

Lancashire County Council

Cabinet

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 16th January, 2020 at 2.00 pm in Cabinet 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 Keith Iddon
County Councillor Albert Atkinson
County Councillor Michael Green
County Councillor Phillippa Williamson
County Councillor Peter Buckley
County Councillor Graham Gooch
County Councillor Shaun Turner

County Councillor John Fillis was also in attendance under the provisions of Standing Order No. C14(2).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Azhar Ali.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no interests declared.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 December 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2019 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Money Matters 2019/20 Position - Quarter 2

Cabinet considered the Money Matters report, setting out an update on the county council's 2019/20 revenue and capital budget position and an updated medium term financial strategy (MTFS) covering the period 2020/21 to 2023/24.

Resolved: That:

- i. the current forecast underspend of £12.135m on the revenue budget in 2019/20 be noted.
- ii. the revised funding gap of £28.438m covering the period 2020/21 to 2023/24 as set out in the revised financial outlook forecast for the Council be noted.

- iii. the budget adjustments for 2020/21, and following years' changes, included in the revised MTFS, be approved.
- iv. the contents of the county council's reserves position be noted.
- v. a re-profiled 2019/20 capital delivery programme of £147.107m as presented within the body of the report be approved.
- vi. the Chief Executive and Director of Resources; the Director of Finance and his staff; and all staff be thanked for their hard work in achieving the improvement in the county council's financial position and the forecast reduced future funding gap.

5. Procurement Report

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

- i. Provision of a Direct Payments Support Service
- ii. Integrated Home Response and Falls Lifting Service.

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

- i. Provision of a Direct Payments Support Service
- ii. Integrated Home Response and Falls Lifting Service.

6. Document Handling Service Replacement Hardware and New Software

Cabinet received a report setting out proposals for the immediate replacement of essential existing Document Handling hardware/software due to some equipment nearing end of life, as well as for the development of longer term initiatives to support the delivery of the Digital First agenda and enhanced services..

Resolved: That a capital investment of £305,274 required to futureproof the Document Handling Service, with one off revenue costs of £22,350 and annual revenue support costs of £65,445 be approved.

7. Adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Definition of Antisemitism

Cabinet considered a report proposing that the county council adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism.

Resolved: That the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism be adopted, as recommended by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

8. Transport Asset Management Plan Review

Cabinet received an update on the Transport Asset Management Plan, noting progress with the refresh of Phase 1 of the plan and actions being taken in relation to Phase 2, which was due to run from April 2020.

Resolved: That

- i. the update on progress outlined in the Transport Asset Management Plan 2019 Data Refresh as set out in the report be noted.

- ii. the Director of Strategy and Performance, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, be authorised to approve and publish:
 - a. The Transport Asset Management Plan 2019 data refresh.
 - b. The Transport Asset Management Plan Phase 2 Review.

9. Transforming Cities Fund - Proposed Change to the Transport Capital Programme

Cabinet received a report seeking approval to allocate funding in the Transport Capital Programme to the Transforming Cities Programme.

Resolved: That the allocation of £0.505m funding to the Transforming Cities programme be approved.

10. Proposed Submission to the Department for Transport's Local Pinch Point Fund

Cabinet received a report seeking approval to submit an Expression of Interest to the Department for Transport's Local Pinch Point Fund for funding to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of St Mary's Way including the gyratory in Rawtenstall. The report also sought approval for a local contribution, which is anticipated to be between £1.5m and £2m, depending on the final design, should the submission be successful.

Resolved: That

- i. a bid be submitted to the Department for Transport's Local Pinch Point Fund totalling circa £9.250m to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of St Mary's Way including the gyratory in Rawtenstall.
- ii. Subject to the success of the above, a contribution from the local authority which will be determined in line with financial issues set out in the report be approved in principle.

11. Lancashire County Council (Various Locations, Wyre, Pendle, Rossendale and Fylde Boroughs, and Preston City) (Revocations, Various Restrictions and Electric Vehicle Charging Points (No2)) Order 201*

Cabinet received a report proposing a Traffic Regulation Order be made to introduce restrictions to manage on-street facilities for electric vehicles where charging facilities are installed, designed to create a turnover of vehicles ensuring that the facilities are available for a number of drivers.

Resolved: That the making of the Traffic Regulation Order as set out in the report, be approved.

12. Lancashire County Council (Churchfield, Fairways, Haighton Court, Kennet Drive, Levensgarth Avenue, Southey Close, St Clare's Avenue, St Francis Close, The Paddock and Tower Green, Fulwood, Preston City) (Revocation, Prohibition of Waiting and Restriction of Waiting) Order 201*

Cabinet received a report setting out proposals to introduce parking restrictions on ten streets in the Fulwood area of Preston to assist with the expeditious movement of traffic along the roads around the Royal Preston Hospital.

Resolved: That the making of a Traffic Regulation Order as set out in the report be approved.

13. Bacup Townscape Heritage Initiative - Experimental Traffic Regulation Order

Cabinet considered a report proposing that an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order for the recent Bacup town centre works be made permanent.

Resolved: That the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order proposals as set out in the report be made permanent

14. Guild Wheel Improvements, Parallel Crossing - Oliver's Place and Pittman Way

Cabinet received a report proposing the creation of two parallel crossings on the Guild Wheel cycle route in Preston.

Resolved: That the proposal to install two parallel crossings as part of the Guild Way cycle route be approved.

15. Broadfield Drive, Leyland - Bus Stop Clearways

Cabinet received a report setting out proposals for two new permanent bus stops and bus stop clearways replacing the existing temporary two-way bus stop on Broadfield Drive, Leyland.

Resolved: That the construction of two new permanent bus stop clearways replacing the existing temporary two-way bus stop on Broadfield Drive, Leyland, be approved.

16. Lancashire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education - Constitution and Terms of Reference

Cabinet considered a report proposing an update to the Terms of Reference for the Lancashire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Resolved: That the revised Constitution and Terms of Reference for the Lancashire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education as set out in the report be approved.

17. Schools Budget 2020/21

Cabinet considered a report seeking the authorisation of Cabinet to submit the Schools Block budget pro-forma and requests approval for the Early Years, High Needs and Central Schools Services Block budgets for 2020/21, in accordance with the Government's school funding Regulations and Guidance.

Resolved: That

- i. the report, including the 2020/21 Dedicated Schools Grant allocations, the final budget proposals for each funding block and any comments made by the Lancashire Schools Forum be noted.
- ii. the Head of Service Financial Management (Development and Schools) be authorised to submit the final Schools Block budget pro-forma for 2020/21 to the Education and Skills Funding Agency by 21 January 2020, on the basis set out in this report.
- iii. the 2020/21 budgets for the Early Years, High Needs and Central Schools Services Blocks be approved
- iv. the Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve underwrite the uncertainties around the 2020/21 Schools Budget.
- v. The decision be implemented immediately for the purposes of Standing Order C29 as any delay could adversely affect the execution of the county council's responsibilities. The reason for this was to ensure that the necessary pro-forma could be submitted to the Education and Skills Funding Agency by the required deadline of 21 January 2020.

18. Developing the Approach and Provision for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Cabinet received a report setting out a series of proposals to enable the county council to fulfil its responsibilities for ensuring the sufficiency of provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities over the next five years..

Resolved: That

- i. the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Sufficiency Strategy 2019-2024 set out at in the report, which sets out a range of medium and longer term actions be approved for wider consultation.
- ii. the commencement of feasibility design work for two proposed capital projects for Broadfield Specialist College, Oswaldtwistle, and Sir Tom Finney Community High School, Preston be approved.
- iii. the commencement of an informal process for seeking expressions of interest from mainstream schools to support the development of special educational needs units in localities in need of additionally resourced mainstream provision be approved.
- iv. the commencement of feasibility design work for the projects at Stepping Stones Short Stay School and on The Haven site in line with the statutory processes be approved.
- v. the proposals identified within these recommendations be implemented where consistent with the priorities with the August Cabinet report and the Sufficiency Strategy.

19. Principles Underpinning Schools Capital Development

Cabinet received a report setting out the main sources of capital funding available to Lancashire County Council through which to commission building works to school premises, and proposing a set of principles to be taken into consideration in the development of new programmes of works.

Resolved: That the principles underpinning schools capital development as set out in the report be approved.

20. Provision of Secondary School Places in Burnley

Cabinet received a report outlining a change to proposals agreed in August 2019 in relation to the provision of additional places at both Unity College and Shuttleworth College in Burnley, due to issues that had arisen with the provision of these places at the Shuttleworth site within the agreed timescale. The proposal was that the provision of all the required permanent places would now be at Unity College.

Resolved: That:

- i. a permanent increase of 30 pupil places in Year 7 starting from September 2021 at Unity College, Burnley, in addition to the permanent expansion of 30 pupil places in Year 7 from September 2020 agreed by Cabinet in August 2019, be approved.
- ii. the decision made by Cabinet in August 2019, to provide permanent accommodation on the Shuttleworth College site, Burnley from September 2020 be rescinded.
- iii. a temporary increase of 30 pupil places at Shuttleworth College, Burnley for September 2020 only, be approved.
- iv. the expenditure listed in the report for the permanent expansion of Unity College, Burnley, be approved.

21. Future Viability of Thomas Whitham Sixth Form

Cabinet considered a report in relation to the future viability of Thomas Whitham Sixth form, Burnley, following the statutory "Stage 1" consultation. In accordance with the statutory process, the authority is now required to consider the responses to the consultation and decide whether to publish a Statutory Notice on a proposal to close the school from 31 August 2020.

Resolved: That

- i. the consultation arrangements that were undertaken and the responses that were received in respect of the authority's proposal be noted.
- ii. the authority publishes a Statutory Notice of its proposal to close Thomas Whitham Sixth Form with implementation commencing from 31 August 2020.

22. Future of Hendon Brook Short Stay School, Nelson

Cabinet received a report on the outcome of the consultation on a proposal to close Hendon Brook Short Stay School, Nelson, with implementation commencing from 31 August 2020.

Resolved: That:

- i. the consultation arrangements that were undertaken and the responses that were received in response to the authority's proposal be noted.
- ii. the authority publishes a Public Notice of its proposal to close Hendon Brook Short Stay School, Nelson, with implementation commencing from 31 August 2020.

23. The Future of Maintained Nursery Schools

Cabinet considered a report on the current viability of Maintained Nursery Schools in Lancashire, any areas of concern and the recommended actions.

Resolved: That:

- i. the commencement of a formal consultation on the future of those maintained nursery schools identified as currently being 'non-financially viable' or those suffering critical financial stress, be approved.
- ii. the Chair of Governors and the Headteachers for those maintained nursery schools identified as being currently 'financially vulnerable' be requested to provide a sustainable financial recovery plan, with assistance from county council officers.
- iii. for those maintained nursery schools identified as being currently 'financially viable', the situation continues to be monitored on a termly basis, to ensure the position does not deteriorate. If any of these maintained nursery schools are identified in the future as being 'financially vulnerable', the Executive Director of Education and Children's Services be authorised to initiate the actions listed under recommendation (ii) above for those nursery schools.
- iv. in the event that the Maintained Nursery School supplementary grant is not extended beyond April 2021, further consideration be given to the long-term viability of maintained nursery schools which would be the subject of a separate Cabinet report.

24. Libraries, Museums and Archives Fees and Charges Review 2019/20

Cabinet received a report presenting proposals relating to fees and charges in the Libraries, Museums, Culture and Archives service, following the annual review, to ensure that they support service objectives, efficiency and effectiveness.

Resolved: That, with effect from 1 April 2020 as set out below:

- i. standardisation of image reproduction charges across the Libraries, Museums, Culture and Archives service be introduced.
- ii. a reduced adult admission rate for the Judges Lodgings from £3 to £2 when adult tickets are bought to visit Lancaster Castle be introduced.

25. Urgent Decisions taken by the Leader of the County Council

The urgent decision taken by the Leader of the County Council was noted.

26. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

27. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of Cabinet would be held at 2pm on Thursday 6 February at 2pm at County Hall, Preston

28. 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.

29. 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 item of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as indicated against the heading to the item.

30. Adult Social Care - Procurement of Core Systems Consultancy Support

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

Cabinet received a report on the commencement of a procurement exercise for specialist consultancy support for Adult Social Care Core Systems.

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

31. Adult Social Care: Extending the Duration of the Homecare Framework

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

Cabinet received a report seeking approval for an extension to the duration of the Homecare Framework.

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

32. Extra Care in Lancashire

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

Cabinet received a report on options for Extra Care provision in Lancashire

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

33. Future of Wennington Hall School

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

Cabinet received a report on options for the future of Wennington Hall School.

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

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and
Director of Resources

County Hall
Preston