

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Thursday, 11th June, 2020

PRESENT

COUNCILLOR:

Councillor Mustafa Desai
Councillor Julie Gunn
Councillor Mohammed Khan OBE
Councillor Quesir Mahmood
Councillor Vicky McGurk
Councillor Phil Riley
Councillor Jim Smith
Councillor Damian Talbot

PORTFOLIO:

Adult Services and Prevention
Children, Young People and Education
Leader of the Council
Digital and Customer Services
Finance and Governance
Growth and Development
Environmental Services
Public Health and Wellbeing

EXECUTIVE MEMBER:

Councillor John Slater

NON-PORTFOLIO:

Leader of the Conservative Group

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Zara Hayat
Khalid Omar
Muhammad Bapu

Youth MP
Deputy Youth MP
Deputy Youth MP

	Item	Action
1	<u>Welcome and Apologies</u> The Chair, Councillor Mohammed Khan, welcomed all to the meeting, explaining that the meeting was a virtual meeting and how it would be run. He thanked Maureen Bateson for her valuable contribution as Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education and welcomed her successor, Julie Gunn. No apologies had been received.	
2	<u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u> RESOLVED - The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 th March 2020 were agreed as a correct record.	Agreed
3	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> There were no Declarations of Interest submitted.	
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> No questions had been received from members of the public.	
6	<u>Questions by Non-Executive Members</u> No questions had been received from Non-Executive Members.	

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7	<p><u>Youth MPs Update</u></p> <p>The Youth MPs updated the Executive Board on recent activities in the lockdown period, including food parcels assistance, contact with elderly people living alone, as well as young and vulnerable people.</p> <p>The Youth MPs were pleased to advise that they had been granted a two year term which would help them focus on and deliver their campaign pledges and priorities.</p> <p>Thanks were passed to Maureen Bateson for her excellent contribution as Executive Member and the Youth MPs were looking forward to working with the new Executive Member, Julie Gunn.</p> <p>A number of Executive Members made comments on the positive work by the Youth MPs.</p>	Noted
8	<p><u>Executive Member Reports</u></p> <p><u>Leader – Verbal Update</u></p> <p>The Leader advised of Test and Trace funding received from the Government of £1.3 m for the recruitment of staff, and thanked the Help Hub and entire workforce for their great work during the ongoing Covid-19 crisis.</p> <p><u>Children, Young People and Education – Verbal Update</u></p> <p>Councillor Julie Gunn updated the Executive Board on recent decisions made relating to the postponement of re-opening of schools and nurseries based on Public Health advice.</p>	Noted
8.1	<p><u>Fostering Report Quarter 3</u></p> <p>A report was submitted providing information on the management and performance of the Local Authority’s Fostering Service for Quarter 3.</p> <p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board notes the Quarter 3 Fostering Service Report which is available on the Council’s website along with supporting paper, Appendix 1.</p>	Noted
8.2	<p><u>Adoption Bi-Annual Report</u></p> <p>Members were advised that Adoption Now (Regional Adoption Agency) has compiled the report with additional local information included by Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council’s Service Lead for Placements. The Report detailed a summary of the period</p>	

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	<p>April to September 2019 with analysis, data and patterns to support service development</p> <p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board notes the Adoption Six Monthly Report alongside Appendix 1.</p>	Noted
8.3	<p><u>School Holiday Pattern 2021/2022</u></p> <p>The Executive Board was advised that the local authority had responsibility for setting the school holiday pattern for Community and Controlled Schools, in consultation with neighbouring local authorities, schools and teacher associations. For other maintained schools (Voluntary Aided and Foundation) the governing body set the holiday pattern. Trustees of Free Schools and Academies (schools independent of the authority) had responsibility for setting their term and holiday dates.</p> <p>RESOLVED - Agrees the school term and holiday pattern for Community and Controlled schools for 2021/2022 (as set out in Appendix 2 – Recommended Dates 2021/2022).</p> <p><u>Public Health and Wellbeing – Verbal Update</u></p> <p>Councillor Damian Talbot advised that the Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery was celebrating its 146th anniversary.</p> <p><u>Digital and Customer Services – Verbal Update</u></p> <p>Councillor Quesir Mahmood thanked the IT Department for their response to the pandemic by keeping services going and these comments were echoed by the Leader.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
8.4	<p><u>Masterplan - Bank Hey</u></p> <p>The Bank Hey Masterplan related to land allocated for housing in Blackburn with Darwen’s Local Plan Part 2 and was located between Heys Lane and Bog Height Road in Blackburn.</p> <p>The Masterplan had been prepared collaboratively with the landowners to guide the layout and form of new housing development on the site. It sought to create a high quality, distinctive neighbourhood, identifying spatial principles for land use, transport, design and green infrastructure which needed to be adhered to in bringing forward development on the site.</p> <p>Fundamentally, it provided a structure to the development of the whole site and ensured that it was not brought forward in a piecemeal manner.</p> <p>An Infrastructure Delivery Phasing Plan had also been prepared to support the masterplan which set out the necessary infrastructure requirements for each phase of development to ensure the site</p>	

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	<p>was brought forward in a sustainable manner. Council officers have been fully involved in the master-planning process, infrastructure requirements and phasing plan for the site.</p> <p>RESOLVED -That the Executive Board:</p> <p>Approves the Bank Hey Masterplan and accompanying Infrastructure Delivery Phasing Plan to inform the comprehensive development of the site for new housing and to ensure the necessary infrastructure is delivered at each phase of development.</p>	<p>Approved</p>
<p>8.5</p>	<p><u>Corporate Revenue Budget Monitoring Report - Quarter 4 - 2019/20</u></p> <p>Members received a report detailing the overall revenue position of the Council for the year ended 31st March 2020, highlighting the key issues for review. It also determined the year end position with regard to portfolio under/overspends and the impact on earmarked and unallocated reserves.</p> <p>RESOLVED - The Executive Board is asked to approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the portfolio budget adjustments outlined in Appendix 1. • carry forward of the specific amounts shown in Appendix 1 from 2019/20 to 2020/21. • the earmarked reserves position shown in Appendix 2 • the variations to revenue expenditure, as listed in Section 6, thereby giving rise to a revised balance of £7.173 million on the unallocated General Fund revenue reserve at 31st March 2020. 	<p>Approved</p>
<p>9.1</p>	<p><u>Disposal of Land off Ellison Fold Way, Darwen</u></p> <p>A report was submitted outlining the outcome of an informal tender exercise for Council owned land off Marsh House Lane in Darwen, referred to as EFW - Phase 1, and seeking approval to dispose of the site for housing development to Bidder A, the company recommended as preferred bidder.</p> <p>Members were asked to note that Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and Lea Hough (appointed land agent) had jointly brought forward the residential development opportunity, which incorporated Council and privately owned land, through an informal tender process administered by Council officers.</p> <p>The sale of the land would be undertaken on behalf of the Council and the private landowners by jointly appointed solicitors.</p>	

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	<p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board:</p> <p>2.1 Approves the appointment of Bidder A as preferred bidder.</p> <p>2.2 Delegates authority to conclude negotiations, including terms of the land sale and disposal contracts, to the Growth Programme Director in consultation with the Executive Members for Finance and Governance and Growth and Development to approve the final terms.</p> <p>2.3 Notes the Council has been advised that Bidder A is also the preferred developer for the Phase 2 development at Ellison Fold Way.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>
9.2	<p><u>Update on Decisions taken under Emergency Powers in relation to the Council's initial response to the Covid-19 Pandemic</u></p> <p>The Executive Board was advised of urgent decisions taken and published by the Chief Executive under her emergency powers in managing the Council's initial emergency response to the current Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board:</p> <p>Notes the decisions taken by the Chief Executive under emergency powers in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Decision of 3rd April in respect of securing emergency strategic food supplies through the Lancashire LRF ii) Decision of 24th April in respect of securing strategic supplies of PPE through the Lancashire LRF iii) Decisions of 7th May in respect of food and other essential supplies to be distributed through the Blackburn with Darwen Food Hub 	<p>Noted</p>
9.3	<p><u>Corporate Plan Progress Report</u></p> <p>The Executive Board receive a report on progress against the Council's strategic priorities documented within the Corporate Plan (2019-23) which contained information to provide assurance that appropriate actions were being taken to address key areas of concern.</p> <p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the overall performance against the delivery of the Council's strategic objectives as illustrated in Appendix One 2. Note the remedial action to improve delivery against the 2019-2023 Corporate priorities which are giving cause for concern, as outlined in Appendix Two 3. A further report will be presented to Council Forum in July to note the council's performance in the immediate response to the Coronavirus pandemic. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

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10.1	<p><u>Petition: Disposal of Open Space off Old Gates Drive</u></p> <p>The Executive Board was advised that a petition has been received from residents in relation to Council owned land at Lomond Gardens/Old Gates Drive, Blackburn.</p> <p>Residents objected to proposed access from the existing public open space on Old Gates Drive to serve the new housing development, utilisation of Old Gates Drive as an access road for temporary construction works and creating a permanent access road to serve a new housing development at Lomond Gardens. They also had concerns of increased traffic during the construction phase and post development.</p> <p>It was reported that the proposed access to the development would be considered and would be subject to a new formal reserved matters application or a Full planning application.</p> <p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board:</p> <p>Notes the petition. The proposed access to the development will be considered and will be subject to a new formal reserved matters application or a Full planning application. The Growth team will report back to the lead petitioner.</p> <p>AT THIS STAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
11.1	<p><u>Disposal of Land off Ellison Way, Darwen</u></p> <p>Further to the report submitted at Agenda Item 9.1, an additional report was submitted containing commercially sensitive information.</p> <p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board:</p> <p>2.1 Approves the appointment of Bidder A as preferred bidder.</p> <p>2.2 Delegates authority to conclude negotiations, including terms of the land sale and disposal contracts, to the Growth Programme Director in consultation with the Executive Members for Finance and Governance and Growth and Development to approve the final terms.</p> <p>2.3 Notes the Council has been advised that Bidder A is also the preferred developer for the Phase 2 development at Ellison Fold Way.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>

	Item	Action
	<p>Signed at a meeting of the Board on Thursday, 9 July 2020</p> <p>(being the ensuing meeting on the Board)</p> <p>Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed</p>	