

From: Gorman, Dave

Sent: 05 March 2015 19:45

To: 'Blackburn'; 'Blackburn 2'; Blackburn 3; 'Blackpool'; Blackpool 2; Bridge, Sarah; 'Burnley'; Burnley 2; 'Chorley'; 'Chorley 2'; 'Chorley 3'; 'Fylde'; 'Fylde 2'; Hodkinson, Amanda; 'Hyndburn'; 'Hyndburn 2'; Hyndburn 3; 'Lancaster'; 'Pendle'; 'Pendle 2'; 'Preston'; 'Preston 2'; 'Preston 3'; 'Ribble Valley'; 'Rossendale'; Rossendale 3; 'South Ribble'; 'South Ribble 2'; Turton, Jo; 'West Lancashire'; 'West Lancashire 2'; 'West Lancashire 3'; 'Wyre'; 'Wyre 2'

Cc: Joyce, Beckie; Milroy, Andy; Young, Ian; Blackburn 3; Blackpool 3; Bond, Paul; Borrow, David (Cllr); 'Burnley 2'; Burnley 3; Burnley 4; 'Chorley 3'; 'Fylde 2'; 'Fylde 3'; Fylde 4

(cllr.sfazackerley@fylde.gov.uk); Halliwell, Suzanne; 'Hyndburn 2'; 'Hyndburn 3'; 'Hyndburn 4'; 'Lancaster 2'; Lawrenson, Damon; McGrath, Sean; Mein, Jennifer (Cllr); Mynott, Josh; Pomfret, Anna Maria (OCE); 'Preston 3'; Rimmer, Jill (OCE); 'Rossendale 3'; Sales, Laura; Sutton, Eddie; 'West Lancashire 4'; West Lancashire 5 (julia.brown@westlancs.gov.uk); Wyre 3; Jones, Roy; Benson, Stuart

Subject: LEP Assurance Framework

Importance: High

Dear Chief Executive,
(cc Lancashire Leaders)

You may be aware that Government has asked all Local Enterprise Partnerships to prepare an Assurance Framework. All accountable bodies for LEPs have the responsibility to confirm to Government that the LEP has prepared an Assurance Framework, in line with guidance, and that the accountable body has approved the document. Government has requested that this is done by early April 2015.

As such the Lancashire LEP has been preparing its Assurance Framework. This is a technical document that sets out the process and protocols adopted by the LEP to ensure transparency, accountability and value for money. The Assurance Framework should also set out the relationship between the LEP and the Local authorities within the LEP footprint. The exact nature of this relationship for our LEP will need to be informed by the on-going exploratory discussions between the Lancashire authorities regarding the potential for combined arrangements. Civil servants in Cabinet Office recognise the important stage that discussions are at in Lancashire and understand that the Assurance Framework will only be able to set out a "holding position" until discussions reach a conclusion.

Given the role that the County Council has as accountable body the Leader, CClr Mein, has requested that the County Council's Scrutiny Committee considers a working draft of the Assurance Framework at its meeting in March.

Following the Scrutiny Meeting the LEP will also consider a further version of the draft Assurance Framework at its meeting in March. It will then be important to share the draft Assurance framework with the local authorities, acknowledging the pressing timescales we are working to.

The next meeting of the Lancashire Chief Executives is 30 March and if you are agreeable it is proposed that there is a presentation on the draft Assurance Framework at that meeting, with a copy of the draft Assurance Framework circulated in advance

with the Agenda. It is also proposed that the draft Assurance Framework be circulated to Lancashire Leaders at the same time as it is circulated to Chief Executives.

Following the meeting of the Lancashire Chief Executives the County Council's Cabinet will consider a final Assurance Framework at its meeting on 2 April.

Please contact Beckie Joyce, at beckie.joyce@lancashire.gov.uk or on (01772) 536617, if you have any queries.

Regards,

Dave

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