

POLICY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 3rd December 2009

PRESENT – *The Mayor Councillor Jim Hurst (in the Chair), Councillors, A Barry, M Bateson, P Browne, A Cottam, R Davies, M Doherty, E Entwistle, D Foster, K Foster, A Graham, B Gordon, D Hardman, D Harling, K Hollern, D Hollings, S Huggill, T Humphrys, F Hussain, I Hussain, Y Jan-Virmani, M Johnson, M Johnson (Lab), P Jones, A Kay, M Khan, S Khonat, M Law-Riding, M Lee, S Lorgat, A Mahmood, T Maxfield, P McFall, M McGarvey, A Meleady, T Melia, J Milburn, S Mulla, R O’Keeffe, M Patel, D Pearson, C Rigby, J Rigby, M Rizwan, J Shorrocks, Jacqueline Slater, John Slater, Julie Slater, James Smith, Joseph Smith, N Surve, D Talbot, K Tapp, C Thayne, A Waghat, D Walsh, J Williams.*

58 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sajid Ali, Zamir Khan, Abdul Rehman, Yusuf Sidat, Sheila Williams and John Wright.

59 Declarations of interest

The Chief Executive requested any declarations of interest, explaining that any issues arising from the last meeting of Council Forum on the 4th November would be dealt with under the minute’s agenda item when presented to the next meeting of Council Forum on 28th January 2010.

60 Performance Agreement Framework 2009/11

The Chief Executive announced that the next item of business was the consideration of the Performance Agreement for 2009/2011, which was to include a progress report on 2008/09 targets. The Chief Executive announced that the item would be dealt with as follows:

i). The Strategic Framework

5i) The Leader of the Council explained that his presentation, as in previous years would be done in stages with an opportunity of debate at the end of each stage.

RESOLVED –

That the Leader of the Councils comments be noted.

ii). Review of Past Performance

5 ii a) A presentation was given by the Leader of the Council on the delivery of the 2008/09 Performance Agreement. Following debate the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED –

That Policy Council

- i. Noted the overview of 2008-2009 performance and the detailed scorecard as attached at Appendix A
- ii. Noted the good progress that has been made in achieving a large number of the Performance Agreement targets in year 1
- iii. Noted the overview of 2009-2010 six month performance and the detailed monitoring information as attached at Appendix B
- iv. Noted the key area of concern that has missed its target for year 1 and is still forecast as red at the year 2 six month point and that additional support to improve this priority would be considered by the LSP Board in January

5 ii b) Report on Progress against the Performance Agreement quarter Two Targets (April – September) 2009 – 10.

A presentation was given by the Leader of the Council on progress against the Performance Agreement quarter two targets (April - September) 2009/10. Following debate the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED –

That Policy Council note progress against the Performance Agreement quarter two targets (April - September) 2009/10.

5iii) The Council's Performance Agreement Framework 2009/11

5 iii a) The Leader of the Council gave a presentation of the Council's Performance Agreement Framework for 2010/11: The pre budget Medium Term Financial Strategy Update. Leader of the Council gave a presentation. Following debate it was:

RESOLVED –

- a) That Portfolios to take steps to ensure they continue to balance their budgets within their provisional cash limits, taking into account the Council's overall priorities.
- b) That options are formulated for consideration and appraisal which reflect the council's priorities and ensure a balanced budget is set at Finance Council, whilst ensuring a minimum level of balances is maintained.

c) That the current policy for maximum council tax increases each year to be below the level of inflation be reconsidered in the light of the impact of the economic situation and any consequent changes to funding and grant settlements to the Council.

5iii b) Council objectives, priorities and targets 2010/11 draft November 2009 and review of the Councils Policy Framework.

The Leader of the Council presented the Council's Objectives, Priorities and targets 2010/11 draft November 2009 and review of the Councils Policy Framework. Following debate the following recommendations were accepted:

RESOLVED –

1. That Policy Council reaffirms the existing strategic priorities for 2010/11 and the continued use of the Performance Agreement.
2. That, as in previous years, Policy Council approves required updated changes, as detailed within this report, to be undertaken through delegated authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

61 Vision 2030

The Chief Executive announced that the next item of business was Vision 2030. In accordance with the Constitution the Mayor asked Members to agree that the Council move into Committee meeting status. Following debate Councillor Karimeh Foster moved for Committee to move back into Policy Council status for the remainder of the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Hardman. Councillor Karimeh Foster subsequently moved for the report to be noted and accepted this was seconded by Councillor Hardman The vote was carried.

RESOLVED –

That the report and presentation with comments on the emerging outline be noted.

62 Executive Leadership Model

A report on a range of Executive Leadership models that must be formally considered by the Council was presented by the Leader of the Council. It was explained that the new legislation meant Council had to arrive at a formal resolution on its new executive arrangements before the end of December 2009. A table summarising the main differences between Blackburn with Darwens current executive model and the two options available under the Local Government and Public Government

in Health Act 2007 was debated. Following debate a vote was taken. The Vote was carried.

Resolved

That the council chose option a) Leader with a 4 year term

63 Draft Schedule of meetings 2010/ 11

The Chief Executive announced that the next item of business was a Draft Schedule of Meetings for 2010/11. As per the purpose of the report, several items were raised for inclusion or revision, which were agreed to be included in a further draft to be brought back to Council Forum in January 2010.

Resolved

That a further revised Schedule be brought to January 2010 meeting of Council.

64 Appointments.

Due to the recent illness and subsequent unavailability of the Current Chair, Councillor Sheila Williams, the Leader of the Council moved for the appointment of a temporary Chair to the Children in Our Care Committee. Following debate the following resolution was agreed:

Resolved

That Councillor Maureen McGarvey be temporarily appointed as Chair of the Children In Our Care Committee.

Signed at a meeting of the Council

on the day of

(being the next ensuing meeting of the Council)

by

MAYOR