued at £165,000, and she has £15,000 in savings. Lucille meets the criteria governing eligibility for a deferred payment.

### Case Study 2

Lucille's son Brian has been providing informal care and support to her, and has heard of the deferred payments scheme. When Lucille decides she may benefit from a care home placement, her son suggests they approach the county council together for information and advice about Deferred Payment Agreements.

The county council provides them both with a printed information sheet setting out further details on the authority's Deferred Payment scheme, and also provides them with contact details of some national and local services who provide financial information and advice.

Lucille is interested in renting her property whilst residing in a care home. The county council signposts Lucille to further advice on lettings. The county council's standard information sheet also includes information on how her rental income may be used to pay for her care and support.

### Case Study 3: The Equity Limit

Lucille decides to secure her Deferred Payment Agreement with her house, which is worth £165,000. The amount of equity available will be the value of the property minus 10%, minus a further £14,250 (the lower capital limit).

$$£165,000 - £16,500 - £14,250 = £134,250$$

Therefore, her 'equity limit' for the total amount she could defer would consequently be £134,250, which would leave £30,750 in equity in her home.

#### Case Study 4

Lucille identifies a care home placement that meets her care and support needs, costing £540 per week. She has an income provided by her pension of £230 per week. Lucille decides not to rent her home as she intends to sell it within the year.

Based on this provisional estimate of her care costs, Lucille would contribute £86 (£230 minus the weekly disposable income allowance of £144) per week from her income, and her weekly deferral would be £454.

#### Case Study 5

Lucille discusses her care home fees with the county council. Based on the equity available in her home (£134,250, as set out in Case study 3 above), Lucille could afford her weekly deferral of £454 for around 5 years. Given an average length of stay in a care home care of 19.7 months, the county council deems her projected care costs to be sustainable.

Lucille enquires as to the cost of a room with a garden view. This would increase her weekly deferral to £525 which she could afford for around four and a half years. The county council deems this to be sustainable, so agrees to Lucille's requested top-up.

#### Case Study 6

For illustrative purposes, we have used an interest rate of 3.5%. After 6 months, Lucille receives her first statement. It confirms she has deferred a total of £13,900, including £110 in interest and £100 in fees.

At this point, the county council revalues her property, and finds its value has increased to £170,000. Based on the amount deferred and her care costs, her equity would afford her just over 4 and a half more years' care at this price.

## 5. RELATED DOCUMENTS

<b>POLICY, PROCEDURE AND GUIDANCE (PPG) DOCUMENTS</b>	<a href="#">Policy, Procedures Guidance Intranet site</a>
<b>LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS</b>	The relevant legislation in this area are Sections 34-36 of the Care Act 2014 and the Care and Support (Deferred Payment Agreements) Regulations 2014.

## 6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Equality Act 2010 requires the county council to have "due regard" to the needs of groups with protected characteristics when carrying out all its functions, as a service provider and an employer. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender identity/gender reassignment, gender, race/ethnicity/nationality, religion or belief, pregnancy or maternity, sexual orientation and marriage or civil partnership status.

The main aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty are:

- To eliminate discrimination, harassment or victimisation of a person because of protected characteristics;
- To advance equality of opportunity between groups who share protected characteristics and those who do not share them. This includes encouraging participation in public life of those with protected characteristics and taking steps to ensure that disabled people in particular can participate in activities/processes;
- Fostering good relations between groups who share protected characteristics and those who do not share them/community cohesion.

It is anticipated that the guidance on Deferred Payment Agreements in this document will support the county council in meeting the above aims when applied in a person-centred, objective and fair way which includes, where appropriate, ensuring that relevant factors relating to a person's protected characteristics are included as part of the process.

More information can be found on the [Equality and Cohesion intranet site](#).





By virtue of paragraph(s) 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.

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