

EXECUTIVE BOARD

15th June 2017

PRESENT

COUNCILLOR:

Mohammed Khan
Maureen Bateson
Mustafa Desai
Damian Talbot
Jim Smith
Arshid Mahmood
Phil Riley
Andy Kay
Dave Harling

PORTFOLIO:

Leader
Children's Services
Health & Adult Social Care
Leisure, Culture & Young People
Environment
Neighbourhoods & Prevention Services
Regeneration
Resources
Schools & Education

EXECUTIVE MEMBER

John Slater

NON-PORTFOLIO

Leader of the Conservative Group

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Ummaih Shah, Youth MP and Elle Walsh,
Deputy Youth MP

| | Item | Action |
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| 1 | <u>Welcome & Apologies</u> The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mohammed Khan welcomed all present to the meeting, Apologies were received from Aliyah Shah, Deputy Youth MP. | |
| 2 | <u>Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th, April 2017</u> The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on 13 th April 2017 were agreed as a correct record. | Approved |
| 3 | <u>Declarations of Interest</u> Councillor Damian Talbot declared an interest in Agenda item 8.5.1. Community Asset transfers: Creating Community Hubs (wife works at CVS – although not on this project). | |
| 4 | <u>Equality Implications</u> The Chair asked Members to confirm that they had considered and understood any Equality Impact Assessments associated with reports on the agenda ahead of making any decisions. | Confirmed |
| 5 | <u>Public Forum</u> | |

| | Item | Action | | | | | | |
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| | <p>No questions had been submitted from members of the public.</p> | | | | | | | |
| 6 | <p><u>Questions by Non-Executive Members</u></p> <p>In accordance with Part 4 of the Executive Board Procedure rules for questions/statements by Non- Executive members, the following questions/statements had been received, details of which are set out below:-</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Name of Non-Executive Member Asking the question</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Subject Area</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Executive Member and portfolio</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Councillor Karimeh Foster</td> <td>Darwen Market Stall Holders</td> <td>Councillor Phil Riley</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Councillor Phil Riley provided details of traders who had left the market since December 2016, three day market traders whose business didn't work over 6 days, new businesses and new enquiries received. Councillor Riley also gave details about a 3 month social media campaign aimed at local areas and trade publication readers to generate interest and enquiries for stalls.</p> | Name of Non-Executive Member Asking the question | Subject Area | Executive Member and portfolio | Councillor Karimeh Foster | Darwen Market Stall Holders | Councillor Phil Riley | |
| Name of Non-Executive Member Asking the question | Subject Area | Executive Member and portfolio | | | | | | |
| Councillor Karimeh Foster | Darwen Market Stall Holders | Councillor Phil Riley | | | | | | |
| 7 | <p><u>Youth MPs Update</u></p> <p>The Youth MP Ummaih Shah and Deputy Youth MP Elle Walsh verbally updated the Executive Board as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A busy couple of months since the elections with events attended such as the Mayor's installation, Civic Sunday and the Fusion Awards. • Designing a website for YPS which will include all information on the service and also links to our youth work curriculum projects. Help pages for the website to signpost young people to information on Key links to other services such as Mental Health, Sexual Health and Bullying. A regular youth forum update with a Youth MP blog would also be part of the website. • The Youth MP's had volunteered at the recent Festival of Making and it was hoped that this would happen again next year and that they could be involved again. • Visits were planned over the next couple of months to various youth clubs across the Borough along with a visit to Child Action North to engage with vulnerable young people and care leavers and carry their voice through to the decision makers. | Noted | | | | | | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An invite to hijack the Pan Lancs Children and young people's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Transformational Board next Wednesday to give feedback from BWD on mental health. • Some of the Youth MP's work had been highlighted in the Participation Strategy that Gavin Redhead was currently producing. • Following the success from last year's Darwen Youth Festival, in which over 220 people attended Elle was currently planning and recruiting bands and singers, this event would take place on Saturday, 22nd, July 2017 from 11.00am – 4.00pm. | |
| | <p><u>8.1 Leaders' update</u></p> <p>Councillor Mohammed Khan verbally updated the Executive Board as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Festival of Making – thanks were passed to all volunteers, Officers and Members who helped make the event a success. • Several events were being held to mark the first anniversary of the death of Jo Cox MP, all of which were aimed at unity and standing up to intolerance. | Noted |
| | <p><u>8.3.1 Fostering Service Quarterly report – January to March 2017 (end of year)</u></p> <p>A report was submitted which provided information to the Executive Board on the management and performance of the Local Authority's Fostering Service for the fourth quarter of 2016 – 2017 covering the period 1st, January to 31st, March 2017 which provided an overview of the service and was also the end of year report.</p> <p>RESOLVED- That the Executive Board:</p> | |
| | <p>Notes the Quarterly report which is available on the Council website.</p> | Noted |
| | <p><u>8.3.2 Adoption Service End of Year report – 1st, October 2016 to 31st March 2017</u></p> <p>The Executive Board received a report which provided information on the management and performance of the Local Authority Adoption Service for the six month period from 1st, October 2016 to 31st, March 2017 and provided an overview of the work of the Service for this period, plus a summary of the year.</p> <p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board:</p> <p>Notes the half years report which is available on the Council</p> | Noted |

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| | Website. | |
| 8.4 | <p><u>Environment Update</u></p> <p>Councillor Jim Smith verbally reported that nearly 13,000 residents had signed up for Brown Bin Collections.</p> | Noted |
| 8.5 | <p><u>Community Asset Transfers: Creating Community Hubs</u></p> <p>It was reported that the Council's community asset transfer programme had been a huge success and had enabled the Borough and its communities to remain resilient in the face of significant cuts to the public sector. A lot of credit had to go to the voluntary groups and their volunteers who continued to make a difference in ensuring that there was a local neighbourhood offer.</p> <p>The next phase of this strategy included a review and wish to reflect on how the Council could further strengthen and ensure important facilities were financially viable and sustainable. This would be on a business case basis to promote asset based working to use local community centres to host activity that would promote wellbeing of communities, support their independence, reduce isolation and act as a focal point, as a Community Hub.</p> <p>The aim was to create more integrated and collaborative working between communities, Public, Private and Voluntary sector. This would be achieved by aligning its volunteer, asset based community working, creating greater awareness of what was out there and what was needed. Where possible the Council would facilitate the delivery of activity by partners and voluntary groups in community centres</p> <p>Community centres in Blackburn with Darwen had been asset transferred through various agreements with Voluntary and 3rd Sector Organisations. Three centres have transferred under lease (varying lengths) and six centres transferred under Licence. All of these were due to end in 2018 and would need to be reviewed and updated. The asset transfers had been successful by delivering community management of buildings, continuation of activities and services for deprived communities where the Council was no longer able to resource activity. Asset transfers had also achieved significant financial savings for the Council.</p> <p>There was an opportunity for the Council to utilise the community assets to support statutory services by delivering informal preventative programmes through asset based community development. Adult Social Care was an example of this where community services could help provide a way to support people who are socially isolated and had mental health issues.</p> <p>There would be other opportunities for the community centres to link into agendas such as 'digital first' by providing public access to computers, improving worklessness through access to volunteer</p> | |

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| | <p>opportunities and work clubs in a community setting.</p> <p>RESOLVED -That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes the update on Community Asset Transfers; • Delegates authority to the Director of Localities & Prevention and the Director of HR, Legal & Corporate Services, in consultation with the Executive Member for Leisure & Culture to agree and finalise updates legal agreements in consultation with all community centre management boards;and • Agrees that the transferred Community Centre assets to be commissioned as venues to deliver various programmes that will support asset based community development on a case by case basis. | <p>Noted Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> |
| | <p><u>8.7 Regeneration Update</u></p> <p>Councillor Phil Riley verbally reported that the Council was aware that the residents of Openshaw Drive had not been directly served by a local bus service since M & M Coaches (who previously operated the 155 Blackburn – Clitheroe minibus service) ceased trading on 22nd, September 2016. The issue had been raised with the current provider of the service 10, Blackburn Private Hire, as part of the Council's statutory co-ordination function in relation to public transport, following a number of requests from Councillors and the general public about the lack of service in the St James' Road/ Wimberley area.</p> <p>The operator was of the view that the serving of Barbara Castle Way Health Centre on the inbound journey via East Park Road was more advantageous to the ongoing commercial viability of the service than extending this via St James' Road and Wimberley Street. Ultimately, as this service was 100% commercial with no direct subsidy from the Council, it was the operator's call.</p> <p>The Council's scope for funding subsidised routes and extensions to commercial routes was now much diminished, given cuts to funding which have been ongoing since 2010. Service reductions to the remaining Council subsidised routes took place at the end of May 2017, which had left the Blackburn with Darwen bus network operated on an almost wholly commercial basis.</p> <p>Other alternative forms of transport were available, with Travel Assist and Dial A Ride both providing demand responsive Community Transport Services throughout the Borough.</p> <p>The Council was also working with the Royal Voluntary Service and have launched a Volunteer driver service, which provided a viable alternative for public transport users with mobility issues in light of the cancellation of commercially unviable services by transport operators following reductions in public subsidies. The service,</p> | <p>Noted</p> |

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| | <p>launched on 30th May initially covered Pleasington Cemetery but would include other destinations when more volunteers were recruited.</p> <p><u>8.8 Resources Update</u></p> <p>Councillor Andy Kay verbally reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board would be aware that Mike Singleton our coroner for a number of years is retiring at the end of this month. • The new service would be led by an interim Senior Coroner, Dr James Adeley. • Services to the community would be maintained and also enhanced with the re-introduction of an out of hours. • The service would be managed on a combined basis with LCC and resilience to Blackburn with Darwen will be improved as Dr Adeley had Assistant Coroners who could also act in the Councils' jurisdiction. • Consultation on the new Coronal area was expected to commence in the summer months following which it was expected the MoJ and Chief Coroner would confirm the new merged jurisdictions which would not only provide both improved services and residence, but also savings for the Council. • The Executive Member thanked Mike Singleton for his services to the Borough and welcomed Dr Adeley who a number of Members had already met. <p><u>9.1 Report on the progress against the Corporate Plan 2016/2017 for six months to year-end (October 2016 to March 2017)</u></p> <p>Members received a report which provided the Executive Board with the opportunity to review progress against the Council's strategic priorities documented within the Corporate Plan and to provide assurance that appropriate actions were being taken to address key areas of concern.</p> <p>The report tracked the progress of performance against the Council's strategic objectives for six months to year-end (October 2016 to March 2017).</p> <p>Of the 99 measures information for the period was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7% (7 actual) had been forecast as "red" where performance is, or is likely to be off track. • 27% (27 actual) had been forecast "amber" where delivery is on track and currently being managed. • 66% (65 actual) had been forecast "green" or on track. • 0%(0 actual) of the measures a RAG rating was not available. <p>The purpose of this report to provide a picture of overall</p> | <p>Noted</p> |

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| | <p>performance and highlight any key issues of concern which were in need of closer monitoring and follow up action. Information on all Corporate Plan measures and key issues raised through the performance challenge process were documented for Executive Board, in two separate appendices, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appendix one showed a summary of all Corporate Plan priorities, highlighting those areas that were forecast as being on track; those where delivery was not going as planned and those where performance was forecast as off track or likely to be off track. Please note performance data is provisional and was subject to validation. 2. Appendix Two provided exception reports for priorities which were considered to be off track. <p>RESOLVED: That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the overall performance against the delivery of the Council’s strategic objectives as illustrated in Appendix One; and • Note the remedial action to improve delivery against those priorities which are giving cause for concern, as outlined in Appendix Two. <p><u>9.2 Supporting People renewal of contracts in August 2017</u></p> <p>The Executive Board was asked to note the update on the Supporting People (SP) programme due to the budget being reduced to £1,320,700 in 2017/18. This would result in the reduction or non-renewal of some contracts.</p> <p>Supporting People was a primary housing based support programme for vulnerable. The objective of SP was to promote preventative support, helping vulnerable people maintain independent and sustainable living.</p> <p>The review was highlighted as part of the savings targets identified within the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and agreed at Policy council in December 2016.</p> <p>The Supporting People programme savings target within the MTFS was up to £400,000 for 2017/18.</p> <p>The aim of the new model was to ensure that people continued to receive a flexible, preventative and where needed, reactive service, whilst achieving efficiency savings of up to £400,000. Following a review of services the proposed efficiency savings had been reported.</p> <p>The Council had undertaken detailed consultation and reviewed options available against each service and commission and had been able to recommend £375,000 savings however this left very little resilience going forward. The demand on the supporting people budget was very high and had been re-prioritised several times over</p> | <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> |

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| | <p>the last 5 years. From a budget of £4,814,600 in 2011 to the adjusted budget £1,320,700 in the current year 2017/18 this represented a reduction of 72%. This was against growing demand year on year and significant changes to housing benefit and other welfare benefit support for vulnerable and older persons housing based services.</p> <p>Therefore having fully considered all options and implications the Council could achieve £375,000 saving, however the full year effect may not be available until 2018/19.</p> <p>There were two options for actual savings to be generated in 2017/18 and 2018/19 which were outlined within the financial implications, with option 1 the preferred option.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves that formal notification was given to providers as soon as possible ahead of the contractual renewal date in August 2017; • Approves that delegated authority be granted to the Director of Adult Social Care to vary contracts and agree continuation where appropriate; and • Approves recommendations to implement Option 1 to deliver the required budget savings. <p>AT THIS STAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING</p> <p><u>11. Supporting People Renewal of Contracts – August 2017</u></p> <p>Further to report submitted at Agenda Item 9.2, report was submitted containing additional commercial sensitive information.</p> <p>RESOLVED -That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves that formal notification was given to providers as soon as possible ahead of the contractual renewal dates in August 2017; • Approves that delegated authority be granted to the Director of Adult Social Care to vary contracts and agree continuation where appropriate; and • Approves recommendations to implement Option 1 to deliver the required budget savings. <p style="text-align: center;">Signed at a meeting of the Board On the day of (being the next ensuing meeting Of the Board)</p> | <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> |

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| | Chair of the meeting At which the minutes were confirmed | |