

Minutes

At a meeting of the Full Council held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Preston, on Thursday, 16th December, 2021

Present:

County Councillor Barrie Yates (Chairman)

County Councillors

T Aldridge	H Hartley	E Pope
A Ali OBE	C Haythornthwaite	J Rear
N Aziz	N Hennessy	P Rigby
R Bailey	S Hind	Rigby
L Beavers	A Hindle	A Riggott
J Berry	S Holgate	M Salter
P Buckley	A Hosker	A Schofield
J Burrows	D Howarth	S Serridge
A Cheetham	T Hurn	J Shedwick
S Clarke	M Iqbal MBE	J R Singleton JP
M Clifford	S Jones	S Smith
J Couperthwaite	A Kay	K Snape
L Cox	H Khan	R Swarbrick
A Cullens	N Khan	M Tomlinson
F De Molfetta	E Lewis	C Towneley
G Dowding	S Malik	S Turner
C Edwards	M Maxwell-Scott	A Vincent
A Fewings	J Mein	D Westley
J Fillis	G Mirfin	S Whittam
A Gardiner	S C Morris	P Williamson
J Gibson	D O'Toole	R Woollam
G Gooch	J Oakes	
M Green	M Pattison	

1. Apologies and Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Matthew Brown.

County Councillor John Potter joined the meeting virtually.

County Councillors Usman Arif, Tim Ashton, Samara Barnes, Peter Britcliffe, Alf Clempson, Lizzi Collinge, M Dad BEM JP, M Goulthorp, K Iddon, Y Motala, J Parr, L Pate, J Purcell and Ash Sutcliffe were subject to pairing arrangements and were not present.

Announcements

Deaths

The Chairman reported the recent deaths of former County Councillor Tim Ormrod, who sadly passed away on Friday 22 October 2021, and former County Councillor Tom Sharratt, who sadly passed away on Sunday 7 November 2021.

The Council observed a one-minute silence.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Name of County Councillor	Agenda Item Number(s)	Nature of Interest (non-pecuniary unless stated)
S Rigby	6	I am currently the Interim Chair of Healthwatch Lancashire
J Gibson	Notice of Motion 4	I am a Board member of a voluntary organisation called Network for Europe which is currently working with other organisations to look at bidding to the fund when it is eventually rolled out.

3. Question Time

It was noted that Question 1, submitted by County Councillor Tim Ashton, had been withdrawn.

County Councillors Scott Smith and Gina Dowding asked their respective questions as follows:

No.	Question From	Subject	For Answer By
2.	County Councillor Scott Smith	Lancashire County Council's Net Zero Pledge	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change
3.	County Councillor Gina Dowding	South Lancaster Growth Catalyst – Sustainable Transport Infrastructure	Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

County Councillor Shaun Turner, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change; and County Councillor Charles Edwards, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, replied respectively.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes from the Meeting held on 14 October 2021

Resolved: - That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 October 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. Report of the Cabinet (Part A) - Local Member Grants

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved a report asking Full Council to consider the recommendations of the Cabinet in respect of the Local Member Grant Scheme.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The Local Member Grant Scheme, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the Cabinet report, now presented, be approved.
- (ii) Each member be allocated a full year budget of £2,000 for grant within their division, with a pro-rata amount of £500 for the period January to March 2022, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the Cabinet report, now presented.
- (iii) Appropriate officer support be put in place to ensure the effective administration of Local Member Grants, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the Cabinet report, now presented.

6. Report of the Cabinet (Part A) - Health and Wellbeing Board Revised Terms of Reference

County Councillor Michael Green moved a report asking Full Council to consider the recommendations of Cabinet in respect of the Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Resolved: - That the proposed changes to the membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the Cabinet report, now presented, be approved.

7. Report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee - Appointment of External Auditors

County Councillor Alan Schofield moved a report asking Full Council to consider the recommendations of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee in relation to the appointment of external auditors.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The recommendations of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report, now presented, be noted.
- (ii) Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited be recommissioned to act as the appointing person for the appointment of an external auditor for Lancashire County Council and Lancashire County Pension Fund for the

five financial years commencing 1 April 2023, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report, now presented.

8. Appointment of a New Employer Representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board

County Councillor Eddie Pope moved a report asking Full Council to consider the recommendations of the Pension Fund Committee in relation to the appointment of a new employer representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board.

Resolved: - That the appointment of Glyn Peach, Chief Digital Officer, Lancashire County Council, as the new Lancashire County Council employer representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board to replace Tony Pounder, Director of Adult Services, with effect from 19 January 2022, as set out in the report, now presented, be approved.

9. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business to be considered.

10. Report of the Cabinet (Part B)

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved the report of the Cabinet from its meetings on 7 October 2021, 4 November 2021, and 2 December 2021, together with details of urgent Key Decisions taken since the last meeting of Full Council.

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

11(a) The Urgency Committee

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

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

11(b) The Audit, Risk and Governance Committee

County Councillor Alan Schofield moved the report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee from its meeting on 18 October 2021.

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

11(c) The Employment Committee

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved the report of the Employment Committee from its meeting on 8 November 2021.

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

11(d) The Pension Fund Committee

County Councillor Eddie Pope moved the report of the Pension Fund Committee from its meeting on 26 November 2021.

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

11(e) The Overview and Scrutiny Committees

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

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee - 5 October 2021 and 9 November 2021

Health Scrutiny Committee - 16 November 2021

Internal Scrutiny Committee - 12 November 2021

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

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

1. It was moved by County Councillor Noordad Aziz and seconded by County Councillor Mohammed Iqbal that:

Council notes the concerning rise in the recreational use of Nitrous Oxide across Lancashire. Every district has seen a massive rise in the discarded canisters used to contain this cheap and highly dangerous drug.

Council resolves to write to the Government asking for an urgent review into the regulation and licensing of this product.

The following friendly amendment was proposed by County Councillor Peter Buckley in accordance with Standing Order B42:

Council notes the concerning rise in the recreational use of Nitrous Oxide across Lancashire. Every district has seen a massive rise in the discarded canisters used to contain this cheap and highly dangerous drug.

Whilst Lancashire Trading Standards recently spearheaded a campaign to raise awareness of the harm of taking nitrous oxide ('laughing gas') and to offer supporting information to parents, the risks are all too clear and heavy regular

use can have a long-term impact on health including possible anaemia and nerve damage.

Council welcomes the letter the Home Secretary sent on 3rd September 2021 to the Chair of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) requesting an updated assessment of the health and social harms of nitrous oxide and, following the assessment, advice on whether nitrous oxide should be controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

Council therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary for an update to the ACMD assessment and review into the regulation and licensing of this product.

The friendly amendment was accepted by County Councillor Aziz and became the substantive motion.

The substantive motion, as amended by County Councillor Buckley's friendly amendment, was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

Council notes the concerning rise in the recreational use of Nitrous Oxide across Lancashire. Every district has seen a massive rise in the discarded canisters used to contain this cheap and highly dangerous drug.

Whilst Lancashire Trading Standards recently spearheaded a campaign to raise awareness of the harm of taking nitrous oxide ('laughing gas') and to offer supporting information to parents, the risks are all too clear and heavy regular use can have a long-term impact on health including possible anaemia and nerve damage.

Council welcomes the letter the Home Secretary sent on 3rd September 2021 to the Chair of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) requesting an updated assessment of the health and social harms of nitrous oxide and, following the assessment, advice on whether nitrous oxide should be controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

Council therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary for an update to the ACMD assessment and review into the regulation and licensing of this product.

2. It was moved by County Councillor Lorraine Beavers and seconded by County Councillor Jackie Oakes that:

The 'Our Streets Now' campaign demands the right of women, girls and marginalised genders to be safe in public spaces. Lancashire County Council resolves:

- (i) To fully support and Promote the Our Streets Now campaign to make street harassment a crime and encourage all elected members and residents to sign the petition.
- (ii) Encourage schools, academies and colleges in Lancashire to each develop a clear policy on tackling harassment, separate to their bullying policy.
- (iii) Urge our schools, academies and colleges to include education around public sexual harassment as part of their PSHE education using the framework, free resources and lesson plans from 'Our Schools Now' (the sister campaign of 'Our Streets Now').

The following friendly amendment was proposed by County Councillor Jayne Rear in accordance with Standing Order B42:

Organisations and groups such as 'Our Streets Now', 'Safe Spaces Now' from UN Women UK and Action Aid's 'Safe Cities for Women' campaign for the rights of women, girls and marginalised individuals to be safe in our public spaces.

Violence against women and girls is an awful reality for many, and horrific crimes such as sexual assault have devastating consequences.

The Home Office have recently announced the Safety of Women at Night Fund which will award up to £5 million to 22 organisations focused on improving the safety of women and girls at night. This builds on the £25 million Safer Streets funding which included a range of interventions including educational programmes to raise awareness, more streetlights and extra CCTV.

Nevertheless, we must use every possible tool at our disposal to ensure that people feel safe at night when walking home, using transport or enjoying a night out with friends.

Lancashire County Council therefore resolves:

- (i) To welcome all campaigns that seek to make our streets safer, sexual harassment a crime and encourage elected members and residents to support our police and security services in their efforts to make our public places as safe as possible.
- (ii) To encourage schools and colleges in Lancashire to undertake a full revision of their policies on tackling harassment.
- (iii) To update the school's portal with appropriate educational resources for schools and colleges that wish to include public sexual harassment as part of their PSHE education.

The friendly amendment was accepted by County Councillor Beavers and became the substantive motion.

The substantive motion, as amended by County Councillor Rear's friendly amendment, was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

Organisations and groups such as 'Our Streets Now', 'Safe Spaces Now' from UN Women UK and Action Aid's 'Safe Cities for Women' campaign for the rights of women, girls and marginalised individuals to be safe in our public spaces.

Violence against women and girls is an awful reality for many, and horrific crimes such as sexual assault have devastating consequences.

The Home Office have recently announced the Safety of Women at Night Fund which will award up to £5 million to 22 organisations focused on improving the safety of women and girls at night. This builds on the £25 million Safer Streets funding which included a range of interventions including educational programmes to raise awareness, more streetlights and extra CCTV.

Nevertheless, we must use every possible tool at our disposal to ensure that people feel safe at night when walking home, using transport or enjoying a night out with friends.

Lancashire County Council therefore resolves:

- (i) To welcome all campaigns that seek to make our streets safer, sexual harassment a crime and encourage elected members and residents to support our police and security services in their efforts to make our public places as safe as possible.
- (ii) To encourage schools and colleges in Lancashire to undertake a full revision of their policies on tackling harassment.
- (iii) To update the school's portal with appropriate educational resources for schools and colleges that wish to include public sexual harassment as part of their PSHE education.

3. It was moved by County Councillor Alan Cullens and seconded by County Councillor Scott Smith that:

This council has previously declared a commitment to achieving Carbon Net Zero by 2030. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change runs a global campaign called the Race to Zero which encourages businesses, cities, regions and investors to show leadership and support for a cleaner, healthier zero carbon recovery - one that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs and unlocks sustainable growth.

The campaign requires stakeholders outside of national governments to sign a net zero pledge before planning the actions required, implementing them and then regularly publishing their progress against the targets in their plan.

This council supports this campaign and resolves that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change signs the Race to Zero pledge on behalf of the County Council.

The following friendly amendment was proposed by County Councillor Gina Dowding in accordance with Standing Order B42:

Add at the end:

"publishes this council's plan on how it will achieve this goal and writes to Lancashire's other key organisations to encourage them to also sign the pledge".

The friendly amendment was accepted by County Councillor Cullens and became the substantive motion.

The substantive motion, as amended by County Councillor Dowding's friendly amendment, was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

This council has previously declared a commitment to achieving Carbon Net Zero by 2030. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change runs a global campaign called the Race to Zero which encourages businesses, cities, regions and investors to show leadership and support for a cleaner, healthier zero carbon recovery - one that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs and unlocks sustainable growth.

The campaign requires stakeholders outside of national governments to sign a net zero pledge before planning the actions required, implementing them and then regularly publishing their progress against the targets in their plan.

This council supports this campaign and resolves that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change signs the Race to Zero pledge on behalf of the County Council and publishes this council's plan on how it will achieve this goal and writes to Lancashire's other key organisations to encourage them to also sign the pledge.

1. It was moved by County Councillor Azhar Ali and seconded by County Councillor Erica Lewis that:

In the recent Spending Review, the Chancellor made the announcement of the Shared Prosperity Fund, the replacement for EU structural funds. Despite a commitment to match EU funding levels – which were around £2.5 billion a year once match funding is included – just £0.4 billion has been allocated for 2022/3 rising to £1.5 billion in 2024/25.

Economic Development in Lancashire has benefitted massively from the injection of EU funds during the lifetime of the programmes and whilst the recent announcement is welcome, it in no way makes up for the loss of funding.

Council therefore resolves to write to the Right Honourable Rishi Sunak, MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to ask for his assurance that:

- Lancashire will receive its fair share of these replacement funds.
- Further replacement funding will be made available to make up for the shortfall.

The following friendly amendment was proposed by County Councillor Aidy Riggott in accordance with Standing Order B42:

In the recent Spending Review, the Chancellor, the Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP, made the announcement of the Shared Prosperity Fund a total of £2.6 billion focused on helping people into jobs and get on in life across the UK. He also announced further significant funding awards for Lancashire as part of the Government's Levelling Up agenda, notably £20m to support the expansion of the University of Central Lancashire's Burnley campus and a £6.5m investment in three theatres in Colne Town Centre.

Economic Development in Lancashire has benefitted massively from the injection of these and other funds during the lifetime of the various programmes, and the recent Community Renewal Fund award is most welcome.

Council therefore resolves to write to the Right Honourable Rishi Sunak, MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, to thank them for these recent awards and to seek their assurance that:

- Lancashire will receive its fair share of UK Shared Prosperity Funds.
- Lancashire will remain central to the Government's Levelling Up agenda.
- Lancashire will remain under consideration for all future funding initiatives to help support this Council's recently adopted corporate priority of Supporting Economic Growth.

The friendly amendment was accepted by County Councillor Ali and became the substantive motion.

The substantive motion, as amended by County Councillor Riggott's friendly amendment, was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

In the recent Spending Review, the Chancellor, the Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP, made the announcement of the Shared Prosperity Fund a total of £2.6 billion focused on helping people into jobs and get on in life across the UK. He also announced further significant funding awards for Lancashire as part of the Government's Levelling Up agenda, notably £20m to support the expansion of the University of Central Lancashire's Burnley campus and a £6.5m investment in three theatres in Colne Town Centre.

Economic Development in Lancashire has benefitted massively from the injection of these and other funds during the lifetime of the various programmes, and the recent Community Renewal Fund award is most welcome.

Council therefore resolves to write to the Right Honourable Rishi Sunak, MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, to thank them for these recent awards and to seek their assurance that:

- Lancashire will receive its fair share of UK Shared Prosperity Funds.
- Lancashire will remain central to the Governments Levelling Up agenda.
- Lancashire will remain under consideration for all future funding initiatives to help support this Council's recently adopted corporate priority of Supporting Economic Growth.

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and Director
of Resources

County Hall
Preston