

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

## Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022

### PRESENT

#### **COUNCILLOR:**

Councillor Vicky McGurk  
Councillor Phil Riley  
Councillor Damian Talbot  
Councillor Quesir Mahmood  
Councillor Jim Smith  
Councillor Mustafa Desai

#### **PORTFOLIO:**

Finance and Governance  
Growth and Development  
Public Health and Wellbeing  
Digital and Customer Services  
Environmental Services  
Adult Services and Prevention

#### **EXECUTIVE MEMBER**

Councillor John Slater

#### **NON PORTFOLIO**

Leader of the Conservative Group

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

Muhammed Bapu  
Hasti Jahanghiri  
Isabelle Crawford

Youth MP  
Deputy Youth MP  
Deputy Youth MP

	Item	Action
1	<p><b><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></b></p> <p>The Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Phil Riley, welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from the Leader, Councillor Mohammed Khan and Councillor Julie Gunn.</p> <p>Councillor Riley welcomed the newly elected Youth MP, Muhammed Bapu, who had been a Deputy Youth MP for the last two years, and the newly elected Deputy Youth MPs Hasti Jahanghiri and Isabelle Crawford.</p>	
2	<p><b><u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022 were agreed as a correct record.</p>	<b>Agreed</b>
3	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>There were no Declarations of Interest submitted.</p>	
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 from members of the public had been received.</p>	

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6	<p><b><u>Questions by Non-Executive Members</u></b></p> <p>No questions from Non-Executive Members had been received.</p>	
7	<p><b><u>Youth MPs Update</u></b></p> <p>The Youth MP and Deputy Youth MPs verbally reported on recent events and activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction about themselves and thanked the former Youth MP Zara Hyatt and the former Deputy Youth MP for all their work over the past two years.</li> <li>• Further development of the Young Inspectors Framework.</li> <li>• Progression of the Community Wellbeing Champions Project.</li> <li>• Make Your Mark voting locally and nationally, the top three issues for BwD were 1. Jobs, Money, Homes and Opportunities, 2. Education and Learning and 3. Health and Wellbeing.</li> <li>• Participation in a recent video for the NHS, encouraging vaccination and testing for young people.</li> </ul> <p>Executive Board Members welcomed the Youth MPs and Deputy Youth MPs and invited them to visit their portfolio areas and offered shadowing opportunities and involvement in future events such as Blackburn Pride.</p> <p><b><u>Executive Member Reports.</u></b></p>	<b>Noted</b>
8.1	<p><b><u>Variation to the 2021/22 Schools Capital Programme</u></b></p> <p>Members received a report which presented for consideration and approval, variations to the 2021/22 schools capital programme and a request to enter into an extended premises lease arrangement with an Academy Trust.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> - That the Executive Board approves:</p> <p>1: The establishment of a project for a refurbishment at the former Stansfeld Centre for the purpose of creating additional alternative school provision capacity for pupils requiring a vocational based curriculum.</p> <p>2: A budget increase of £250,000 for the previously approved SEND project at Shadsworth Infant School.</p> <p>3: A realignment of the previously approved budget allocated for works associated to The Sunnyhurst Centre and the relocation of Crosshill School</p> <p>4: A budget increase of £165,000 for the previously approved</p>	<p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>

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	<p>relocation of Longshaw Nursery School.</p> <p>5: Approval from the Director of Children’s Services and the Director for Growth and Development, in consultation with the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education, to agree for officers to progress works to extend the lease with The Champion Trust for the Sunnyhurst Centre from 30 years to 125 years in line with typical academy lease arrangements.</p>	<p><b>Approved</b></p>
<p><b>8.2</b></p>	<p><b><u>Procurement Process for the Concurrent Planning Service</u></b></p> <p>A report was submitted asking that Members note that the provision of the concurrent planning service would be retendered due to the current contract coming to an end. The concurrent planning service was a Blackburn with Darwen led regional commission on behalf of four Regional Adoption Agencies across the North West of England.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approves the commencement of a tendering and procurement activity to offer this service to the wider market, with a contract start date of the 1st of June 2022. The contract will be awarded for 2 years with an option to extend for a further two years on a 1 + 1 year basis subject to satisfactory delivery which will be monitored via robust contract review processes.</li> <li>• Delegates authority to the Strategic Director Children’s and Education in consultation with the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education to award the final contract following the procurement process.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>
<p><b>8.3</b></p>	<p><b><u>Alcohol Strategy</u></b></p> <p>A report was submitted outlining the updated and revised Alcohol Strategy, the intention of which was to explain and simplify the facts around the risks attached to all levels of alcohol use. The revised Strategy used less formal language and aimed to explain complex issues in plain language, and aimed to offer clear, non-judgemental, professional advice about use of alcohol and support available from the local Alcohol Service.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approves and supports the Blackburn with Darwen Alcohol Strategy. Alcohol harms and alcohol misuse costs impact significantly upon our Borough and we have a duty of care to help our residents understand how to reduce the risks of alcohol harms.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Approved</b></p>



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	<p>Council had a number of projects that had recently been approved for funding:</p> <p>In addition, the Council also had an under-spend of FDGiA grant amounting to £202,630 from the last FCERM programme cycle (2014 – 2020). Under the Ministry of Housing, Communities &amp; Local Government (MHCLG) rules, as long as the grant was spent on capital projects the authority had flexibility for spend within the programme. It was proposed therefore that the under-spend would be allocated to urgent drainage/flood improvement works.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> – That the Executive Board:</p> <p>Approves the addition of the Flood Defence Grant in Aid projects to the Capital Programme.</p>	<b>Approved</b>
<b>8.6</b>	<p><b><u>Procurement Strategy and Social Value Strategy</u></b></p> <p>The Council had developed a new Procurement Strategy and Social Value Policy to ensure that every pound the Council spent maximised value for money for the Borough and helped to deliver the priorities of the Council. The Procurement Strategy and Social Value Policy provided the outline and framework for the Council's response to a number of issues and challenges.</p> <p>The Procurement Strategy set out the roles and responsibilities of different teams in departments in relation to procurement. This largely reflected roles and responsibilities currently set out but also sought to enhance the role of elected members in line with the feedback from a LGA assessment. The strategy then set out 5 priorities for procurement in the Council and an Action Plan to deliver those priorities.</p> <p>The Social Value Policy summarised the Council's approach to Social Value to date and the proposed policy going forward. The approach under the policy was different for high value contracts and low value contracts.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED -</b></p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- approves the Procurement Strategy and Social Value Policy</li> <li>- notes that the Social Value Policy will now be taken to Full Council for approval</li> </ul>	<b>Approved Noted</b>
<b>8.7</b>	<p><b><u>Treasury Management Strategy Report 2022/23</u></b></p> <p>The Council was required to approve a Treasury Management Strategy before the start of each financial year. It also needed to set Treasury and Prudential Indicators and a policy for determining a "prudent" level of Minimum Revenue Provision for repayment of debt, which was consistent with the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).</p>	

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	<p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>It is recommended that the Executive Board:</p> <p>2.1 Approves the proposed Treasury Management Strategy for 2022/23, detailed in Appendix 1, including the proposed Treasury Management Indicators.</p>	<b>Approved</b>
9.1	<p><b><u>Darwen Town Deal Board Update</u></b></p> <p>Members received a report providing an update on the Darwen Town Deal, including the development of the Town Deal Board’s Town Investment Plan (TIP), as agreed with Government, and the role and contribution of the Council in managing, co-investing and delivering agreed TIP priorities. The report also updated on the work and approvals needed by August 2022, including the completion of TIP project business cases and local assurance framework.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED -</b></p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notes the update on the Darwen Town Deal, including the development and timescales for project business cases required by Government;</li> <li>2. Notes the business case preparation underway for the 9 Town Deal funded projects confirmed by Government in December 2021, see Annex 1;</li> <li>3. Notes the role of the Council, as accountable body for the Darwen Town Deal; in co-funding the Town Deal Investment Programme, as agreed at Finance Council on 28 February; and in providing programme and financial management for the 5-year delivery programme</li> <li>4. Delegates authority to the Strategic Director of Place and the Director of Finance, in conjunction with the Executive Member for Growth and Development and the Executive Member for Finance and Governance, and in consultation with the Chair and Darwen Town Deal Board, to allocate and spend Government’s 5% advanced capital funding to support business case preparation, procurement of professional services and project delivery, as set out in Annex 2; and</li> <li>5. Delegates authority to the Strategic Director of Place and Director of Finance, in conjunction with the Executive Member for Growth and Development and the Executive Member for Finance and Governance, and in consultation with the Chair of the Darwen Deal Board, to finalise the Town Deal’s local assurance framework.</li> </ol> <p><b>AT THIS STAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING.</b></p> <p><b><u>Local Transport Plan 2022-23</u></b></p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>

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11.1	<p>Further to the report submitted at Agenda Item 8.4, a further report was submitted containing commercially sensitive information.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approves the Local Transport Plan detailed programme for 2022/23; and</li> <li>2) Delegates authority to the Strategic Director of Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Growth and Development, to amend, seek and accept tenders subject to adequate budget provision.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;">Signed at a meeting of the Board</p> <p style="text-align: center;">on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(being the ensuing meeting on the Board) Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed</p>	<p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>

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