

Meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board (16 January 2024)

Chair: County Councillor David Westley

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Money Matters 2023/24 Position – Quarter 2

Members were presented with the key highlights from the Money Matters 2023/24 Position – Quarter 2 report provided to Cabinet at its meeting held on 7 December 2023.

Resolved: That the report be considered.

Medium Term Financial Strategy Update 2024/25 – 2026/27

Members were presented with a copy of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy Update 2024/25 - 2026/27 report to be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 18 January 2024 which contained an updated position compared to that presented to Cabinet and Full Council in February 2023

Resolved: That;

- i. The information as presented be noted.
- ii. The comments from the Scrutiny Management Board in relation to saving proposals GET007 and GET009 be passed onto Cabinet.

Budget Savings Tracker

The Board was provided with an update on the tracking and delivery of savings agreed by Full Council in the current and previous financial years.

Resolved: That;

- i. The information as presented in the report be noted.
- ii. A revised report be presented to the next scheduled meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board on 16 April 2024.

Work Programmes 2023/24

Members were presented with the 2023/24 work programmes for all the scrutiny committees and the Scrutiny Management Board with an update included on the activity of the Political Governance Working Group.



Resolved: That the;

- i. Work programmes and progress on recommendations be noted.
- ii. Update on the activity of the Political Governance Working Group be noted.

Scrutiny In-Year Requests

Members were presented with two in-year request forms received for the Boards consideration. In addition, the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee had made two requests for additional items to appear on its work programme for 2023/24.

Resolved: That the;

- i. In year request for the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee to review gluten free prescriptions be not agreed.
- ii. In year request for the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee to review the employment type day provision for people with autism and or learning disabilities be agreed and for this to be included on the 2024/25 work programme.
- iii. Two requests from the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee be agreed.

Report on the activity of the Councillor Support Steering Group

The Board was provided with an overview of matters presented and considered by the Councillor Support Steering Group at its meeting held on 25 October 2023.

Resolved: That the report of the Councillor Support Steering Group be received.



Meeting of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee (13 December 2023)

Chair: County Councillor Sue Hind

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Alternate Provision Strategy

The Chair welcomed County Councillor Jayne Rear, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, Julie Bell, Interim Director for Education, Culture and Skills and Sally Richardson, Head of Service Inclusion to the meeting.

Members were provided with an overview of the work that had been completed to date and the action planned to support the implementation of the Alternative Provision Strategy 2023-2026.

Resolved: That the action taken to date and planned in relation to the Alternative Provision Strategy be supported with no further recommendations from the committee at this time.

SEND Sufficiency Plan

The Chair welcomed County Councillor Jayne Rear, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, Julie Bell, Interim Director for Education, Culture and Skills and Dr Sally Richardson, Head of Service Inclusion to the meeting.

The Board was provided with a brief overview of developments to date in relation to increasing the range and availability of more specialist provision across the county was provided to the committee.

Resolved: That the proposals that are being developed to increase the range and availability of specialist provision across Lancashire be supported with no further recommendations from the committee at this time.

Meeting of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee (31 January 2024)

Chair: County Councillor Sue Hind

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

School and Post 16 Transport

The Chair welcomed County Councillor Rupert Swarbrick, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, Oliver Starkey, Head of Service Public and Integrated Transport, Debbie Ormerod, Access to Education Lead Officer, Nanette Hog, Admissions and Transport Co-Ordinator, Sarah Hirst, 16-19 Education and Skills Lead and Andrew Glover, Principal Transport Officer for School Transport to the meeting.

The report circulated with the agenda pack provided an update on the County Council's Home to School Transport Policy. It provided information on the 'Think Transport' publicity campaign which provided parents with information when making their primary and secondary school applications. The report also included information on the Post-16 Transport Policy.

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

- i. Consideration be given to investing in software that can provide tracking data on passenger routes, use of passes and how often routes are used to better manage, monitor, and rationalise the services provided in relation to school transport.
- ii. Further information to be provided on how risks are mitigated in relation to standees on buses.

Education Attainment Data

The Chair welcomed County Councillor Jayne Rear, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, Julie Bell, Interim Director of Education, Skills and Culture and Aby Hardy, Head of Education Improvement to the meeting.

The report circulated with the agenda pack provided a summary of the attainment of children and young people in Lancashire in the 2023 Summer exam season.

Resolved: That the following recommendations be shared with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills:



- i. When available, the 2024 Attainment Data Tables to be made available to members of the committee.
- ii. Outcomes of the Disadvantaged Conference with schools to be shared with the committee once available.



Meeting of the Community, Cultural, and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee (12 December 2023)

Chair: County Councillor Ged Mirfin

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

People Services: Council Workforce Update including Benchmarking: Recruitment, Retention, Reward and Performance Management

The Chair welcomed County Councillor Alan Vincent, Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader), Lucy Thompson, Director of People, Deborah Barrow, Head of Service Human Resources, and Rachel Rump, Head of Service Skills, Learning and Development to the meeting.

Members were provided with an in-depth data snapshot of the current workforce including the size of the authority, the workforce demographics and the insights from the data that can assist the county council in its workforce attraction, retention, and development strategies.

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

- i. A future report or briefing note to the committee at an appropriate time be provided to consider the following:
 - a. The mean and mode age of employees in reference to Age Profile, to be provided and a further breakdown of age profile by service area.
 - b. In relation to gender, a further breakdown to be provided for each service area.
 - c. A breakdown of geographic data in terms of where our employees live, for those living outside of the county, where possible.
 - d. Consideration to be given to how the organisation is dealing with an aging workforce.
 - e. Benchmarking data on other similarly comparable authorities in this area of work to be provided as and when available.

- f. Further data to be provided to breakdown which service areas vacant posts are held in, what the pay levels are and how long vacancies have been vacant for.
 - g. Exit interview data to be considered to develop a greater understanding of why employees have left the organisation.
 - h. Details of the steps being taken to ensure that staff are more involved in change management at the authority.
- ii. Consideration be given to the following mechanisms to further strengthen the recruitment and retention of employees:
- a. Staying in touch with former employees for feedback to be gathered and a greater understanding of why they left the organisation and the concept of 'Saty Interviews' to be explored to identify any potential issues or barriers for employees considering leaving the authority.
 - b. A press release to promote the work the county council is doing with apprenticeships.
 - c. Closer working with local universities and employers to develop bespoke training programmes or courses where there is a job 'guaranteed' at the end of the course. Consider how this work is being delivered across other comparable authorities.
 - d. The formation of an Alumni of Forum of former employees who would be ambassadors for the organisation.
 - e. Greater work shadowing and mentoring opportunities for existing employees.

Lancashire County Council's People Strategy

Lucy Thompson, Director of People, Deborah Barrow, Head of Service Human Resources, and Rachel Rump, Head of Service Skills, Learning and Development, presented the report to the committee.

The report provided a further update to the presentation and reports presented to the Community, Cultural and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee in December 2022, and it was noted that since the last update, an organisational People Strategy had been developed and launched and the report provided an update on purpose and progress.

Resolved: That Lancashire County Council's People Strategy be welcomed with no further recommendations from the committee at this time.



Meeting of the Community, Cultural and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee (6 February 2024)

Chair: County Councillor Ged Mirfin

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Culture Review: What it is, Impact in terms of Place / Economy and Engaging with Young People

The Chair welcomed County Councillor Peter Buckley, Cabinet Member for Communities and Cultural Services, County Councillor Ash Sutcliffe, Lead Member for Cultural Services and Skills, Andy Walker, Head of Service Business Growth, Steve Lloyd, Head of Cultural Services, and Heather Fox, Cultural Development Manager, to the meeting.

A presentation was provided on REMADE: Cultural Investment Strategy for Lancashire and covered how the strategy would facilitate the remaking and recognition of culture to deliver Lancashire Enterprise Partnership's vision for Lancashire through its main priority areas, desired outcomes, and economic growth dimension.

A report and presentation were also provided to the committee detailing the role of culture and its impact and presented the draft Cultural Strategy Services Strategy 2024-28 which expanded on these themes. The report highlighted the reviews to the existing strategy and a refresh to inform the direction of the service for the next four years to deliver better outcomes for the people of Lancashire.

Resolved: That the following recommendations be shared with the Cabinet Member for Communities and Cultural Services and where possible, be used to inform the draft Cultural Services Strategy for 2024-2028:

- i. Consideration be given to how the county council can further support, grow, and work with our National Portfolio Organisation holders that exist in Lancashire to attract even more funding including a breakdown of the rubric contained in the ACE Create IT Strategy Document.
- ii. A piece of work to take place to understand the footprint of where NPO organisations are located within Lancashire and whether they are eligible for National Lottery Heritage Funding, National Lottery Community Funds and Sports England at a district level.
- iii. Examination of individual District Local Plans / Core Strategy documents produced by districts to better understand their cultural strategies.



- iv. Information to be provided on the role of advocacy organisations the county council works with such as Arts Lancashire, Digital Lancashire, Lancashire Cultural Network and Visit Lancashire.
- v. Development of a Directory of Festivals in Lancashire to be considered and regard be given to how significant events and festivals are shared wider in Lancashire. Consideration be given to a package of support to be provided for events where sponsorship can be leveraged in.
- vi. Consideration be given to the role of culture as part of the Corporate Cohesion Strategy and Workforce Equalities Strategy update which is due to be presented to the committee in May 24.
- vii. Refer the report provided to the committee to Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee for them to review the report in terms of the updates provided on Education and Skills.
- viii. Officers to revisit a series of reports produced and commissioned since 2012 including The Work Foundation on The Creative Economy in Lancashire and the LCC Scrutiny Task Group Report – Towards a Stronger Sense of Place.
- ix. A further report to come back to the committee in November 2024 to update the committee on how work is progressing.

Lancashire Culture and Sport Fund / Crowdfund Lancashire

County Councillor Peter Buckley, Cabinet Member for Communities and Cultural Services, County Councillor Ash Sutcliffe, Lead Member for Cultural Services and Skills, Steve Lloyd, Head of Cultural Services, and Heather Fox, Cultural Development Manager, presented a report to the committee.

The report provided an insight into Crowdfund Lancashire which was the crowdfunding platform that administered the Lancashire Culture & Sport Fund. Crowdfund Lancashire and the Lancashire Culture and Support Fund empowered Lancashire communities to shape the culture and sport offer where they live, giving community groups autonomy to fund and deliver projects that are of need in their locality.

Resolved: That the following recommendations be shared with the Cabinet Member for Communities and Cultural Services:

- i. That the following recommendations from the report be supported:
 - a. To continue to reach Lancashire residents and community groups in more areas so all districts have an equitable share of the Lancashire Culture & Sport Fund.
 - b. To continue to target under-represented areas and communities through working with district councils and community organisations.



- c. To lower the current maximum pledge of £20,000 to £15,000. This would allow the panel to support more projects at higher pledge amounts, meaning more funds could be spread across the county and increasing the likelihood of more projects reaching their crowdfunding target.
- ii. That recommendation iii from the report to prioritise those projects in low-income and for under-represented areas not be supported at this time.
- iii. Officers to consider how venues can be utilised and accessed more for community events, allowing communities to have greater access to venues and facilities that are available in Lancashire.



Meeting of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee (5 December 2023)

Chair: County Councillor Rob Bailey

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Lovecleanstreets App Review

The Chair welcomed to the meeting County Councillor Rupert Swarbrick, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, Phil Durnell, Director of Highways and Transport, Sarah Scott, Highways Operational Support and Liaison Manager, and Ned Dave, Senior ICT Architect.

The committee was presented a report which provided details on changes that had been implemented in the Love Clean Streets application (app) in response to issues that had been raised.

Resolved: That:

- i. The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport gives consideration to;
 - a. Expanding the Love clean streets app to include borough council issues (e.g., Fly tipping, street cleansing) where they specifically affect the highway.
 - b. Creating a new category for weeds in the app's reporting system.
 - c. Provide emergency contact numbers for councillors, to avoid members reporting these via the app.
- ii. The projected dates on the forward plan for developing the app be shared with the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- iii. A Briefing Note on future plans for gully emptying be provided to the committee.

Levelling Up East Lancashire: Creating Opportunities through Safer, Greener, and Healthier Travel

The Chair welcomed to the meeting County Councillor Aidy Riggott, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth, and Andrew Mullaney, Director of Environment and Planning.

The committee was presented a report which provided the background to the Levelling Up Fund within East Lancashire, the County Council's successful bid and next steps.



Resolved: That a further update on Levelling Up East Lancashire focussing on expected outcomes, how these would be measured, expectations and timelines on what is hoped to be achieved be provided at an appropriate time in 2024.

Work Programme 2023/24

A copy of the committee's work programme for 2023/24 which contained an update on progress with responses to the committee's recommendations on road closures was presented.

Resolved: That;

- i. The Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2023/24 be noted.
- ii. The formal response from the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to the committee's recommendations on road closures be noted.
- iii. A request to add a new topic to the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee's work programme for 2023/24 on reviewing the Transport Asset Management Plan (TAMP) be made to the Scrutiny Management Board at its next scheduled meeting on 16 January 2024.



Meeting of the Environment, Economic Growth, and Transport Scrutiny Committee (25 January 2024)

Chair: County Councillor Rob Bailey

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Lancashire Road Safety

The Chair welcomed to the meeting County Councillor Rupert Swarbrick, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, John Davies, Head of Service Highways Management Service, Tony Crook, Road Safety Manager, Michael White, Highway Regulation Manager and Eddie Mills, Traffic and Safety Manager.

The committee was presented a report which provided key information on the number of killed or seriously injured collisions that have occurred on Lancashire roads. The report also explained some of the road safety teams work within 2 education and engagement, speed awareness, safety engineering and what these teams delivered for the council to make Lancashire roads safer.

Resolved: That;

- i. The new terms of reference for the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership be shared with the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- ii. A list of responsibilities setting out the statutory, custom and practice aspects of each of the organisations in the partnership be provided.
- iii. A request to convene an Inquiry Day on the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership be made to the Scrutiny Management Board at its meeting scheduled on 16 April 2024.

Water Resources Management

The Chair welcomed to the meeting County Councillor Shaun Turner, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change, John Davies, Head of Service Highways Management Service, Ray Bennett, Principal Development Support Officer, Laura Bigley, Principal Flood Risk Officer and Kirstie Williams, Highways Group Manager – Countywide Projects.



The committee was presented a report which provided an introduction into what a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) is. The report highlighted the roles of various teams within the Highways Service in relation to water management and gave examples of SuDS schemes within Lancashire.

Resolved: That no recommendations on Water Resource Management be made at this time.



Meeting of the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee (4 December 2023)

Chair: County Councillor David Westley

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

NHS Recovery and Transformation

The Chair welcomed Kevin Lavery, Chief Executive, Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board and Maggie Oldham, Deputy CEO/Chief of Transformation and Reconfiguration, Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board to the meeting.

Members were provided with a report on the development of NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) as well as an update on the Recovery and Transformation Programme.

Resolved: That;

- i. The ongoing development of the Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB, particularly in relation to the work being undertaken on recovery and transformation be considered.
- ii. A further update be provided to the committee in 12 months' time.

Meeting of the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee (22 January 2024)

Chair: County Councillor David Westley

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

Service Update: Public Health, Wellbeing and Communities

Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, Director of Public Health and Wellbeing, Paula Hawley-Evans, Consultant in Public Health attended the meeting to present a service update on public health, wellbeing, and communities.

The presentation provided an overview of the transformation priorities for public health. The three priorities brought to the committee by the report were improving business procedures, workforce development and data and intelligence.

Resolved: That;

- i. The Public Health, Wellbeing and Communities Service Update be noted, and further service updates be added to the agenda for future committee meetings.
- ii. The following items be included as part of the 2024/25 work programme of the Health and Adult Services Committee and Steering group:
 - Public Health Annual Business Plan 2024/25
 - A more detailed report of data and intelligence as outlined in the presentation.
 - A further update on Social Prescribing and clean air initiatives.
- iii. An update to the Public Health team's review on smoking and pregnancy be provided to the committee in a future meeting.
- iv. The distribution list and channels for the Public Health newsletter be reviewed to ensure committee members are alerted to work being undertaken including that with the parish and district councils to assist with further supporting the service.