

Minutes

At a meeting of the Full Council held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Preston, on Thursday, 23rd February, 2023

Present:

County Councillor Peter Britcliffe (Chairman)

County Councillors

T Aldridge	J Gibson	M Pattison
A Ali OBE	G Gooch	E Pope
U Arif	M Goulthorp	J Potter
T Ashton	M Green	J Purcell
N Aziz	H Hartley	J Rear
R Bailey	C Haythornthwaite	P Rigby
S Barnes	N Hennessy	S Rigby
L Beavers	S Hind	A Riggott
M Brown	A Hindle	M Salter
P Buckley	S Holgate	S Serridge
J Burrows	D Howarth	J Shedwick
A Cheetham	T Hurn	J R Singleton JP
S Clarke	K Iddon	S Smith
A Clempson	S Jones	K Snape
M Clifford	A Kay	A Sutcliffe
L Collinge	H Khan	R Swarbrick
J Couperthwaite	N Khan	M Tomlinson
L Cox	E Lewis	C Towneley
A Cullens BEM	M Maxwell-Scott	S Turner
M Dad BEM JP	J Mein	A Vincent
F De Molfetta	G Mirfin	D Westley
G Dowding	S C Morris	S Whittam
C Edwards	D O'Toole	P Williamson
A Fewings	J Oakes	R Woollam
J Fillis	J Parr	B Yates
A Gardiner	L Pate	

1. Apologies and Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors Alan Hosker and Alan Schofield.



County Councillors Mohammed Iqbal, Sobia Malik, and Yousuf Motala joined the meeting virtually.

Announcements

Laura Sales

The Chairman reported that this would be the last Full Council for Laura Sales, Director of Corporate Services and the county council's Monitoring Officer, who would be retiring on 31 March 2023 after a long career with the county council in various legal roles.

Full Council thanked Laura for her many years of service and wished her well in the future.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

3. Question Time

County Councillors Scott Smith, Ash Sutcliffe, Loraine Cox and Jean Parr asked their questions as follows:

No.	Question From	Subject	For Answer By
1.	County Councillor Scott Smith	Children and Young People's Mental Health	Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing
2.	County Councillor Ash Sutcliffe	Transport Asset Management Plan	Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport
3.	County Councillor Loraine Cox	Support for Ukrainian Guests	Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services
4.	County Councillor Jean Parr	Police Recruitment Procedures	Leader of the County Council

County Councillor Michael Green, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing; County Councillor Rupert Swarbrick, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport; County Councillor Peter Buckley, Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services; and County Councillor Phillippa Williamson, Leader of the County Council, replied.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meetings held on 15 December 2022 and 9 February 2023

Resolved: - That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 15 December 2022 and 9 February 2023 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.



5. Report of the Political Governance Working Group

County Councillor Alan Cullens moved the report of the Political Governance Working Group setting out its recommendations in relation to:

1. Withdrawing Notices of Motion
2. Budget Full Council agendas
3. Mandatory training for Regulatory Committee members

Resolved: - That Full Council approves that the constitution be amended as set out in the report, now presented, in relation to:

- (i) The procedures relating to the withdrawal of Notices of Motion.
- (ii) The agenda for the annual budget meeting of Full Council.
- (iii) The requirement that any member sitting on the Regulatory Committee must have undertaken mandatory training relevant to the committee's work.

6. The Localism Act 2011 – Pay Policy Statement 2023/24

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report setting out the council's proposed 2023/24 Pay Policy Statement as required by the Localism Act 2011, which must be approved by Full Council prior to publication.

Resolved: - That the proposed Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report, now presented, be approved.

7. Members' Allowance Scheme 2023/24

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report setting out the proposed Members' Allowance Scheme for 2023/24.

Resolved: - That the 2023/24 Members' Allowance Scheme, as presented at Appendix 'A', to the report, now presented, be approved.

8. Financial Thresholds for Key Decisions

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report setting out, for 2023/24, the proposed financial threshold above which decisions should be treated as Key Decisions as defined in Standing Order 19 (1) (a).

Resolved: - That Full Council confirms that the financial threshold for Key Decisions, for the purposes of Standing Order C19 (1) (a), be increased to £2m for 2023/24, as set out in the report, now presented.

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 19 January 2023 and 2 February 2023 together with details of urgent key decisions taken since the last meeting of Full Council, in accordance with Standing Order C23.

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 the decision taken by the Director of Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer) under the county council's urgent business procedure on behalf of the Urgency Committee, together with the report of the Urgency Committee from its meeting on 19 January 2023.

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

11(b) The Audit, Risk and Governance Committee

County Councillor John Singleton moved the report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee from its meeting on 30 January 2023.

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 meetings on 9 January 2023 (am and pm).

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

11(d) The Overview and Scrutiny Committees

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

- Scrutiny Management Board (17 January 2023)
- Children, Families and Skills (30 November 2022, 25 January 2023)
- Health and Adult Services (14 December 2022, 1 February 2023)
- Environment, Economic Growth and Transport (8 December 2022, 26 January 2023)
- Community, Cultural and Corporate Services (13 December 2022, 16 January 2023)

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



11(e) The Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board

County Councillor Michael Green moved the report of the Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board from its meeting on 24 January 2023.

Resolved: - That the report of the Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board, now presented, be noted.

12. Report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority

County Councillor David O'Toole moved the report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority from its meeting on 19 December 2022.

Resolved: - That the report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, now presented, be noted.

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

1. It was moved by County Councillor Sue Whittam and seconded by County Councillor Stuart Morris that:

This Council notes:

During September/October this year the 3 Dads walking group walked 600-miles across the UK to each of the devolved parliaments raising awareness of suicide and ensure the topic is spoken about in schools in a safe and age-appropriate way.

The 3 Dads came together after their daughters took their own lives. They have also launched a petition to get suicide prevention added to the school curriculum and this has now reached over the 100,000 signatures which will enable a debate in Parliament. The debate is yet to take place, but the petition asks for suicide to be spoken about as part of Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) lessons and for the Department for Education (DfE) to include suicide prevention within the statutory guidelines of the new curriculum.

In 2020, the Government made discussion about mental health as part of the RSHE curriculum mandatory. They will review their statutory guidance in 2023 with an aim to bringing in the revised guidance in 2024. The Government is also offering a grant of £1,200 for eligible schools and colleges in England to train a senior mental health lead to develop and implement a whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing.

This Council resolves:

1. To ask the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing to write to the 3 Dads Walking Group acknowledging the work they are doing to include suicide awareness in schools as part of the review of the RSHE curriculum.



2. To ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Education to request that suicide awareness and prevention is carefully considered in the new guidance as a part of the RSHE curriculum, and to also ask for the grants to be extended to train senior mental health leads in schools beyond March 2023.
3. To ask the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing to continue to promote resources including the many workforce development programmes that are available to all Lancashire Schools and colleges and also encourage them to participate in the upcoming national public consultation process on the proposed changes to the RHSE statutory guidance.

On being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED and it was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

This Council notes:

During September/October this year the 3 Dads walking group walked 600-miles across the UK to each of the devolved parliaments raising awareness of suicide and ensure the topic is spoken about in schools in a safe and age-appropriate way.

The 3 Dads came together after their daughters took their own lives. They have also launched a petition to get suicide prevention added to the school curriculum and this has now reached over the 100,000 signatures which will enable a debate in Parliament. The debate is yet to take place, but the petition asks for suicide to be spoken about as part of Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) lessons and for the Department for Education (DfE) to include suicide prevention within the statutory guidelines of the new curriculum.

In 2020, the Government made discussion about mental health as part of the RSHE curriculum mandatory. They will review their statutory guidance in 2023 with an aim to bringing in the revised guidance in 2024. The Government is also offering a grant of £1,200 for eligible schools and colleges in England to train a senior mental health lead to develop and implement a whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing.

This Council resolves:

1. To ask the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing to write to the 3 Dads Walking Group acknowledging the work they are doing to include suicide awareness in schools as part of the review of the RSHE curriculum.
2. To ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Education to request that suicide awareness and prevention is carefully considered in the new guidance as a part of the RSHE curriculum, and to also ask for the grants to be extended to train senior mental health leads in schools beyond March 2023.
3. To ask the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing to continue to promote resources including the many workforce development programmes that are available to all Lancashire Schools



and colleges and also encourage them to participate in the upcoming national public consultation process on the proposed changes to the RHSE statutory guidance.

2. It was moved by County Councillor Gina Dowding and seconded by County Councillor John Potter that:

Lancashire County Council notes:

1. The need for more ambitious action on climate and ecology is set out clearly, through, for example:
 - The “now or never” UN [report](#) of April 2022;
 - The [Leaders' Pledge for Nature](#), signed by the UK Government, which stated that - if we fail to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 - we increase the risk of further pandemics, rising global temperatures, and further loss of species;
 - An independent net zero review, and subsequent [Mission Zero](#) report, of January 2023 which recognises that we cannot achieve our net zero targets without restoring nature; and notes with concern that:
 - a. More than 2,000 homes and businesses face disappearing by the 2050s in West Lancashire, according to [research](#) published in June 2022;
 - b. A 2020 [study](#) concluded that 41.5% of protected land or natural features in Lancashire found poor conditions or the destruction of habitats; and
 - c. According to the Mammals Society, the populations of swifts, starlings, yellowhammers, greenfinches and swallows have declined by 74%, 64%, 59%, 53% and 47%, respectively, across the North West.
2. In December 2022, Council resolved to prepare a comprehensive strategy for nature recovery for Lancashire. The [Lancashire 2050 Plan](#), published in November 2022, includes - as one of eight priorities - a commitment to meet our low carbon ambitions, promote clean energy, and enhance our rich, natural environment.
3. A Bill was introduced in UK Parliament in May 2022 - the [Climate and Ecology Bill](#) - which would require the development of a strategy to ensure that the UK's environmental response is in line with the latest science. It has cross-party support from over 160 MPs and Peers and would ensure that:
 - a. A joined-up approach is taken to tackle the interconnected climate and nature crises;
 - b. The UK does its full and fair share to limit the global temperature rise to 1.5°C; and
 - c. Biodiversity loss is halted and in reverse by 2030.

Lancashire County Council recognises that:

- a. Residents, businesses, public sector bodies, and civil society groups across Lancashire are keen to take action in line with the principles of the Climate and Ecology Bill;



- b. The Climate and Ecology Bill will add value to the commitments made by the Council on both climate and nature issues.

Lancashire County Council therefore resolves to:

- (i) Support the Climate and Ecology Bill;
- (ii) Write to Lancashire's MPs, letting them know that the motion has been passed - urging them to sign up to support the Bill - or thanking them for already doing so; and write to [Zero Hour](#) - the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the Bill - expressing its support (hello@zerohour.uk).

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

Lancashire County Council notes:

1. The need for more ambitious action on climate and ecology is set out clearly, through, for example:
 - The "now or never" UN [report](#) of April 2022;
 - The [Leaders' Pledge for Nature](#), signed by the UK Government, which stated that - if we fail to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 - we increase the risk of further pandemics, rising global temperatures, and further loss of species;
 - An independent net zero review, and subsequent [Mission Zero](#) report, of January 2023 which recognises that we cannot achieve our net zero targets without restoring nature; and notes with concern that:
 - a. More than 2,000 homes and businesses face disappearing by the 2050s in West Lancashire, according to [research](#) published in June 2022;
 - b. A 2020 [study](#) concluded that 41.5% of protected land or natural features in Lancashire found poor conditions or the destruction of habitats; and
 - c. According to the Mammals Society, the populations of swifts, starlings, yellowhammers, greenfinches and swallows have declined by 74%, 64%, 59%, 53% and 47%, respectively, across the North West.
2. In December 2022, Council resolved to prepare a comprehensive strategy for nature recovery for Lancashire. The [Lancashire 2050 Plan](#), published in November 2022, includes - as one of eight priorities - a commitment to meet our low carbon ambitions, promote clean energy, and enhance our rich, natural environment.
3. The [Ecology Bill](#) would ensure that the UK's environmental response is in line with the latest science. It has cross-party support and would ensure that Biodiversity loss is halted and in reverse by 2030.

Lancashire County Council recognises that:

- a. Residents, businesses, public sector bodies, and civil society groups across Lancashire are keen to take action in line with the principles of the Ecology Bill;



- b. The Ecology Bill will add value to the commitments made by the Council on both climate and nature issues.

Lancashire County Council therefore resolves to:

1. Support the Ecology Bill;
2. Write to Lancashire's MPs, letting them know that the motion has been passed - urging them to sign up to support the Bill - or thanking them for already doing so; and write to Zero Hour - the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the Bill - expressing its support (hello@zerohour.uk).

The friendly amendment was accepted by County Councillor Dowding and became the substantive motion. The substantive motion, as amended by County Councillor Fewings's friendly amendment, was then put to the vote and was LOST.

3. It was moved by County Councillor Samara Barnes and seconded by County Councillor Julie Gibson that:

This council notes the campaign to make care experienced a protected characteristic and that several councils across the UK have already supported this campaign.

Lancashire County Council believes that Care experienced people face significant barriers that impact them throughout their lives;

- Despite the resilience of many care experienced people, society too often does not take their needs into account.
- Care experienced people often face discrimination and stigma across housing, health, education, relationships, employment and in the criminal justice system.
- Care experienced people often face a postcode lottery of support.
- As corporate parents, councillors have a collective responsibility for providing the best possible care and safeguarding for the children who are looked after by us as an authority.
- All corporate parents should commit to acting as mentors, hearing the voices of looked after children and young people and to consider their needs in any aspect of council work.
- Councillors should be champions of our looked after children and challenge the negative attitudes and prejudice that exists in all aspects of society.
- The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, such as councils, to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation of people with protected characteristics.
- Lancashire County Council acknowledges that Children entering the care system are often split from their siblings and placed outside their home Local Authority Area. That they don't choose to enter the care system, that they don't choose to be split up from their siblings and don't choose to be placed outside their local area.

Lancashire County Council therefore RESOLVES:

- (i) When making any decisions in relation to its policies or formulating its Council Plan that it recognises that Care Experienced people are a vulnerable group who face discrimination.



- (ii) That it recognises that Councils have a duty to put the needs of vulnerable people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration.
- (iii) That the Council commits to including care experience alongside Protected Characteristics in the publication and review of its Equality Objectives and the annual publication of information relating to people who share a Protected Characteristic in services and employment.
- (iv) That this council will treat care experience as if it were a Protected Characteristic so that future Equality Impact Assessments include the impact of changes on people with care experience, alongside those who formally share a Protected Characteristic where relevant.
- (v) To formally call upon all other bodies to treat care experience as if it were a Protected Characteristic.
- (vi) To formally call upon all other bodies to adopt corporate parenting for children in care and care leavers.
- (vii) For the Council to proactively seek out and listen to the voices of care experienced people when developing relevant new policies - outside of the Children, Families and Skills committee.

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

This council notes the campaign to make care experienced a protected characteristic and that several councils across the UK have already supported this campaign.

Lancashire County Council believes that some Care experienced people face significant barriers that impact them throughout their lives;

- Despite the resilience of some care experienced people, society too often does not take their needs into account.
- Care experienced people may face discrimination and stigma across housing, health, education, relationships, employment and in the criminal justice system.
- Care experienced people may face a postcode lottery of support.
- As corporate parents, councillors have a collective responsibility for providing the best possible care and safeguarding for the children who are looked after by us as an authority.
- All corporate parents should commit to acting as mentors, hearing the voices of looked after children and young people and to consider their needs in any aspect of council work.
- Councillors should be champions of our looked after children and challenge the negative attitudes and prejudice that exists in all aspects of society.
- The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, such as councils, to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation of people with protected characteristics.
- Lancashire County Council acknowledges that Children entering the care system may be separated from their siblings and/or placed outside their home Local Authority Area:



Lancashire County Council therefore RESOLVES:

- (i) When making decisions in–relation to policies or plans to revisit present strategies that recognise care experienced people as a vulnerable group who can face discrimination.
- (ii) That we recognise the Council has a duty to put the needs of vulnerable people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration with them.
- (iii) That the Council commits to consider those with care experience in the publication and review of its Equality Objectives and the annual publication of information relating to people who share a protected characteristic in services and employment.
- (iv) That the Council considers the impact of care experience when reviewing relevant strategy and / or policies alongside protected characteristics.
- (v) To promote our Corporate Parenting principles to other bodies and consider care experience with Council strategy alongside protected characteristic policy.
- (vi) To formally call upon other bodies to adopt corporate parenting for children in care and care leavers.
- (vii) For the Council to thank the corporate parenting board for their leadership under Councillor Clarke, recognised as Good in the January 2022 Ofsted report.

Following a brief adjournment, the friendly amendment was accepted by County Councillor Barnes and became the substantive motion. The substantive motion, as amended by County Councillor Towneley's friendly amendment, was then put to the vote and was CARRIED and it was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

This council notes the campaign to make care experienced a protected characteristic and that several councils across the UK have already supported this campaign.

Lancashire County Council believes that some Care experienced people face significant barriers that impact them throughout their lives;

- Despite the resilience of some care experienced people, society too often does not take their needs into account.
- Care experienced people may face discrimination and stigma across housing, health, education, relationships, employment and in the criminal justice system.
- Care experienced people may face a postcode lottery of support.
- As corporate parents, councillors have a collective responsibility for providing the best possible care and safeguarding for the children who are looked after by us as an authority.
- All corporate parents should commit to acting as mentors, hearing the voices of looked after children and young people and to consider their needs in any aspect of council work.
- Councillors should be champions of our looked after children and challenge the negative attitudes and prejudice that exists in all aspects of society.



- The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, such as councils, to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation of people with protected characteristics.
- Lancashire County Council acknowledges that Children entering the care system may be separated from their siblings and/or placed outside their home Local Authority Area:

Lancashire County Council therefore RESOLVES:

- (i) When making decisions in–relation to policies or plans to revisit present strategies that recognise care experienced people as a vulnerable group who can face discrimination.
- (ii) That we recognise the Council has a duty to put the needs of vulnerable people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration with them.
- (iii) That the Council commits to consider those with care experience in the publication and review of its Equality Objectives and the annual publication of information relating to people who share a protected characteristic in services and employment.
- (iv) That the Council considers the impact of care experience when reviewing relevant strategy and / or policies alongside protected characteristics.
- (v) To promote our Corporate Parenting principles to other bodies and consider care experience with Council strategy alongside protected characteristic policy.
- (vi) To formally call upon other bodies to adopt corporate parenting for children in care and care leavers.
- (vii) For the Council to thank the corporate parenting board for their leadership under Councillor Clarke, recognised as Good in the January 2022 Ofsted report.

4. It was moved by County Councillor Sue Hind and seconded by County Councillor Sue Hind and seconded by County Councillor Carole Haythornthwaite that:

This Council resolves to request the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to write to all Lancashire School Headteachers, Chairs of Governors, Councillors in all levels of local government and local MPs to outline plans and encourage their participation in a ‘Lancashire Walks to School Day’ on Friday 19th May, to combine our commitment to the priority of protecting the environment, together with celebrating the historic Coronation of our new Monarch.

On this special day, the children will be highlighting their concerns about:

- 1) Climate change,
- 2) Air pollution, traffic congestion and the effects of parking in close proximity to the school.
- 3) The physical and mental health benefits combined with the pleasure of walking outdoors compared with a car journey would be a change for some children and therefore memorable. Those pupils who live a longer distance from school might be able to participate by walking part of the way.



This council also resolves to make resources available to support schools to help them prepare for and celebrate this initiative. We know that some schools already promote walking and cycling but if it were to be encouraged county-wide it would be a giant step forward in more ways than one.

On being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED and it was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

This Council resolves to request the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to write to all Lancashire School Headteachers, Chairs of Governors, Councillors in all levels of local government and local MPs to outline plans and encourage their participation in a 'Lancashire Walks to School Day' on Friday 19th May, to combine our commitment to the priority of protecting the environment, together with celebrating the historic Coronation of our new Monarch.

On this special day, the children will be highlighting their concerns about:

- 1) Climate change,
- 2) Air pollution, traffic congestion and the effects of parking in close proximity to the school.
- 3) The physical and mental health benefits combined with the pleasure of walking outdoors compared with a car journey would be a change for some children and therefore memorable. Those pupils who live a longer distance from school might be able to participate by walking part of the way.

This council also resolves to make resources available to support schools to help them prepare for and celebrate this initiative. We know that some schools already promote walking and cycling but if it were to be encouraged county-wide it would be a giant step forward in more ways than one.

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive

County Hall
Preston

