

Meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board (Tuesday 17th January 2023)

Chair: (County Councillor David Westley)

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Budget Scrutiny

The report provided the Board with a copy of the Money Matters 2022/23 Position – Quarter 2 report and a copy of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 – 2026/27 and Reserves – Q3 update report which were presented to Cabinet at its meetings held on 1 December 2022 and 19 January 2023 respectively. Written responses to the Board's request for further information on two savings proposals were also included.

Resolved: That;

- (i). The Money Matters 2022/23 Position – Quarter 2 report as presented to Cabinet at its meeting held on 1 December 2022 be noted.
- (ii). The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 – 2026/27 and Reserves – Q3 update report due to be considered by Cabinet at its meeting scheduled on 19 January 2023 be noted.

Cabinet Member Portfolio Update

County Councillor Shaun Turner, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change attended the meeting to provide a verbal update on recent and forthcoming activity.

Resolved: That the Cabinet Member Portfolio update be noted.

Scrutiny In-year Request Forms

Members were informed that since the last meeting of the Board on 8 November 2022, one in-year request form had been received and was set out in the report for determination. In addition, two requests were made by Full Council at its meeting held on 15 December 2022 for the Board to consider.

Resolved: That the in-year request form for an additional topic on water outages in Lancaster and Morecambe be added to the Scrutiny Management Board work programme in 2022/23 as an 'inquiry day' on a date to be advised.



Task Group Request - Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee

Members were invited to consider the request from the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee for a task group to be established on school place planning and provision. The request was made by the committee when it considered an annual report on school place planning at its meeting held on 30 November 2022.

Resolved: That the task group request be agreed, with discretion given to the Chair and the Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny Management Board to further clarify the terms of reference through further discussion with relevant Senior Members and Officers.

Report on the activity of the Councillor Support Steering Group

The Board were invited to receive and note the report on the overview of matters considered by the newly established Councillor Support Steering Group at its first meeting held on 14 December 2022, which included a copy of the Terms of Reference and a copy of the group's work programme for 2022/23.

Resolved: That the report, terms of reference and the work programme for the Councillor Support Steering Group be noted.



Meeting of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee (Wednesday 30th November 2022)

Chair: (County Councillor Andrea Kay)

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 26 October 2022

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2022 be confirmed as an accurate record, subject to:

- i. County Councillor Terry Hurn being listed as present; and
- ii. The sixth bullet point on Page 3 being amended to include more detail, as follows:

"Regarding support for post-16-year-olds, members expressed concern about the lack of information included in the report when many parents were worried about provision for school leavers. Officers highlighted that this was a challenge for the authority and the amount of support provided for further education needed to be looked at. Regular meetings took place with further education providers to discuss this. A bid had also been submitted for more supported internships, which often led to long term employment. The number of internships provided by and in partnership with the county council, such as with Calico, Lancashire Constabulary, the local NHS and schools, had increased over several years. It was noted that members would find it helpful to receive more information on this in the future."

School Place Planning Annual Report

The report presented an annual update to members setting out progress in delivery against the School Place Planning Strategy 2022-25, the School Place Delivery Programme 2023-25, place allocations in September 2022, geographic priority areas, and an update on academy conversions.

Resolved: That:

- i. The Scrutiny Management Board be asked to establish a scrutiny task group on school place planning and provision, to review in detail the challenges and opportunities facing the county council;
- ii. The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills be asked to write to local MPs about lobbying the Department for Education on school place planning issues in Lancashire;
- iii. The following be provided to committee members after the meeting:



- a) Information on how funding is provided to increase school places, both to academies and maintained schools;
- b) Information on the number of children still waiting for a school place for this academic year; and
- c) Information on the number of children living in Lancashire but attending school outside of Lancashire, and vice versa.

Work Programme 2022/23

It was noted that a report on the School Travel Mapping System had been added to the February 2023 meeting, as agreed by the Scrutiny Management Board.

Resolved: The Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2022/23 be noted.



Meeting of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee (Wednesday 25th January 2023)

Chair: (County Councillor Andrea Kay)

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 30 November 2022

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2022 be confirmed as an accurate record, subject to:

- i) The paragraph provided at Item 3, Minutes of the Meeting Held on 26 October 2022 being amended to focus on support for post-16 SEND children, as members highlighted that the county council had a statutory duty to provide post-16 education and training for young people with SEND, up to the age of 25;
- ii) Item 4, School Place Planning Annual Report being amended to include the following points:
 - Regarding flexibility in the system, officers acknowledged that the council had not responded quickly enough to new developments in the past and that this had caused problems, such as in North Preston.
 - The committee requested information on what the geographical priority areas looked like.
 - The committee highlighted that the information on school place assessments which was previously requested to be shared with members twice a year, had not been provided to date.

Membership of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee

The committee considered a report which provided an update on progress to fill the seats of its five voting co-opted members.

Resolved: That the following be noted:

- i) The re-appointment of Mr J Withington as a Parent Governor Representative (Primary) to the committee for a four-year term from 1 January 2023; and
- ii) The update on progress to fill the vacant seats of voting co-opted members.



Early Intervention – Children's Mental Health

The committee considered a presentation on early intervention services to support children and young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health.

Resolved: That

- i) A report be provided in 6 months' time on progress to reduce children and young people's waiting times to receive mental health support and to review improvements in measured outcomes, including details of the challenges facing Mental Health Support Teams if progress had not been made; and
- ii) The following be provided to committee members after the meeting:
 - a) Details of the total number of Lancashire wide schools currently supported by a Mental Health Support Team;
 - b) Information on suicide awareness and prevention, including details of training programmes such as safeTALK, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), and the healthy relationships programme. Also information to be shared on the Community Contagion Prevention Response (CCPR), which responds to schools that are concerned about young people, information on the Suicide Harm and Prevention Strategy once updated, and the Orange Button Community Scheme.
 - c) Promotional material available on Ripple Suicide Prevention.

Family Hubs

The committee considered a presentation on the Family Hubs network, progress to develop the network, and work in the initial priority areas of Burnley, Pendle and Lancaster.

Resolved: That the following be provided to committee members after the meeting:

- i) Details of the Family Hubs service design and mapping; and
- ii) The Family Hubs logo once finalised.



Meeting of the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee (Wednesday 14th December 2022)

Chair: (County Councillor David Westley)

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Virtual Wards

Dr David Levy, Chief Medical Director LSC ICB (Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board) and Catherine Wright, Transformation Programme Manager - Virtual Wards were welcomed to the meeting to provide the committee with details on the virtual wards programme.

Resolved: That

- i) Written updates be provided to the committee on the virtual ward progress across the county.
- ii) A further update be provided to a future meeting of the full committee to review the integration of virtual wards alongside integrated neighbourhood working (with representation from NHS colleagues, adult services colleagues, VCSF and Age UK).
- iii) Consideration be given to involve the Lancashire Fire and Rescue service with regard to patient home assessments.
- iv) Consideration be given to further 'comms' work across Lancashire specific to virtual wards (to health providers as well as residents).
- v) Further information be provided on the potential costs of social care (nonmedical care) for patients being cared for under the virtual wards programme.



Meeting of the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee (Wednesday 1st February 2023)

Chair: (County Councillor David Westley)

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Community Mental Health Transformation Programme

At the meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee on 14 September 2021, committee members were provided with a report on the strategic outline for the Community Mental Health Transformation Programme.

Samantha Mortimer, Clinical Director for Transformation and Maria Nelligan, Executive Lead for the Integrated Community Transformation Programme, Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust were welcomed to the meeting along with Mairead Gill-Mullarkey, Head of Service Adult Social Care – Learning Disability, Autism and Mental Health, Lancashire County Council, to provide a presentation update on progress to date.

Resolved: That

- i) The information presented be considered.
- ii) The Initial Response Service contact details be shared with all councillors along with data on the service provision outcomes.
- iii) A review of comms to GP's and through NHS services (inc 111 service) be considered to further support and promote the Initial Response Service.
- iv) Further information be provided on any arrangements in place between Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust and out of county Hospital Trusts to enable Lancashire residents to move back to an appropriate hospital/ward in Lancashire.
- v) Further update on progress be provided to the committee in the autumn.

Happier Minds Update

Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, County Councillor Michael Green, Fiona Inston, Public Health Specialist Emerging Talent and Marie Demaine, Senior Public Health Practitioner were welcomed to the meeting.



Members were provided with an overview on both the newly formed combating drugs and alcohol partnership and the work being undertaken to reduce self-harm and suicide across Lancashire.

Resolved: That

- i) The content of the report and direction of travel be endorsed.
- ii) The partnership approaches currently being undertaken and plans to reduce the prevalence of alcohol and drug related harm, self-harm and suicides be supported.
- iii) Circulation of the Drugs and Alcohol Strategy and accompanying action plan be arranged for committee members.
- iv) A progress report be provided on the Drugs and Alcohol/Suicide Strategy and action plans to a future meeting of the committee



Meeting of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee (Thursday 8th December 2022)

Chair: (County Councillor Rob Bailey)

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Unlocking Strategic Development

The report highlighted how the County Council was leading the facilitation of programmes, projects and initiatives stimulating local economic growth, supporting Lancashire's contribution to the levelling up agenda and the emerging vision and ambitions of "Lancashire 2050".

The report also provided a summary of current and potential issues and obstacles experienced for such a large and complex programme of work, and the strategic approach that the county council had taken to unblock, unlock and deliver major development activity to provide greater quality of life, productivity and competitiveness within Lancashire.

Resolved: That;

- (i). The Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change provide a list of projects led by Lancashire County Council that are moving towards renewable energy generation.
- (ii). The report be noted.

Covid Loan Evaluation Review

The report provided an update on the deployment and impact of the Coronavirus pandemic business loans in Lancashire, namely the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILs) and Bounce Back Loans (BBLs).

The report also provided an update on improved working between the Growth Hub and local authorities.

Resolved: That the report be noted.



Meeting of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee (Thursday 26th January 2023)

Chair: (County Councillor Rob Bailey)

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Lancashire Road Safety Partnership

The report provided an overview of the purpose and role of the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership (LRSP). The report also outlined the current setup of the partnership; implementation of the outcomes of the peer review; an update on the strategy; and changes to reporting speed concerns.

Resolved: That;

- (i). The recommendations from the Peer Review be circulated to all members of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- (ii). Further detail on Operation Snap be circulated to all members of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- (iii). An update from the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership to include a demonstration of the new website be provided in six months' time.
- (iv). Future updates on the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership be circulated to all Parish and Town Councils via the county council's Partnerships Team.
- (v). Clarification on the role of Community Safety Partnerships and the interface with Lancashire Road Safety Partnership be provided to the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- (vi). Clarification on the funding arrangements for Lancashire Road Safety Partnership be provided to the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- (vii). A Bite Size Briefing be arranged for all County Councillors on the strategy and action plan to resolve drug driving.
- (viii). The Lancashire Road Safety Partnership Manager considers the implementation of an app-based method of reporting speeding concerns.



Lancashire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Review

A report was presented on the work done by the Flood Risk Management team to deliver the Lancashire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The report also provided an update on progress with the recommendations of the former External Scrutiny Committee.

Resolved: That the;

- (i). Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Investment Programme and future Annual Monitoring Reports be circulated to all members of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee at the appropriate times.
- (ii). A Bite Size Briefing on how councillors can respond to flooding incidents be arranged and provided by officers in the Flood Risk Management Team and Highways Team.

Public Rights of Way and the Lovecleanstreets app

The report provided an update on the implementation of the 'Love Clean Streets' app for reporting problems on Lancashire's network of public rights of way, which will replace the current 'Report It' system.

Resolved: That the;

- (i). The move to the lovecleanstreets app for reporting problems on Lancashire's network of public rights of way be welcomed.
- (ii). The Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change be asked to ensure that the;
 - a. Public rights of way database be made easier and effective for officers to use in the field.
 - b. Changes on how reporting problems on Lancashire's network of public rights of way be publicised.



Meeting of the Community, Cultural and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee (Tuesday 13th December 2022)

Chair: (County Councillor Ged Mirfin)

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Council Workforce

The report provided an overview of the current position of the council's workforce and information relating to the future plan for developing the council's workforce arrangements. The committee also considered additional information relating to absence trend data.

Resolved: That the following recommendations be shared with the Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property:

- i. That Lancashire County Council works with organisations, such as the Local Government Association, the County Councils Network, and Best Companies, to undertake detailed research and produce a benchmarking report regarding absence levels and recruitment and retention challenges;
- ii. That consideration be given to consistently carrying out exit interviews to see what circumstances are encouraging people to leave the organisation; and
- iii. That consideration be given to establishing an academy of retired officers, as a means of mentoring existing officers and sharing expertise.

Workforce Equalities

The report provided a summary of activities carried out during 2022 regarding workforce equality and identified areas for progress in 2023. The committee also considered additional information relating to the 2021 Census.

Resolved: That

- i. A further report is presented to the committee at an appropriate point on the council's equality objectives (2020), including detailed information on equality and diversity from the 2023 Equality Information, 2022 Workforce Race Equality Standard metrics, and 2022 Staff Survey information, with a view to informing refreshed equality objectives and a new Workforce Equalities Strategy;
- ii. The Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services be recommended to ensure that work on workforce equalities is undertaken in partnership with work on the emerging People Strategy; and
- iii. Regarding abuse and harassment experienced by staff, that further information be provided to committee members on the number of complaints received, the number of complaints upheld, and the action taken to resolve them.



Meeting of the Community, Cultural and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee (Monday 16th January 2023)

Chair: (County Councillor Ged Mirfin)

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Engaging with County Councillors on Highways Matters

The report provided the committee with information on how the Highways Service was engaging with and informing county councillors on highways related issues. The committee also considered a presentation.

Resolved: That the following recommendations be shared with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport:

- i. That consideration be given to a monthly report being shared with county councillors on highways issues reported, and progress updates to resolve them, for individual divisions;
- ii. That the Highways data dashboard continues to be developed to provide county councillors with up-to-date information on works in each division;
- iii. That consideration be given to how the county council can work better with utilities companies, in order to improve communications with the public about planned and immediate works carried out by utilities companies; and
- iv. That consideration be given to promoting the Lancashire road works bulletin amongst county councillors.

Lancashire Community Safety Agreement and Performance Update

The report provided information on how Lancashire County Council worked in partnership to tackle key community safety issues across Lancashire and outlined the framework for looking at performance. The report also provided information on the key issues listed in the Lancashire Community Safety Agreement 2022 - 2025: domestic abuse; violence; exploitation (criminal and sexual); serious organised crime; road safety and anti-social behaviour.

Resolved: That:

- i. That the Scrutiny Management Board be recommended to establish a working group to support the annual review of the Lancashire Community Safety Agreement; and
- ii. That the following recommendations be shared with the Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services:
 - a) That following the Home Office review of community safety partnerships and at an appropriate time, consideration be given to looking at



alternative partnership working arrangements as examples of best practice, such as the community safety partnership structure in North Yorkshire;

- b) That local level working groups be included in the overall community safety partnership structure across Lancashire;
- c) That the committee continues to be updated on the Home Office review of community safety partnerships and the work of the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on community safety; and
- d) That information about the number of safe places and refuges for people experiencing domestic abuse, how these refuges are funded, and whether there are specific refuges for minority groups, be provided to committee members after the meeting.

