

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Thursday, 13th February, 2020

PRESENT

COUNCILLOR:

Councillor Maureen Bateson MBE
 Councillor Mustafa Desai
 Councillor Mohammed Khan OBE
 Councillor Vicky Ellen McGurk
 Councillor Phil Riley
 Councillor Damian Talbot

PORTFOLIO:

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

ALL IN ATTENDANCE:

Zara Hayat
 Khalid Omar
 Muhammed Bapu

Youth MP
 Deputy Youth MP
 Deputy Youth MP

	Item	Action						
1	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></p> <p>The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mohammed Khan, welcomed all to the meeting, in particular the new Youth MPs. Apologies had been received from Councillors Jim Smith, John Slater and Quesir Mahmood.</p>							
2	<p><u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u></p> <p>The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th January 2020 were agreed as a correct record.</p>	Agreed						
3	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no Declarations of Interest submitted.</p>							
4	<p><u>Equality Implications</u></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>	Confirmed						
5	<p><u>Public Forum</u></p> <p>In accordance with Part 4 of the Executive Board Procedure Rules for questions/statements by members of the public, the following questions/statements have been received, details of which are set out below:-</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Name of Person asking the Question</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Subject Area</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Response by</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name of Person asking the Question	Subject Area	Response by				
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Item			Action
Vicki Harris, 6 Whitehall Road	Local Green Space, Whitehall, Darwen	Phil Riley, Growth and Development	
Tony Hopwood, 6 Whitehall Road			
Kamran Khaliq, 1 Ravenswing Ave			
Anser Amin, 14 Whitehall Road			
Yasir Amin, 15 Whitehall Road			
Rahana Ismail 213 Revidge Road			

Councillor Riley gave responses to the questions and supplementary questions arising, advising that the site was currently being reviewed, with the findings to be made publically available alongside the draft Local Plan, and that residents would be able to make comments and representations, and also attend the Public Inquiry and again make representations.

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Questions by Non-Executive Members

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:-

Name of Non-Executive Member asking the Question	Subject Area	Executive Member and Portfolio
Councillor John Pearson	Flooding – south side of Livesey Branch Road, Blackburn	Councillor Phil Riley, Growth and Development

Councillor Riley gave a response to the question and supplementary question arising, reporting that there had been 8 case of internal flooding the previous weekend, with no cases

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7	<p>confirmed in/around the Gib Lane area, and outlined the temporary and permanent drainage improvements agreed by Kingswood Homes for Livesey Branch Road.</p> <p><u>Youth MPs Update</u></p> <p>The new Youth MPs updated the Executive Board on their recent election, and on the campaign issues they would be focussing on in the coming year. Members of the Executive Board welcomed the new Youth MPs and advised that they were looking forward to working them in the year ahead.</p>	Noted
8.1	<p><u>Impact of National Policy of Austerity in Blackburn with Darwen</u></p> <p>The Leader submitted a report which updated Members on the impact on the Borough of the Government's austerity programme since 2010.</p> <p>The headline changes for Blackburn with Darwen Council over the period were outlined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36% reduction in funding income - £65.6million • £542 reduction in real-term local government spending per head of population 2009/10-2017/18 • Largest reduction in Core Spending Power of all Unitary Authorities at 30.5% - £51.7million • £13million increase in social care costs, vulnerable adults and children • IMD ranked 9th most deprived local authority in the Country • 5th lowest level of reserves compared to all other Unitary Authorities • Real-term reduction in resources was significantly more due to absorbing costs of inflation, increase demand, pay awards. <p>The Executive Board were advised that despite these cuts, the Council's statutory responsibilities to citizens remained the same.</p> <p>The Leader advised that the Council needed Ministers and Civil Servants to fully engage and listen the concerns and challenges facing the Borough and would be asking that they engage with the Council to find solutions to funding mechanisms that work for areas such as Blackburn with Darwen, with low tax receipts and high demand and to direct new money to local authorities.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Note the contents of this report which highlights the impact of the Government's austerity measures over the last 10 years. b) Agree that the Leader write to the Government to outline our concerns and request engagement in future policy development and funding allocations. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Approved</p>

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	<p>CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION</p> <p>Councillor Maureen Bateson verbally reported that Ofsted had advised that they would be carrying out a focus visit in the following week, looking at the Children in Our Care system and that Officers were now getting the relevant information together ahead of the inspection.</p> <p>8.2 <u>Fostering Report Quarter 2</u></p> <p>A report was submitted which provided information on the management and performance of the Local Authority's Fostering Service for Quarter 2. The report provided analysis of the year and reflected upon data and any patterns within the Service to determine development and progress.</p> <p>RESOLVED-</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <p>Notes the Quarter 2 Fostering Service Report which is available on the Council's website along with Appendix 1.</p> <p>8.3 <u>Contract for the sorting and processing of kerbside collected recyclables</u></p> <p>The Executive Board received an update on the procurement of the sorting and processing of kerbside collected recyclables and approval was sought for the appointment of the successful bidder as the contractor for the service and make relevant changes to the revenue budgets.</p> <p>The existing kerbside recycling collection and processing contract (begun in 2010) with BIFFA was due to end on 30th April 2020, with the collection service moving in-house and a procurement process was followed to secure sorting and subsequent processing of the collected materials. As a Waste Disposal Authority (WDA), the Council had a legal duty to arrange for disposal of municipal waste and recycling from the Borough, and hence the contract was required.</p> <p>The Council received 2 bids in response to the contract notice by the closing date of 22nd November 2019 and following evaluation it was recommended that Bidder 2 be selected.</p> <p>The bid from Bidder 2 contained a number of options for the service that could result in savings for the Council which will be explored and reported back to Finance Council.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p>	<p>Noted</p>

	Item	Action
	<p>- Approves the appointment of Bidder 2 as the successful bidder - Notes that the Council shall review options to minimise costs and report the outcome to Finance Council</p>	Approved
<p>8.4</p>	<p><u>Replacement of Vehicles for Environment and Highways Teams</u></p> <p>Members were advised that the Council's vehicle replacement programme had identified that the Environment and Highways Teams had a number of vehicles that were too old and needed replacing and had a number of hired vehicles on the fleet.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>It is recommended that Executive Board;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. authorise the replacement of these old and hired vehicles as part of the Council's vehicle replacement programme and 2. authorise an initial increase in the capital programme of £532,000 in respect of the estimated costs, but note that following purchase, Officers would seek to enter into a 'sale and leaseback arrangement' if it was financially beneficial to do so. 	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
<p>9.1</p>	<p><u>Climate Emergency Plan</u></p> <p>The Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019 and set a target to be carbon neutral by 2030. The report submitted presented for consideration a draft Action Plan to support the Council's carbon neutral ambitions.</p> <p>The Action Plan set out what the Council had done to date to tackle climate change and the actions it proposed to take to achieve its carbon neutral goal.</p> <p>The actions were set out under the objectives for the plan, which were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sound climate-related decisions; • Create a resilient & attractive Borough; • Be lean & clean with resources and energy; • Travel lightly; and • Capture more carbon <p>Implementation of the Action Plan would be overseen by an officer working group, co-opting members from external organisations as required on a task and finish basis. The group would report to the Council's Management Board through the Director of Growth & Development. Interim progress reports would be made to the Executive Member for Finance & Governance with annual updates provided to the Executive Board.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p>	

	Item	Action
	That the Executive Board:	
	i. Approve the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan, enclosed at Annex 1;	Approved
	ii. Note the intention to hold a local Citizens' Inquiry on the Climate Emergency;	Noted
	iii. Note the proposal to submit the Action Plan to the Council Forum meeting in March;	Noted
	iv. Request an annual update report on progress in delivering the Action Plan.	Approved
9.2	<p><u>Sale of Plot C, Partnership Way, Blackburn</u></p> <p>Approval was sought for the sale of Plot C Partnership Way, Shadsworth, Blackburn, to a special purchaser.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <p>2.1 Approves the sale of Plot C, Partnership Way, Shadsworth, Blackburn subject to the terms and conditions outlined in this report.</p> <p>2.2 Authorises the Director of HR, Legal and Governance Services to complete the necessary legal formalities.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Approved</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Approved</p>
9.3	<p><u>Corporate Revenue Budget Monitoring Report</u></p> <p>The Executive Board received a report on the overall revenue financial position of the Council, highlighting any significant issues and explaining variations in the third quarter of the financial year.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>The Executive Board is asked to approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the portfolio budget adjustments outlined in Appendix 1 • the Earmarked reserves position shown in Appendix 2 • the variations to revenue expenditure, as listed in Section 6, giving rise to a balance of £8.876 million in the unallocated General Fund revenue reserve 	<p style="text-align: center;">Approved</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Approved</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Approved</p>
9.4	<p><u>Corporate Capital Budget Monitoring Report</u></p> <p>A report was submitted on the overall financial position of the Council in respect of the capital programme as at 31st December 2019, highlighting key issues and explaining variations in the first 9 months of the financial year.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>The Executive Board is asked;</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to approve the revised capital programme as per Appendix 1, to approve the variations to the programme shown in Appendix 2 	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
10.1	<p><u>Petition: Warrington Street, Blackburn</u></p> <p>Members were advised of a Petition received from residents of Warrington Street, Blackburn relating to issues with rodents in their homes.</p> <p>The report outlined actions taken to address the issues together with details of waste being left out by some residents, which encouraged rodents.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>That the Executive Board issue a response to the petition received.</p>	<p>Approved</p>
10.2	<p><u>Petition: Application for Local Space Designation (Whitehall Area)</u></p> <p>A petition had been received from residents in relation to Council owned land at Whitehall Road, Blackburn. The reported submitted advised that the residents wished to see the land designated as Local Green Space in the Local Plan and thus protected from development.</p> <p>It was reported that the site would be considered for designation through the on-going Local Plan review process. As a result there was no further action required at the present time.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <p>Notes the petition. The site will be considered for designation through the on-going Local Plan review process.</p> <p>AT THIS STAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING</p>	<p>Approved</p>
11.1	<p><u>Replacement of Vehicles for Environment and Highways Teams</u></p> <p>Further to the report submitted at Agenda Item 8.4, an additional report was submitted containing commercially sensitive information.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>It is recommended that Executive Board;</p>	

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	<p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>It is recommended that Executive Board;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. authorise the replacement of these old and hired vehicles as part of the Council's vehicle replacement programme and 2. authorise an initial increase in the capital programme of £532,000 in respect of the estimated costs, but note that following purchase, Officers would seek to enter into a 'sale and leaseback arrangement' if it was financially beneficial to do so. 	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
11.2	<p><u>Contract for the sorting and processing of kerbside collected recyclables</u></p> <p>Further to the report submitted at Agenda Item 8.3, an additional report was submitted containing commercially sensitive information.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approves the appointment of Bidder 2 as the successful bidder - Notes that the Council shall review options to minimise costs and report the outcome to Finance Council 	<p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>
11.3	<p><u>Sale of Plot C, Partnership Way, Blackburn</u></p> <p>Further to the report submitted at Agenda Item 9.2, an additional report was submitted containing commercially sensitive information.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Approves the sale of Plot C, Partnership Way, Shadsworth, Blackburn subject to the terms and conditions outlined in this report. 2.2 Authorises the Director of HR, Legal and Governance Services to complete the necessary legal formalities. <p style="text-align: center;">Signed at a meeting of the Board</p> <p style="text-align: center;">on Thursday, 12 March 2020</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(being the ensuing meeting on the Board)</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>

	Item	Action
	Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed	