

Minutes

At a meeting of the Full Council held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Preston, on Thursday, 23rd May, 2024

Present:

County Councillor Alan Cullens BEM (Chairman)

County Councillors

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

1. Apologies and Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors Lorraine Beavers, Lizzi Collinge, Andrew Gardiner, Carole Haythornthwaite, Alan Hosker, Stewart Jones, Stuart Morris, John Potter, and Alan Whittaker.

County Councillors Sobia Malik and Kim Snape joined the meeting virtually.



County Councillor Andrea Kay

The Chairman welcomed back County Councillor Andrea Kay who had returned after a period of absence.

Death

The Chairman reported the death of former County Councillor Margaret Ingham who sadly passed away recently.

The Council observed a one-minute silence.

50th Anniversary of Lancashire County Council

The Chairman drew Full Council's attention to the events and activities taking place during the year to mark the 50th anniversary of the county council.

Recognitions

At the invitation of the Chairman, County Councillor Peter Buckley, Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services, drew Full Council's attention to the recent success by the Library Service which had been recognised by the Campaign for Learning, with the Family Learning in the Early Years Award.

Robin Crawshaw, Reading Development Manager; Tom Brown, Reading Development Officer; Joanne Walsh, Library Officer; and Carolyn Kimmins, Community Engagement Manager, representatives of the Library Service, joined the meeting virtually.

Full Council congratulated and thanked all those involved.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

3. Public Question Time

No questions were submitted.

4. Question Time

County Councillors Scott Smith, Sue Hind, Matthew Salter and Ash Sutcliffe, asked their questions as follows:

No.	Question From	Subject	For Answer By
1.	County Councillor Scott Smith	East Lancashire Bus Services	Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport



2.	County Councillor Sue Hind	Dales Rail and Active Travel	Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport
3.	County Councillor Matthew Salter	Ash Dieback	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change
4.	County Councillor Ash Sutcliffe	Apprenticeships	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

County Councillor Rupert Swarbrick, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport; County Councillor Shaun Turner, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change; and County Councillor Jayne Rear, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, replied.

Due to a time limit of 30 minutes for Question Time, the following questions were not asked and were subject to a written response copied to all councillors:

No.	Question From	Subject	For Answer By
5.	County Councillor Charles Edwards	Maternity and Postnatal Care	Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing
6.	County Councillor Mark Clifford	SEND Transport	Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

5. Election of Chairman

County Councillor Alan Cullens, the retiring Chairman of the County Council, presided for this item.

It was moved by County Councillor Charles Edwards, and seconded by County Councillor Matthew Maxwell-Scott, that County Councillor Tim Ashton be elected Chairman of the County Council.

There being no other nominations, it was:

Resolved: - That County Councillor Tim Ashton be elected Chairman of the County Council until the Annual General Meeting of the Full Council in 2025.

County Councillor Ashton then took the Chair and made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

6. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

It was moved by County Councillor John Shedwick, and seconded by County Councillor Shaun Turner, that County Councillor Alf Clempson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council.



There being no other nominations, it was:

Resolved: - That County Councillor Alf Clempson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council until the Annual General Meeting of the Full Council in 2025.

County Councillor Clempson then made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

7. Confirmation of the Minutes from the Meeting held on 14 March 2024

Resolved: - That the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2024 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

8. Report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee – Code of Corporate Governance 2024/25

County Councillor Alan Schofield moved a report setting out the recommendation of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee in respect of the updated Code of Corporate Governance for 2024/25.

Resolved: - That the recommendation of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee to approve the updated Code of Corporate Governance for 2024/25, as set out in the report, now presented, be approved.

9. Review of the County Council's Constitution

County Councillor Peter Buckley moved a report asking Full Council to approve the Constitution for the year ahead, including the updated Financial Rules, some further changes as set out in the report, and noting the changes that have been made since the new Constitution came into effect on 1 April 2024.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The recommendation of the Political Governance Working Group from its meeting on 9 May 2024, as set out in the report, now presented, be noted, and the updated Financial Rules, as set out at Appendix 'A', of the report, now presented, be approved.
- (ii) The Constitution of the county council for the year 2024/25, including the changes set out in the report, now presented, and noting the changes that have been made since 1 April 2024, be approved.

10. Membership of Committees and Related Appointments 2024/25

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved a report with a revised Appendix A and recommendation setting out details of the membership of committees and related appointments for 2024/25.

Resolved:- That:

- (i) The Constitution and membership of the committees of the county council for 2024/25, as set out in the revised Appendix A, as circulated, be approved.



- (ii) The appointment of Chairs and Deputy Chairs of those committees for 2024/25, as set out at b) in the report, now presented, as circulated, and as set out below, be approved.

Committee	Chair	Deputy
Urgency	P Williamson	A Vincent

Overview and Scrutiny

Scrutiny Management Board	D Westley	S Hind
Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny	S Hind	S Barnes
Community, Cultural and Corporate Services Scrutiny	G Mirfin	J Shedwick
Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny	R Bailey	S Rigby
Health and Adult Services Scrutiny	D Westley	J Mein

Other Committees

Audit, Risk and Governance Conduct	A Schofield	J Singleton
Development Control	A Vincent	J Fillis
	M Maxwell	B Yates
	- Scott	
Employment	P Williamson	A Vincent
Independent Transport Appeals Panel	A Cheetham	S Hind
Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board	M Green	<i>Non-CC Appointment</i>
Pension Fund Committee	E Pope	A Schofield
Political Governance Working Group	P Buckley	S Whittam
Regulatory	A Cullens	M Salter

11. Lancashire Combined Fire Authority - Appointment of County Council Representatives for 2024/25

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report with a revised recommendation asking Full Council to approve the appointment of 19 members to serve on the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority for 2024/25 on the basis of 11 Conservative members, 6 Labour members, 1 member from either the Liberal Democrats or Greens, and 1 member from the Independents.

Resolved: - That the following county councillors be appointed to serve on the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority for 2024/25:



Conservative (11)

P Britcliffe
S Clarke
T Hurn
S Morris
D O'Toole
P Rigby
M Salter
J Shedwick
J Singleton
R Woollam
B Yates

Labour (6)

M Clifford
F De Molfetta
N Hennessy
H Khan
M Pattison
S Serridge

Liberal Democrat Independent (1)

D Howarth U Arif

12. Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire - Appointment of a County Council Representative for 2024/25

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of the county council's representative, and a substitute representative, to serve on the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire for 2024/25.

County Councillor Vincent proposed that County Councillor Michael Green be appointed as the county council's representative, and that County Councillor Alan Cullens be appointed as the county council's substitute representative.

Resolved: - That County Councillor Michael Green be appointed to serve on the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire and that County Councillor Alan Cullens be appointed to serve as the substitute representative for 2024/25.

13. Transport for the North and Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee - Appointment of County Council Representatives for 2024/25

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of the county council's representatives, and substitute representatives, to serve on Transport for the North's Board and Partnership Board and Transport for the North's Scrutiny Committee for 2024/25.

County Councillor Vincent proposed that County Councillors Rupert Swarbrick and Matthew Salter be appointed as the county council's representatives, and that County Councillors Scott Smith and Rob Bailey be appointed as the county council's substitute representatives.

Resolved: - That:

The following Members be appointed to serve on Transport for the North's Board and Partnership Board and Transport for the North's Scrutiny Committee for 2024/25:

Transport for the North Board and Partnership Board

County Councillor Rupert Swarbrick



County Councillor Scott Smith (Substitute)

Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee

County Councillor Matthew Salter

County Councillor Rob Bailey (Substitute)

14. Appointments to the Local Government Association's General Assembly, Boards and Special Interest Groups for 2024/25

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of representatives to serve on the Local Government Association's General Assembly for 2024/25; the appointment of representatives to serve on a number of the Local Government Association's Special Interest Groups for 2024/25, and to note the arrangements for appointments to the Local Government Association's Boards.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The representation and appointments to serve on the Local Government Association's General Assembly and Special Interest Groups, as set out in the report now presented, for 2024/25, be approved as follows:

LGA General Assembly (4)

Conservative (3) Labour (1)

G Gooch M Tomlinson
M Green
P Williamson

LGA Special Interest Group - Coastal Issues (1)

S Clarke

LGA Special Interest Group - Rural Services Network (1)

S Turner

LGA Special Interest Group - Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum (1)

A Riggott

- (ii) That the County Council's 12 votes be carried by County Councillor Phillippa Williamson.
- (iii) That the arrangements for appointments to the Local Government Association's Boards as set out in the report, now presented, be noted.



15. Appointments to the County Councils Network for 2024/25

County Councillor Alan Vincent moved a report asking Full Council to approve the appointment of representatives to serve on the County Councils Network for 2024/25.

Resolved: - That the representation and appointments to serve on the County Councils Network for 2024/25 be approved as follows:

Conservative (3)

Labour (1)

G Gooch

M Tomlinson

A Riggott

P Williamson

16. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business to be considered.

17. Report of the Cabinet (Part B)

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved the report of the Cabinet from its meetings on 7 March 2024, 11 April 2024 and 9 May 2024 together with details of an urgent key decision taken since the last meeting of Full Council, in accordance with Standing Order C21.

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

18(a) The Audit, Risk and Governance Committee

County Councillor Alan Schofield moved the report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee from its meeting on 22 April 2024.

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

18(b) The Employment Committee

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson moved the report of the Employment Committee from its meeting on 25 April 2024.

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

18(c) The Pension Fund Committee

County Councillor Eddie Pope moved the report of the Pension Fund Committee from its meeting on 8 March 2024.



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

18(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 (16 April 2024)
- Children, Families and Skills (13 March 2024)
- Community, Cultural and Corporate Services (18 April 2024)
- Environment, Economic Growth and Transport (11 March 2024 and 25 April 2024)
- Health and Adult Services (20 March 2024)

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

18(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 5 March 2024.

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

18(f) The Political Governance Working Group

County Councillor Peter Buckley moved the report of the Political Governance Working Group from its meeting on 9 May 2024.

Resolved: - That the report of the Political Governance Working Group, now presented, be noted.

19. 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 22 April 2024.

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

20. To consider Notices of Motion Submitted under Standing Order B37

1. In a revised Notice of Motion, it was moved by County Councillor Julie Gibson and seconded by County Councillor Michael Green that:

This Council notes:



That figures from the Health and Safety Executive 2022/2023 show that the number of construction workers who committed suicide in 2022 was recorded as 507, almost 10 a week.

That this situation could be improved by the introduction of a scored component concerning mental health, on all construction tenders.

This Council resolves to refer this issue to the Scrutiny Management Board for further consideration.

On being put to the vote the Motion was CARRIED.

It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

This Council notes:

That figures from the Health and Safety Executive 2022/2023 show that the number of construction workers who committed suicide in 2022 was recorded as 507, almost 10 a week.

That this situation could be improved by the introduction of a scored component concerning mental health, on all construction tenders.

This Council resolves to refer this issue to the Scrutiny Management Board for further consideration.

2. It was moved by County Councillor Jeff Couperthwaite and seconded by County Councillor Charles Edwards that:

The biggest group of volunteers in Lancashire are our hardworking school governors who freely give of their time to support our schools across the county.

This council asks the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to introduce a 'Governor Recognition' scheme for our schools so that they can nominate governors to be recognised for their service and support not only to our schools but for all children and young people in Lancashire.

On being put to the vote the Motion was CARRIED.

It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

The biggest group of volunteers in Lancashire are our hardworking school governors who freely give of their time to support our schools across the county.

This council asks the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to introduce a 'Governor Recognition' scheme for our schools so that they can nominate governors



to be recognised for their service and support not only to our schools but for all children and young people in Lancashire.

3. It was moved by County Councillor Ged Mirfin and seconded by County Councillor Anne Cheetham that:

This council believes that the Environment Agency's current approach to funding flood defence does not take into sufficient account the devastating impact of flooding in small communities and rural areas, and unfairly favours large schemes over smaller schemes that could be delivered for much less money and still save lives, property and livelihoods.

This council also believes that community-based Flood Action Groups understand their own areas and are an important source of knowledge and ideas for small local projects that could be delivered efficiently and effectively.

When it comes to the appraisal, design and cost-benefit analysis of flood defence schemes, a quicker turn-around on smaller improvement projects is required. This will ensure that vital schemes are delivered ensuring residents who are at risk of large-scale flooding events and who have experienced many near misses, are protected.

Therefore, this council resolves that the Chief Executive writes to the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Environment Agency asking them to:

- Commit to improving the funding arrangements to support the delivery of schemes for smaller communities and rural areas in Lancashire.
- Set out their approach to ensuring effective, regular communication and engagement with communities and community Flood Action Groups in developing and delivering these schemes.
- Work with Lancashire County Council to help protect our residents in all our communities from the catastrophic effects of flooding.

The following friendly Amendment was proposed by County Councillor Shaun Turner in accordance with Standing Order B43:

This council believes that the Environment Agency's current approach to funding flood defence does not take into sufficient account the devastating impact of flooding in small communities and rural areas, and unfairly favours large schemes over smaller schemes that could be delivered for much less money and still save lives, property and livelihoods.

This council also believes that community-based Flood Action Groups understand their own areas and are an important source of knowledge and ideas for small local projects that could be delivered efficiently and effectively.

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large-scale flooding events and who have experienced many near misses, are protected.

Therefore, this council resolves that the Chief Executive writes to the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Environment Agency asking them to:

- Commit to improving the funding arrangements to support the delivery of schemes for smaller communities and rural areas in Lancashire.
- Set out their approach to ensuring effective, regular communication and engagement with communities and community Flood Action Groups in developing and delivering these schemes.
- Work with Lancashire County Council to help protect our residents in all our communities from the catastrophic effects of flooding.
- Acknowledge the county council's disappointment at the Environment Agency's pause of the Padiham flood defence scheme and urge the Environment Agency to deliver the scheme as soon as possible.

The friendly Amendment was accepted by County Councillor Mirfin and became the substantive Motion. Following a debate, the substantive Motion, as amended by County Councillor Turner's friendly Amendment, was then put to the vote.

In accordance with Standing Order B46(6), a recorded vote was taken. The names of the county councillors who voted for or against the Motion and those who abstained are set out below:

For (67)

Aldridge	Clifford	Hartley	O'Toole	Sutcliffe
Ali	Couperthwaite	Hind	Pate	Swarbrick
Arif	Cox	Hindle	Pattison	Tomlinson
Ashton	Cullens	Holgate	Pope	Towneley
Aziz	Cunliffe	Hurn	Purcell	Turner
Bailey	Dad	Iqbal	Rear	Vincent
Berry	De Molfetta	Kay	Rigby, S	Westley
Britcliffe	Dowding	Khan, H	Riggott	Whittam
Brown	Edwards	Khan, N	Salter	Williamson
Buckley	Fillis	Lewis	Schofield	Woollam
Burrows	Gibson	Maxwell-Scott	Serridge	Yates
Cheetham	Gooch	Mein	Shedwick	
Clarke	Goulthorp	Mirfin	Singleton	
Clempson	Green	Motala	Smith	

Against (0)

Abstain (0)

The Motion was therefore CARRIED.



It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

This council believes that the Environment Agency's current approach to funding flood defence does not take into sufficient account the devastating impact of flooding in small communities and rural areas, and unfairly favours large schemes over smaller schemes that could be delivered for much less money and still save lives, property and livelihoods.

This council also believes that community-based Flood Action Groups understand their own areas and are an important source of knowledge and ideas for small local projects that could be delivered efficiently and effectively.

When it comes to the appraisal, design and cost-benefit analysis of flood defence schemes, a quicker turn-around on smaller improvement projects is required. This will ensure that vital schemes are delivered ensuring residents who are at risk of large-scale flooding events and who have experienced many near misses, are protected.

Therefore, this council resolves that the Chief Executive writes to the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Environment Agency asking them to:

- Commit to improving the funding arrangements to support the delivery of schemes for smaller communities and rural areas in Lancashire.
- Set out their approach to ensuring effective, regular communication and engagement with communities and community Flood Action Groups in developing and delivering these schemes.
- Work with Lancashire County Council to help protect our residents in all our communities from the catastrophic effects of flooding.
- Acknowledge the county council's disappointment at the Environment Agency's pause of the Padiham flood defence scheme and urge the Environment Agency to deliver the scheme as soon as possible.

4. It was moved by County Councillor Gina Dowding and seconded by County Councillor Scott Cunliffe that:

The ME Association estimates that more than 1.25 million people in the UK live with a diagnosis of Myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) and Long Covid. ME/CFS is a debilitating, long-term neurological condition with varying degrees of severity.

Many more are undiagnosed, representing a real health crisis.

People with ME/CFS experience [delayed worsening of symptoms after minor activity](#). It prevents people from functioning normally, stops or restricts ability to work or go to school, and leads to a lower quality of life.

There are no effective drug treatments available. Treatments focus on improving functional ability and self-management.



ME Action, the international campaign organisation, calls for greater education in hospital systems and medical schools about ME/CFS, and for major hospitals to treat ME.

Lancashire County Council resolves:

To encourage greater understanding and improve the health outcomes of those affected by ME/CFS and Long Covid in Lancashire and asks the Chief Executive to write to:

- (i) Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board requesting information on numbers of people with ME/CFS and Long Covid and the treatment options available across Lancashire.
- (ii) The Secretary of State for Health, asking for greater investment in training of doctors and medical staff about ME/CFS and Long Covid.
- (iii) NHS England to ask that more time is given to ME/CFS and Long Covid training for existing staff on the updated NICE guidelines.

The following friendly Amendment was proposed by County Councillor Michael Green in accordance with Standing Order B43:

The ME Association estimates that more than 1.25 million people in the UK live with a diagnosis of Myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) and Long Covid. ME/CFS is a debilitating, long-term neurological condition with varying degrees of severity.

People with ME/CFS experience [delayed worsening of symptoms after minor activity](#). It prevents people from functioning normally, stops or restricts ability to work or go to school, and leads to a lower quality of life.

the ME Association believes there are no effective drug treatments available. Treatments focus on improving functional ability and self-management.

ME Action, the international campaign organisation, calls for greater education in hospital systems and medical schools about ME/CFS, and for major hospitals to treat ME.

Lancashire County Council resolves:

To encourage greater understanding and improve the health outcomes of those affected by ME/CFS and Long Covid in Lancashire and asks the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee to:

- (i) Request information from the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board on numbers of people with ME/CFS and Long Covid and the treatment options available across Lancashire.
- (ii) Investigate what ME/CFS and Long Covid training is given to existing and future staff on the updated NICE guidelines.



- (iii) Consider how to approach the Secretary of State for Health and NHS England requesting further investment in research and training about ME/CFS and Long Covid.

The friendly Amendment was accepted by County Councillor Dowding and became the substantive Motion. Following a debate, the substantive Motion, as amended by County Councillor Green's friendly Amendment, was then put to the vote and was CARRIED.

It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

The ME Association estimates that more than 1.25 million people in the UK live with a diagnosis of Myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) and Long Covid. ME/CFS is a debilitating, long-term neurological condition with varying degrees of severity.

People with ME/CFS experience [delayed worsening of symptoms after minor activity](#). It prevents people from functioning normally, stops or restricts ability to work or go to school, and leads to a lower quality of life.

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- (i) Request information from the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board on numbers of people with ME/CFS and Long Covid and the treatment options available across Lancashire.
- (ii) Investigate what ME/CFS and Long Covid training is given to existing and future staff on the updated NICE guidelines.
- (iii) Consider how to approach the Secretary of State for Health and NHS England requesting further investment in research and training about ME/CFS and Long Covid.

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive

County Hall
Preston

