

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

## Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### PRESENT

#### **COUNCILLOR:**

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

#### **PORTFOLIO:**

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

#### **EXECUTIVE MEMBER**

Councillor John Slater

#### **NON PORTFOLIO**

Leader of the Conservative Group

#### **ALL IN ATTENDANCE:**

Muhammed Bapu

Deputy Youth MP

	Item	Action
1	<p><b><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></b></p> <p>The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mohammed Khan, welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Youth MP Zara Hayat.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
2	<p><b><u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021 were agreed as a correct record.</p>	<b>Agreed</b>
3	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Damian Talbot declared an interest in regard to the complaints report in relation to his work at the constituency office of the MP for Blackburn.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
4	<p><b><u>Equality Implications</u></b></p> <p>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.</p>	<b>Confirmed</b>
5	<p><b><u>Public Forum</u></b></p> <p>No questions had been received from members of the public.</p>	
6	<p><b><u>Youth MPs Update</u></b></p>	

	Item	Action
	<p>The Deputy Youth MP verbally reported on recent events and activities including :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work to progress and establish Youth Mental Health First Aid Champions and on Suicide Prevention.</li> <li>• Muhammed's recent nomination for Young Person of the Year by One Voice.</li> <li>• Work with the NHS to identify wellbeing support for students and improved uptake of vaccines by young people.</li> <li>• Team Building Activities with the Youth Forum.</li> </ul> <p>Executive Board Members reflected on the continued excellent work of the Youth MPs and Youth Forum.</p>	
7.1	<p><b><u>Executive Member Reports.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Leader's Update</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Khan verbally reported on the Success at the Local Government Innovation Awards where the Council had won the gold award.</p> <p>He drew attention to the proposed ending of the Universal Credit uplift and the detrimental effect this would have on the many residents of the Borough who depended on this. Councillor Slater echoed the sentiments of the Leader and efforts would be made to seek the reversal of the decision.</p> <p>The recent announcement relating to Health and Social care funding was highlighted and although there was little detail at present concerns were expressed that this may not replace the money already lost by the care sector in previous years.</p> <p>The annual suicide awareness day was to be held on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September and the leader invited members of the Board to take part and raise awareness of the effects suicide has on families and the community.</p>	Noted
7.2	<p><b><u>Coroners Service-Update Report and Cost Sharing Agreement.</u></b></p> <p>Members received a report which advised them of the cost sharing agreement that existed between the Council and Lancashire County Council. The revised arrangements had been introduced in 2018 and merged the service for Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley, Preston and West Lancashire and East Lancashire. Under the agreement Lancashire County Council were the Relevant authority under the Coroners and Justice Act 2009.</p> <p>The initial term of the agreement had now expired and Lancashire County Council and Blackburn with Darwen were seeking to extend the term of agreement.</p>	Noted

	Item	Action
	<p><b>RESOLVED-</b></p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Notes the contents, reporting on the Lancashire and &amp; Blackburn with Darwen Coroner's Service during 2020-21.</li> <li>- Notes the proposed use of Blackburn Town Hall facilities by the Coroner to hold routine inquests for Blackburn with Darwen cases, once the refurbishment works have been completed.</li> <li>- Delegates authority to the Strategic Director of Resources in consultation with the Leader to agree the terms for extending the Cost Sharing Agreement with Lancashire County Council.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>
<b>8</b>	<p><b><u>Adults Services and Prevention</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Desai verbally reported on the financial pressures that the portfolio was facing and the need to press for funding of social care.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>9</b>	<p><b><u>Children, Young People and Education.</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Julie Gunn verbally reported to the Board on the return to school and the positive attitudes that had helped this happen. No Data was available as yet but would be reported when available.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>9.1</b>	<p><b><u>Strategic Youth Alliance Update.</u></b></p> <p>The Board were informed that the Strategic Youth Alliance had been first convened and chaired by the Head of Adolescent Services in May 2019 in response to the national and local financial reductions which led to the youth sector becoming significantly at risk. The Board were updated on the development of the first two years of the alliance and future plans.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
	<p><b>RESOLVED-</b></p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notes the report and continues to offer support to the SYA</li> <li>• Continue to support the local youth sector via commissioned funding</li> </ul>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>
<b>9.2</b>	<p><b><u>Schools Capital Programme 2021/2022</u></b></p> <p>Members received a report presenting the Capital Programme for Schools 2021/22.</p> <p>The Council received capital funding from the Government to meet the responsibilities placed upon it by the Education Acts and the School Standards and Framework Act. The capital programme was</p>	

	Item	Action
	<p>driven by capital priorities raised from the condition, suitability and sufficiency sections of individual schools asset management plans. In addition the boroughs information on pupil place sufficiency is used to understand the demand for any required school place growth. The Council retained the responsibility for capital improvements valued at over £10,000 in all schools.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED-</u></b></p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve the attached list of projects as detailed in Appendix 2 for inclusion in the 2021/22 Schools and Education Capital Programme funded from Basic Need, School Condition allocation, Development Formula Capital, Healthy Pupil Capital Fund and SEN Capital Fund.</li> <li>2. Approves the variations to the 2020/21 capital programme for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower Darwen Primary School</li> <li>• Roe Lee Primary School</li> <li>• Shadsworth Infant School.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Children's &amp; Education in consultation with the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education to undertake procurement for the works in accordance with the Contracts &amp; Procurements Procedure Rules in the Council's Constitution.</li> <li>4. Approves expenditure to be incurred on individual projects, in line with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.</li> <li>5. Notes that reports will be provided for the Executive Member detailing any variations/amendments to programmes of works and seeking necessary approvals where these are required to ensure compliance with financial instructions and the Constitution.</li> </ol>	<p></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
10	<p><b><u>Digital and Customer Services.</u></b></p>	
	<p>Councillor Qesir Mahmood drew attention to the hard work that had gone into the winning of the Local Government Innovation award and congratulated the team on their achievement.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p>
10.1	<p><b><u>Annual Complaints Monitoring 2020/21</u></b></p> <p>Members considered a report monitoring the complaints and compliments received by the Council for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. The information was compared to data collected from previous years to allow reasonable comparison.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED</u></b></p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	<p></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>

	Item	Action
11	<p><b><u>Corporate Revenue Budget Monitoring Quarter 1 2021/22</u></b></p> <p>A report was submitted which detailed the overall revenue position of the Council, highlighting significant issues and explaining variations in the first quarter of the financial year.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> - That the Executive Board approves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the portfolio budget adjustments outlined in Appendix 1.</li> <li>• the earmarked reserves position shown in Appendix 2</li> <li>• the variations to revenue expenditure, as listed in Section 6, thereby giving rise to a balance of £8.818 million in the unallocated General Fund revenue reserve.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>
11.1	<p><b><u>Manxman Road Petition.</u></b></p> <p>Members were informed that a petition had been submitted signed by local residents of the Manxman Road area requesting additional parking on Manxman Road, opposite the shops, on the grounds of safety.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> - That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notes the petition.</li> <li>• Notes that the service had already committed to providing a new area of on street parking opposite the shops, following a request from Cllr Vicky McGurk, also supported by fellow Ward Councillor's Cllr Jim Shorrocks and Cllr Tony Humphrys</li> <li>• Supports the new parking scheme designed to create more parking capacity at this location, improve road safety and address poor visibility caused by parked cars</li> <li>• Request that works are added to the capital programme (once funding confirmed)</li> <li>• Request that officers inform the lead petitioner of the decision</li> </ul>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>
	<p>Signed at a meeting of the Board</p> <p>on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021</p>	

	<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
	(being the ensuing meeting on the Board)  Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed	