

Council Forum

26th April 2012

AGENDA

PART 1: ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PUBLIC

- 1 **Chief Executive to read the notice convening the meeting**
- 2 **Prayers by the Mayor's Chaplain**
- 3 **Apologies for Absence**
- 4 **Minutes**
To receive and confirm the minutes of the Council Forum meeting held on 26th January 2012 and the meeting of Finance Council held on 5th March 2012. (pages 1-14).
- 5 **Declarations of Interest**
A form is attached (page 15).
- 6 **Mayoral Communications**
- 7 **Council Forum**
To consider questions from members of the public received under Procedure Rule 10.
- 8 **To consider motions submitted under Procedure Rule 12**
The following Notices of Motion have been submitted:

MOTION 1

This Council notes:

- *The success in bringing down road casualties in recent years in Blackburn with Darwen. However, much more must be done to reduce this figure further.*
- *The importance of reduced speed in reducing the risk for pedestrians and other road users.*
- *Research from UK and abroad that has shown town-wide urban speed limits around 20mph have: significantly reduced speeds in just the first year of operation; after several years in operation reduced urban accident rates by up to two-thirds (with numbers killed and seriously injured reduced by even more); encouraged walking and cycling, especially for the elderly and younger children; benefited communities, with residents a quarter more likely to stop and talk on footpaths; increased the journey*

time of a 15 minute journey by just 1 minute; reduced vehicle emissions by 12% due to less acceleration and deceleration; and been supported by 72% of drivers surveyed as part of the British Social Attitudes Survey.

This Council welcomes:

- *Recent changes announced by Liberal Democrat Transport Minister, Norman Baker MP to Department for Transport rules making it easier for councils to introduce changes to 20mph speed limits.*

This Council believes:

- *That the implementation of a city-wide speed limit of 20mph on all non-major residential roads, combined with a public information campaign and innovative inexpensive traffic calming, would have an immediate beneficial impact on accidents and fatalities in the Borough.*

This Council:

- *Requests the Chief Executive to produce a report for the Executive Board on the feasibility of implementing a city-wide 20mph limit on all residential roads, excluding major routes as appropriate.*

Proposed by
Councillor David Foster

Seconded by
Councillor Chris Thayne

MOTION 2

This Council expresses its grave concern about some of the proposals in the recently passed Health and Social Care Act and the negative impact that they are likely to have on a Borough like Blackburn with Darwen whose citizens already experience lower life expectancy than the average UK population.

There is no public appetite for another reorganisation of the NHS and, indeed, the Conservative and Liberal Democrat manifestoes for the 2010 General Election both ruled out a top-down reorganisation, yet that is exactly what the Coalition Government has now forced through Parliament. Billions of pounds are being spent on staff redundancies whilst a new and complex set of structures are put in place despite the opposition of virtually every professional body within the NHS. It is no great surprise that the general uncertainty caused by these unnecessary changes is manifesting itself in ever lengthening queues at Casualty where 4 hour waiting times are regularly exceeded and in the 18 week targets for operations now frequently being missed.

We expect all parties to agree that, in these tough financial times, the citizens of Blackburn with Darwen need money to be spent on improving health outcomes and not on an expensive bureaucratic reorganisation and

we urge the leaders of the Conservative and Liberal Democrat parties in Council to make this point as forcefully as possible with their national party leaderships.

Proposed by
Councillor Phil Riley

Seconded by
Councillor Mohammed Khan

9 Joint Minerals and Waste LDF – Proposed Major Modifications to Site Allocations and Development Management DPD.

To receive a report from the Executive Member for Regeneration on proposed Major Modifications to Site Allocations and Development Management Development Plan Document. *Associated documents have been placed on deposit in Political Group Rooms.* (pages 16-20).

10 The Mayoralty – 2012/13

To receive a report containing recommendations relating to the office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2012/13 (pages 21-22).

11 Policy and Corporate Resources Committee

Report of the Chair and Vice Chair of Policy and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee (pages 23-24)

12 Reports of Executive Members with Portfolios

- 12.1 Leader (pages 25-27).
- 12.2 Adult Social Care (pages 28-30).
- 12.3 Children's Services (pages 31-33).
- 12.4 Regeneration (pages 34-35).
- 12.5 Leisure and Culture (pages 36-38).
- 12.6 Housing (pages 39-40).
- 12.7 Resources (pages 41-42).
- 12.8 Environmental Improvement and Sustainability (pages 43-44).
- 12.9 Neighbourhoods and Customer Services (pages 45-46)

13 To consider any questions received from Members under Procedure Rule 11

14 a) To receive any questions submitted regarding the functions of the Police Authority

Any questions will be answered by Councillor M Doherty as this Council's representative on the Police Authority.

b) To note the report from the Chair of the Police Authority (To follow).

PART 2: ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE

There are no items to be considered under Part 2.

Graham Burgess
Chief Executive
18th April 2012