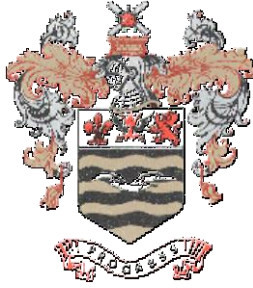


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BLACKPOOL COUNCIL

Tuesday, 14 November 2017

To: The Members of Blackpool Council

Mr Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of **Blackpool Council** to be held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Blackpool on Wednesday, 22 November 2017 commencing at 6.00 pm for the transaction of the business specified below.



Director of Governance and Partnerships

Business

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

(1) the type of interest concerned either

- (a) personal interest
- (b) prejudicial interest
- (c) disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI)

and

(2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2017 (Pages 1 - 6)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 20 September 2017 was a true and correct record.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive official announcements from the Mayor.

4 EXECUTIVE REPORTS

(Pages 7 - 22)

To consider the attached reports to Council from the Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs) and the Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities).

Members are reminded that:

- Each Senior Executive Member * has up to three minutes to present their report, after which there will be a period of no longer than 25 minutes per report for questions/comments (a green card will give a one minute warning, red for the end of the debate).
- There will be three minutes per question/ comment from any Councillor on anything within the portfolio and no limit to the number of times a Councillor can ask a question.
- There will be a period of up to 25 minutes for a response from the Senior Executive Member * (or relevant Cabinet Member) at the end of the questions/ comments for each report.

* or Combined Fire Authority representative or Chairman of the Audit Committee.

5 PROPOSAL TO DISSOLVE THE BLACKPOOL, FYLDE AND WYRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND FORM AN ECONOMIC PROSPERITY BOARD (Pages 23 - 34)

To consider the recommendation of the Executive from its meeting on 6 November 2017, regarding the management of the governance of the economic development agenda across the Fylde Coast.

6 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

(Pages 35 - 44)

To consider the recommendation of the Executive from its meeting on 6 November 2017, regarding the approval of the extension of the period for the current Local Transport Plan and to start the process of refreshing the Local Transport Plan.

7 MOTIONS AT COUNCIL

(Pages 45 - 46)

To consider the following motions, which have been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 12.1.

Venue information:

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Yvonne Burnett, Democratic Governance Senior Adviser, Tel: (01253) 477034, e-mail yvonne.burnett@blackpool.gov.uk

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at www.blackpool.gov.uk.

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Present:

Councillor I Coleman (in the Chair)

Councillors

Benson	Cox	Kirkland	Smith
Blackburn	Critchley	Mitchell	Stansfield
Cain	Cross	O'Hara	I Taylor
Callow	Elmes	Robertson BEM	L Taylor
Mrs Callow JP	Galley	Roberts	L Williams
Campbell	Mrs Henderson MBE	Rowson	T Williams
Clapham	Hobson	Ryan	Mrs Wright
D Coleman	Hunter	D Scott	
G Coleman	Hutton	Mrs Scott	
Collett	Jackson	Singleton	

In Attendance:

Neil Jack, Chief Executive

John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services

Diane Booth, Director Children's Services

Alan Cavill, Director of Place

Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health

Steve Thompson, Director of Resources

Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Partnerships/Monitoring Officer

Lorraine Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance

Yvonne Burnett, Democratic Governance Senior Adviser

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Blackburn declared a personal interest in agenda item 8b 'NJC Pay Claim 2018' as a member of the National Joint Committee appointed by the Local Government Association.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 28 JUNE AND 19 JULY 2017

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meetings held on 28 June and 19 July 2017, be signed by the Mayor as correct records.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced that he had received a letter from Brigadier Rafferty MBE expressing thanks and appreciation, on behalf of The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, for the recent Freedom of Entry award and the hospitality offered by the Council.

The Mayor also advised members that the Blackpool Faith and Communities Partnership had been launched the previous day, and invited members to sign the partnership statement to pledge their support.

4 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

Mrs Zoe Walsh addressed the Council on the decision to cease funding for the Star Buddies breastfeeding peer support programme and called for the Council to extend the service while it conducted a public consultation and equality impact assessment.

The Leader of the Council invited Ms Walsh to meet with himself, Councillor Amy Cross, Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health and the Director of Public Health to discuss the issue.

5 EXECUTIVE REPORTS AND COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY REPORTS

The Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Secretary presented reports to the Council on work undertaken in their own portfolio area and those portfolios under their responsibility. The reports covered corporate, strategic and policy issues, together with work being undertaken in transforming services and with partners.

Council representatives of the Fire Authority also presented a report on the work of the authority from the meetings held in April and June 2017.

Questions, comments and debate were invited from all councillors on each of the report areas.

Notes:

- (1) Councillor Campbell agreed to provide a response to Councillor Galley on the timescale for ordering and erecting signs in relation to the Public Space Protection Order for parks.
- (2) Following consideration of the report from the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Cox left the meeting.
- (3) During the presentation of the report from the Cabinet Secretary, Councillor Mrs Henderson left the meeting.
- (4) In response to the concerns expressed by Councillor Mrs Callow surrounding the death of a war veteran, Councillor Cross agreed to provide all members with the coroner's report and service review report upon completion.

6 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Council considered a report in relation to the appointment of Vice Chairman of the Appeals Committee, in accordance with the Council's Constitution and the Local Government Act 1972 and following a recruitment process, to consider the recommendation of the Recruitment Panel (chaired by Councillor Galley) for the appointment of the independent member of the Audit Committee.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2017

Motion: Councillor Blackburn proposed (and Councillor Galley seconded):

- ‘1. That Councillor Vikki Singleton be appointed as the Vice Chairman of the Appeals Committee.
2. That Yvonne Russell be appointed as the independent co-opted member of the Audit Committee.’

Motion carried: The motion was submitted to the Council and carried.

7 RELATIONSHIPS WITH COMPANIES

Members considered a report regarding the Council’s role with its wholly owned companies.

The Council noted that since 2012 there had been a number of changes to the wholly owned companies of the Council, including standardisation of governance arrangements, the introduction of independent non-executive directors and the establishment of an informal Shareholder’s Panel to develop the relationship with between the companies and the Council. It was also noted that since that time, two further wholly-owned companies had been set up in 2014 and 2015 and that there had been proposals in the budget agreed by Council in 2017, for two additional companies relating to social care and culture.

The report acknowledged that given the changes and forthcoming proposals, and with competing commitments, it was timely to review the Shareholder Panel arrangements and links between the companies and the Shareholder to improve accessibility with the senior officer core and to increase member involvement on the part of the shareholder.

Members went on to consider proposals for the establishment of a Shareholder’s Advisory Board, as a formal, politically-balanced committee of the Council, which, working with a senior link officer of the Council, would provide strategic direction for the company group, provide links between the Council and individual companies and make recommendations as appropriate to the Council’s Executive.

Members were also informed that in view of the recent review of arrangements and proposals within the report, the Independent Remuneration Panel had met to consider whether special responsibility allowances would be appropriate, should the Council approve the recommendations for the establishment of a Shareholder’s Advisory Board.

Motion: Councillor Blackburn proposed (and Councillor Campbell seconded):

- ‘1. To note that the Chief Executive will designate a lead officer to work on behalf of the shareholder with the Council’s wholly owned companies, from within the senior/chief officer management structure.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2017

2. That a Shareholder's Advisory Board be established under section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, with the terms of reference as at Appendix 7(a) to the report and with a membership of three Labour members and one Conservative member.
3. To approve the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel and subsequent changes to the Members' Allowances Scheme.
4. To agree that the Chairman of the Board be an Executive member and that Councillor Ivan Taylor is appointed to this role.
5. That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to update the constitution accordingly.'

Motion carried: The motion was submitted to the Council and carried.

8 INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BODY FOR FOOTBALL

Motion: Having submitted notice, Councillor T Williams proposed (and Councillor Stansfield seconded):

'English football, particularly at the highest level, enjoys unparalleled popularity with record attendances creating economic stability to both the club being supported and the local businesses and general community.

Clubs such as Leyton Orient, Leeds and the town's own club at Blackpool have received high levels of media publicity for the wrong reasons. Disputes between fans and owners, for whatever causes, fail to be rectified or addressed by the Football Association who have delegated too much of its powers and can no longer perform a proper governing role. Ill-discipline on the pitch is stringently marshalled by the FA, yet bad governance off it has been delegated to the clubs themselves to referee.

Under the banner 'Fans Not Numbers' business entrepreneur Jamie Fuller the chairman of sports clothing manufacturer 'Skins' together with 'Supporters Direct' the national supporters association with over 400,000 members, are currently lobbying local politicians and national government to set up a multi-party supported Government appointed Independent Regulatory Body. A body that can not only set, but crucially, can enforce off-pitch regulations that include the powers to sanction clubs who are non-compliant. An Independent Regulatory Body could ensure that no clubs are promoted despite breaching rules, reliant on funding from unnamed entities or rendered homeless.

The funding for the Independent Body could be met with a small percentage levy on commercial rights income generated by the leagues.

As Blackpool has obvious and evident issues between its football club and a huge majority of local and out of town fans. This Council has a duty and an economical interest to promote change to the regulatory system to ensure that energy is spent on building not destroying supporter and community relations.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2017

The United Kingdom is only one of five countries in the world that do not have an Independent Regulatory Body.

Council therefore requests the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister Mrs. Theresa May and the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Karen Bradley MP confirming the Council's support of the concept to appoint a Government Independent Regulatory Body for football in the UK.

That the formation of the body should be supported by all political parties to address conflicts between owners and fans and to formulate a blueprint for how football governance should work and the changes to bring it about to prevent future conflicts that result in negative community and damaging economic downturn to the towns and cities affected.'

Members went on to debate the motion.

Motion carried: The motion was submitted to the Council and carried.

9 NJC PAY CLAIM 2018

Motion: Having submitted notice, Councillor Campbell proposed (and Councillor Collett seconded):

'Blackpool Council notes that:

- NJC basic pay has fallen by 21% since 2010 in real terms
- NJC workers had a three-year pay freeze from 2010/ 2012
- Local terms and conditions of many NJC employees have also been cut, impacting on their overall earnings
- NJC pay is the lowest in the public sector
- Job evaluated pay structures are being squeezed and distorted by bottom-loaded NJC pay settlements needed to reflect the increased National Living Wage and the Foundation Living Wage
- There are growing equal and fair pay risks resulting from this situation

Blackpool Council therefore supports the NJC pay claim for 2018, submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of Council and school workers and calls for the immediate end of public sector pay restraint. NJC pay cannot be allowed to fall further behind other parts of the public sector. Blackpool Council also welcomes the joint review of the NJC pay spine to remedy the turbulence caused by bottom-loaded pay settlements.

This Council also notes the drastic ongoing cuts to Local Government funding and calls on the Government to provide additional funding to fund a decent pay rise for NJC employees and the pay spine review.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2017

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Call immediately on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to Government to fund the NJC claim and the pay spine review and notify us of their action in this regard
- Requests the Chief Executive, to write on behalf of the Council to the Prime Minister and Chancellor supporting the NJC pay claim and seeking additional funding to fund a decent pay rise and the pay spine review
- Requests the Chief Executive to arrange a meeting with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and the pay spine review.'

Members then went on to debate the motion.

Motion carried: The motion was submitted to the Council and carried.

10 MINISTER FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Motion: Having submitted notice, Councillor Mrs Wright proposed (and Councillor Kirkland seconded):

'The Council calls upon the Prime Minister to consider the need for a role of 'Minister for Older People' in Government. There is currently a Minister for Disabled People who works successfully across Government to ensure disabled people are not disadvantaged in a way and is a model that could be replicated to ensure that older people are treated similarly and fairly, including those in the Blackpool area. The Equalities Minister also has cross-government responsibilities for strategy and legislation.

The gap between the remit of the Health and Pensions Ministers needs to be addressed to deal with the unprecedented demographic change that underpins the transformation of the economy, training, work and social care.

The Council therefore requests the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister, outlining the Council's view that such a role is required.'

Members then went on to debate the motion.

Motion carried: The motion was submitted to the Council and carried.

Mayor

(The meeting ended at 8.15 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
Lorraine Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance
Tel: 01253 477127
E-mail: lorraine.hurst@blackpool.gov.uk

Executive Member Report to the Council
22 November 2017

AGENDA ITEM 4(a)

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL –‘CORPORATE’ PORTFOLIO AREA COUNCILLOR SIMON BLACKBURN

The Corporate area covers my portfolio and those of:

- Councillor Ivan Taylor (Cabinet Member for Projects and Partnerships)

The full details of the portfolio areas can be found on the Council’s website at <https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Your-Council/Your-councillors/Executive-members.aspx>

Corporate Issues

Financial Monitoring 2017/ 2018 and Budget 2018/ 2019

The Medium-Term Financial Sustainability Strategy 2016/ 2017 - 2021/ 2022 clearly identified 2017/ 2018 as the critical year to navigate, being the last of the very high budget gap years to bridge and following six years of significant erosion of Government funding. I would like to draw Members attention to the fact that over the period 2011/ 2012 – 2017/ 2018, the cumulative Budget savings amount to £137m, a figure which is now greater than the Council’s annual Net Requirement Budget. The compound effect of this reduction over the seven-year period exceeds £1/2 billion of resource that has been removed from the Blackpool economy, a truly eye-watering statistic that will have profound and long-lasting implications for our town.

As at month five, the Council was forecasting an overspend by year-end for 2017/ 2018 of £3.4m with the main financial pressures presenting in Children’s Social Care, Strategic Leisure Assets, Business Loans Fund and Parking Services. However, in the context of £33m of Earmarked Revenue Reserves and with seven months of the financial year remaining in which to improve performance, the Director of Resources remains confident that a more acceptable and manageable position will be reached by year-end.

I can confirm that work on the Council’s Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2018/ 2019 is well underway. This work will be further informed by this afternoon’s announcement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s Budget. The Council made strong representations to the Chancellor’s Budget, for example, through the 2018/ 2019 Local Government Finance Settlement – Technical Consultation Paper, the Fair Funding Review and other Local Government Association (LGA), Special Interest Group on Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA), Key Cities Group and Association of Directors of Children’s Services (ADCS).

Strategic Issues

Museum

As Members will recall, we had to make a difficult, but necessary decision earlier this year to withdraw the Museum project from its proposed location in the Winter Gardens. A key factor in this decision related to rising costs associated with using a listed building. Since then the team has worked hard on identifying a number of potential alternative locations and attracting new sources of funding. We have recently narrowed our focus to one preferred location. The new preferred location on the promenade will have better footfall and the scheme will continue to deliver all the same aims and objectives at a significantly lower cost than the previous location. The project has already been selected as Lancashire's top priority for The Northern Cultural Regeneration Fund, with submissions due at the end of November. At the same time, the team is also preparing bids to the Heritage Lottery Fund and Coastal Communities Fund, with the results known by March/ April next year. We have had strong positive feedback to date on the detail of this scheme and subject to positive outcomes in these funding rounds, the museum project would be fully funded.

Blackpool Airport and Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone

Last month I was delighted to attend the UK's largest commercial property conference known as MIPIM in London. Lancashire had a strong presence at MIPIM UK, led by Marketing Lancashire on behalf of Lancashire Enterprise Partnership. Blackpool Council joined forces with our sub-regional partners in this effort and together we were able to deliver a credible presence facing the investor market, alongside the likes of the Manchester and Liverpool city regions, who have many more years of experience (and success) in such settings. It was great to see Lancashire working together in this context.

At the event, Marketing Lancashire unveiled the initial marketing material for Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone, part of the wider family of Lancashire Enterprise Zones. Our officers have had a firm input into this material and it looks very impressive. The full range of marketing material for Lancashire's Enterprise Zones will be launched at MIPIM Cannes early next year, targeting international investors.

I am pleased to say that the MIPIM UK event has led to a number of enquiries from investors and developers in the UK context. We now have scores of active enquiries and over 450 jobs have moved or been created at our Enterprise Zone, making it one of the best performing in the country. As I mentioned at the last Council meeting, the acquisition of the airport strengthens our hand further on the Enterprise Zone. We have begun work on a new Business Plan for the Airport, which should be available in the New Year. I am delighted to confirm that the major airside contracts have recently been renewed, including those for servicing the rigs. As a result, the Airport remains in a good trading position on which to build our new business plan.

Working with Partners

The Future of Joint Local Authority Working in Lancashire, and the Establishment of an Economic Prosperity Board for the Fylde Coast

In September, I updated Members on a meeting I had held with Jake Berry MP, Northern Powerhouse Minister, concerning the future of governance in Lancashire. As Members are aware, we have been operating in shadow form as a Combined Authority since the summer of last year, but have made little real progress with Government since the EU referendum on our application to become a fully-fledged Combined Authority, or on a devolution settlement for Lancashire. Jake Berry MP followed up on our meeting in writing, confirming his commitment to working with Lancashire to find a solution and confirming that it was entirely possible to have a Combined Authority without an elected mayor, as per the Conservative Party manifesto. The letter also confirmed the reality that only a Combined Authority can act as a vehicle for the devolution of power and resource to Lancashire.

Subsequent to this, at the following Lancashire Leaders' meeting we agreed that I would write to the Secretary of State, Sajid Javid MP, to attempt to seek further clarity and instruction on how Lancashire is to move forward. The Secretary of State replied in mid-October, confirming that the Government is open to non-mayoral Combined Authorities and that it was for Lancashire to come forward now with proposals that carry the maximum support of local partners. The Secretary of State also offered to meet.

I have since written to Lancashire Leaders, asking them to work with their local groups to arrive at a final position on their willingness to pursue Combined Authority arrangements for Lancashire and to bring their position to a key meeting between us all in later November. It is essential that we have clarity on each Local Authority position before attempting to take things any further with Government and certainly before any meeting with the Secretary of State. It is my sincere hope that all Lancashire authorities will see the importance in pursuing this agenda. Our neighbouring sub-regions are now motoring ahead with their Combined Authority arrangements, attracting new resource and powers through the devolution process and Lancashire is already getting further behind. I believe we all have a duty to do what we can to arrest this position, for the good of the whole County.

In contrast to the difficulties at County level, I am pleased that we are making real progress on arrangements for closer working on the Fylde coast. As Members are no doubt aware, the Fylde coast is a coherent economic and social space. We have cooperated closely in various ways with our neighbours in Fylde and Wyre for many years, recognising the close relationships we all share. We all share the desire to cooperate further, in particular on economic development. For this reason the Leaders of Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Councils have collectively agreed to establish a Fylde Coast Economic Prosperity Board (EPB). EPB's have been established in other 'real world' economic areas of the country and I am pleased to say that all three Councils are taking reports through their respective channels in the coming weeks. The EPB will be a formally constituted committee of each respective Council, chaired by a Leader, but will also include private sector representation. The EPB will enable us to oversee jointly the delivery of our two Fylde coast Enterprise Zones at the Airport and Hillhouse

advocate and develop other projects drawing upon our collective resource. The EPB will not be a fund-holding authority and it cannot draw down powers and resource like a Combined Authority. Nevertheless, I believe this is a positive step forward for the Fylde Coast and its economic prospects.

**DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (TOURISM, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOBS) –
COUNCILLOR GILLIAN CAMPBELL**

The Places area covers my portfolio and those of:

- Councillor Fred Jackson (Environmental Services and Highways),
- Councillor Mark Smith (Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development) and
- Councillor Mrs Christine Wright (Housing).

The full details of the portfolio areas can be found on the Council's website at <https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Your-Council/Your-councillors/Executive-members.aspx>

Corporate Issues

Built Heritage and Conservation: Our Piers and the World Monuments Fund Watch

I am very pleased to report that Blackpool's three piers have been included on the 2018/ 2019 World Monument Fund Watch, a list of internationally significant sites at risk. The Council put forward the case for our piers in a competitive process and this included a visit to Blackpool from relevant assessors based in New York. The World Monuments Fund listed the risk of climate change (rising sea levels and increased storm surges) as a key challenge for our piers, along with lack of access to funding and the changing nature of tourism. Importantly, the assessors recognised the historic significance and importance of our piers and the need to draw attention to the challenges they face in terms of their long-term future. Inclusion on the Fund Watch will provide a platform for dialogue with Central Government over the future of the piers and will provide access to funding for research and events to re-engage the local community in the future of these iconic landmarks. Media coverage of the announcement was excellent and an Action Plan is being finalised to focus the resources on the key issues and to ensure the best outcomes are achieved.

Visitor Numbers: Continued Improvement and Growth

I am pleased to confirm that the annual STEAM survey used by destinations across the UK has revealed that the overall number of visitors to Blackpool grew to 18 million in 2016 - an increase of around one million compared to the previous year. The STEAM survey valued Blackpool's visitor economy at £1.5bn, supporting more than 25,000 jobs. The 2016 study shows that visitor numbers in Blackpool grew by 6% and represented almost 30% of all visits to Lancashire. There was year-on-year growth in staying visitors (+3.3%) and day visitors (+6.4%). In addition, a snapshot survey carried out for the summer of 2017 shows a significant increase in adult visits between May and August compared to the same period in 2016. The Omnibus survey shows there were approximately 3.2m adult visits over the four months, compared to

2.75m in 2016 with increases in staying and day visitors. The highest figures were recorded in August when there were 1.2m adult visits compared to 0.9m in 2016. During the May to August period, the resort was heavily promoted through the 'Blackpool Has It All' destination marketing campaign, which featured extensive TV advertising, PR and digital campaigns.

Incident at 21 Charles Street

Members will no doubt be aware of the explosion that took place on Charles Street in late September. Various Council Departments have played a leading role since the event, helping re-home those affected, as well as working to secure the various structures linked to the site of the explosion. Following the explosion it was necessary to organise the erection of birdcage structural scaffolding to adjacent properties to ensure these properties were protected from further collapse. The main dwelling has now been demolished with no further damage to neighbouring properties. The Council's Building Control has been working closely to facilitate investigating agencies during this complicated process. It is envisaged that the investigation on site will come to a close towards the end of this week (led by the Health and Safety Executive, Fire Investigation and relevant gas supplier). We are now looking to engage with local contractors to erect a new outer skin to both 19 and 23 Charles Street and reopen the road as soon as possible.

Strategic Issues

Blackpool's Bridges Renewal Programme

The investment of £11.4m from the Department for Transport Challenge Fund, Lancashire Growth Deal and Blackpool's Local Transport Plan funding in the essential renewal of our bridges is now well underway. I am particularly pleased with aspects of how this challenging project has and is being managed, with Princess Street, Plymouth Road and Waterloo bridges schemes all delivered on budget and completed ahead of schedule. Work has now commenced on essential repairs and upgrading of Harrowside Bridge and replacing Squires Gate Bridge, which are programmed to be completed by March 2018.

Anchorsholme Scheme

I am delighted that the new £27.1m sea defences at Anchorsholme were opened on Monday 30 October 2017, with the Environment Agency very pleased with the project. A kilometre of concrete sea wall has been replaced, maintaining access to the beach, with the new promenade attracting residents and visitors to take in views across the Irish Sea. The Council and the contractors are aware that a small number of slabs at the Northern end of the scheme have experienced some movement. The contractor has accepted it is their responsibility to correct this defect and we are confident the matter will be resolved in the near future. The new promenade and raised highways provides a link to Anchorsholme Park, which is currently being invested in by United Utilities in relation to water management. The scheme has worked closely with the community, with many positive public consultation events.

Yeadon Way

I am pleased to confirm that the Council has been successful in a highly competitive funding round and has secured £2.345m of resource from the Department of Transport to upgrade the outer areas of Yeadon Way. As Members will recall, the middle third of Yeadon Way was recently upgraded at a cost of £3.1m and this was the part that was in the poorest condition. It is essential that the remainder of the structure is secured for the long term, as Yeadon Way is a crucial arterial link into the centre of the town. This additional funding from the Department for Transport, together with a contribution from Blackpool's Local Transport Plan funding, will mean the whole of Yeadon Way will be upgraded and its future secured for a generation. We anticipate that significant works will not take place on the highway until the winter of 2019/2020.

Policy Issues

Housing Standards and Licensing: Visit of DCLG's Permanent Secretary, Melanie Dawes

On 12 October, Blackpool Council hosted an all-day visit from Melanie Dawes, Permanent Secretary of the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and other senior civil servants. I was pleased to play a full part in this visit along with other relevant Cabinet Members. Melanie wanted the day in Blackpool to focus on our housing challenges and she specifically requested to see at first hand the housing and homelessness challenges we face, with a view to discussing how Government policy can help support the Council's work. The visit included an initial discussion with senior officers and Members on our strategic housing challenges and how the Council currently responds to these. We also took Melanie and her colleagues on a tour to see the new homes at Queens Park and Foxhall Village, a refurbished home from Blackpool Housing Company's portfolio and a poor quality House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) that had recently come under the jurisdiction of enforcement. We concluded the tour with a focus on our homelessness challenges in discussion with the Housing Options team.

The Permanent Secretary made it clear how impressed she was with the Council's pro-active response to many difficult housing challenges we face and commented positively on the visit afterwards in various social media. Melanie confirmed that she wants Government policy to further evolve to help us develop a better housing offer in inner Blackpool, in particular to support more robust regulation of poor quality private rented properties and ensure effective support for vulnerable residents. Related to this, DCLG has made it clear that the Council's case for selective licensing in the Central area is strong, but that they are not currently minded to support a co-regulation approach in its delivery. In agreement with the team at DCLG, the Council has withdrawn its current application and has agreed to work with DCLG in the coming months on a revised proposal with a view to resubmission and a positive decision early in the New Year.

Transforming Services

New Key Appointments in Cultural Services and Libraries

I am pleased to confirm that the Grundy Art Gallery has named Paulette Terry Brien as the gallery's new curator. Paulette, who will start in post mid-November, has more than 25 years of experience working within contemporary visual art and is well known for raising the profile of the North West region on a national and international level. As co-founder and co-director of The International 3, a contemporary art gallery based in Salford, Paulette delivered a year round programme of exhibitions and events and has been instrumental in developing projects such as Manchester's annual contemporary art fair, The Manchester Contemporary. Paulette comes to the Grundy with a strong track record of identifying and nurturing emerging talent, commissioning and curating high quality contemporary art exhibitions for both gallery and non-gallery settings.

The Council has also appointed a new Head of Libraries following the retirement of Elaine Midgley at the end of October after long and dedicated service. Mark McCree will be joining the authority on the 29 January 2018. Mark currently works in Peterborough as the Head of the National Library and Heritage Service for the Royal National Institute of the Blind. Crucially, Mark has an extensive career as a librarian working his way up from a Library Assistant to Senior Community Librarian (responsible for 12 libraries) and Major Projects Manager. He has transformed the service at the RNIB from a declining service to achieve significant customer growth, with a particular emphasis on the digitisation of services.

Planning: Development Management Performance

The Development Management Team has been assessed for its performance in dealing with planning and other applications over a two year period which ended on 30 September 2017 (1 October 2015 to 30 September 2017). The Government set the following targets for the determination of planning applications - majors 60% within the 13 week timescale and minors 70% within the eight week timescale. I am pleased to confirm that the team achieved 76% for major applications and 72% for minor applications over the two year period, both above the Government targets.

Over the last 12 months, performance on major and minor applications has consistently been above the respective targets and in October 2017 our performance was 100% for both majors and minors (and 100% for 'other' applications, which are not currently subject to Government targets). This level of performance is a fantastic achievement given some of the pressures and changes the service has faced in recent years and I congratulate all involved with delivering the improvement, in particular since the LGA/PAS Peer Review that took place in January this year.

Working with Partners

Blackpool Enterprise Week

Blackpool Council's Business Support Team is hosting a week of free and professional events (13-17 November) across the resort, aimed to inspire and boost local entrepreneurs and established businesses alike, for its annual Enterprise Week (BEW). Leading lights from the resort's business community will be on hand to share their experiences to delegates at a number of information-packed seminars across Blackpool. Enterprise Week will run in conjunction with Global Entrepreneurship Week, the world's largest campaign to promote enterprise, playing a critical role in encouraging the next generation of entrepreneurs to consider starting up their own business. Activities at the Enterprise Centre, the Winter Gardens and the Solaris Centre, range from large-scale events to intimate networking gatherings and connect participants to potential collaborators, mentors and even investors. A wide range of topics including finance, on-line marketing and selling will be covered, as well as the basics of how to start your business and a session on creating customer focused business models.

The British Business Bank will also be attending through the week and they are responsible for coordinating the delivery of several funding streams as part of the Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund. Fund Managers will be describing their offerings and will be available to talk to local businesses about how to apply for the funds to fuel further growth.

Cosy Homes in Lancashire (CHiL)

Blackpool Council is the county lead on the Cosy Homes in Lancashire (CHiL) initiative and I am delighted to confirm that Blackpool has had the highest number of Energy Company Obligation (ECO) installations by size of population of any Local Authority in Great Britain since the programme began. Compared with a national average of 64 installations per 1,000 households, Blackpool achieved 186 per 1,000 households. ECO is a Government energy efficiency scheme established to tackle fuel poverty and help reduce carbon emissions.

Circus 250

Blackpool is among six towns and cities to be chosen to help celebrate 250 years of circus in the UK next year. The Circus 250 programme will be launched in the New Year, giving each of the destinations an opportunity to showcase circus-themed activities in their particular area during 2018. The other designated areas are London, Great Yarmouth, Bristol, Belfast and Newcastle-under-Lyme, the birthplace of entrepreneur and showman Philip Astley, who created the first circus on an abandoned patch of land in London's Waterloo area in 1768 with a line-up of jugglers, acrobats, clowns, strong men and horse riders. The Blackpool activities will be announced in the early part of next year.

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CABINET SECRETARY (RESILIENT COMMUNITIES) – COUNCILLOR GRAHAM CAIN

The Resilient Communities area covers my portfolio and those of:

- Councillor Kathryn Benson (Schools and Learning)
- Councillor Amy Cross (Adult Services and Health), and
- Councillor Maria Kirkland (Third Sector Engagement and Leisure Services).

The full details of the portfolio areas can be found on the Council's website at <https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Your-Council/Your-councillors/Executive-members.aspx>

Corporate Issues

School Improvement

I am delighted to confirm that school Ofsted inspections this term have been very positive, following on from the 'Good' judgements received by schools in the Summer Term of the 2016/2017 Academic Year. All schools that have been inspected this term have been rated as 'Good', with the exception of Devonshire Primary Academy that maintained its 'Requires Improvement' judgement, but with 'Good' ratings for "Effectiveness of Leadership and Management" and "Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare". The trajectory of travel for Devonshire Primary Academy is positive and the school is expected to be judged 'Good' on next inspection. Devonshire Primary Academy is therefore the only Primary School in our area that is not rated at least as 'Good' by Ofsted. Given the number of primary schools in our area and the challenges we face, this is a strong position, with the quality of primary provision a clear point of strength for our town. Whilst we should not be complacent, I would like to congratulate everyone who contributes to our clear success in this area.

I am particularly pleased with the evidence that secondary performance is improving. Unity Academy has been rated as 'Good' in all areas. St George's Church of England Academy expects to be 'Good' on next inspection, raising the number of 'Good' or better Secondary Schools to three from seven, in addition to a 'Good' Pupil Referral Unit. There is much work still to do, but the direction of travel is very encouraging.

I can confirm that two successful bids were recently submitted to the Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF) bringing nearly £1.5m of new resource into Blackpool to support a maths and a leadership development project. The maths project is led by Fylde Coast Academy Trust and the leadership project by Tauheedul Education Trust. The national Teaching and Leadership Innovation Fund has also been accessed to benefit Blackpool's Opportunity Area, bringing phonics programmes to three primary schools and an Institute of Physics development programme to Blackpool and the Fylde College.

Public Health Annual Report 2016

The Council's Director of Public Health has a statutory duty to write an independent annual report on the health of the local population. This year's report has as its theme the topic of community resilience. A selection of work and initiatives relevant to the topic are presented under the three domains of public health practice protecting the public's health, promoting health and wellbeing and healthcare. On the subject of health protection, the report describes vaccine coverage within the population, emergency preparedness arrangements and NHS Screening Programmes. The health promotion section looks at developments in the areas of reducing smoking and promoting healthier weight, the promotion of good mental health, the development of a self-care strategy, the HeadStart programme for teens and the Better Start programme for young children. The healthcare section discusses the opportunities for improving public health offered by the NHS-led Fylde Coast New Models of Care programme, transforming mental health services, strengthening public health services for 0-5 year olds and the NHS Health Check Programme.

The report describes how the wider system for building resilience is multifaceted and dispersed. A key task for the Council and partners across the town going forward will be to bring together and coordinate activities across the local system. The report is available for public viewing in the Libraries and published electronically on the Blackpool Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) website at www.blackpooljsna.org.uk.

Strategic Issues

Blackpool Opportunity Area, 2017/ 2020

As Members are aware, Blackpool was selected as a pilot 'Opportunities Area' and awarded £6m of funding over three years to improve social mobility, focusing on activity anchored around our educational institutions. Since the award, we have set up the Blackpool Opportunity Area Partnership Board, which is chaired by Graham Cowley, Vice Chairman of Lancashire Enterprise Partnership. We have been working hard on a plan to guide our activity, and I am pleased to confirm that Blackpool's three year plan has been launched by the Secretary of State for Education, Rt. Hon. Justine Greening MP and can be viewed here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/social-mobility-and-opportunity-areas>

Our three-year plan focuses on improving social mobility, raising sights and broadening horizons for Blackpool's children and young people. By working together with schools, colleges, the community and local and national stakeholders, we aim to make sure that no child is left behind.

Demand Management

Members will recognise that demand pressures in Children's Services represents one of the biggest strategic challenges facing the Council. Since April 2017, a demand management plan has been evolving and I am pleased to confirm that it is already delivering a **safe reduction** of children in our care. At its highest this financial year the number of children in our care peaked at 555, the total as of October 2017 was 527. This approach to demand management is set in

the context of a wide an emphatic body of evidence that demonstrates that children and young people typically progress better when cared for by families and their community. Key to success in this respect is multi agency early intervention as early as is possible in the emergence of concern or identified support needs.

Policy Issues

Independent Safeguarding Review

Members will recall reference to a well-reported Coroner's case in questions at the last full Council meeting. I can confirm that following this and further to conversations with the son of the deceased man, I have instructed an independent review to be organised via the Safeguarding Adults Board. A suitably qualified and experienced person, unconnected to the Council, will carry out this review. The purpose of this approach is to conduct an impartial learning review with a view to providing assurance as to the robustness of our processes and/ or identifying recommended changes, with the ultimate aim of minimising the risk of an avoidable repeat of a similar situation in the future.

I can also confirm that we have reviewed and reconsidered our monitoring approach and are in the process of planning and delivering changes that are intended to address issues and concerns closer to when they occur. We have already addressed the issues at the Care at Home Provider Forum and asked for co-operation from providers in delivering a greater extent of live monitoring of calls and improved oversight of day to day work and resolution of problems. We have invested further in the rate we pay to help providers recruit and retain good staff and provide sufficient management and supervision. We are also working with providers to establish the best systems for live monitoring and how they and we can shift the balance from monitoring of past issues to preventing or responding to current issues effectively. We are also seeking to invest in additional staff to seek routinely the views of service users and their families in relation to the quality of service being provided, and to deal with any issues raised.

Following the Coroner's hearing, we have met formally with the provider concerned. We identified the actions they have taken to date, what actions are still proposed and what action we are taking in relation to the matters identified at the inquest. I can confirm that the provider advised that they have both texted and written formally to all their staff regarding their duty of care, social interaction, allocated times and recording into record books. They have also reviewed their processes and oversight and made changes. Changes include designating a person in each office to monitor planned versus actual times, a review of record keeping and training provided to staff and a full branch audit. The provider is required to respond formally to the Coroner following a Section 28 notification and the detail of their actions to reduce the likelihood of future harm will be published as part of the outcome of the hearing. In relation to this specific provider, we have also arranged for every service user to be visited/ spoken with by a member of our Quality Monitoring Team and continue to work with them in the delivery of their action plan following the outcome of the case.

Annual release of data from the National Child Measurement Programme (2016/ 2017)

The latest release of data from the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) for England was published on the 19 October 2017. The NCMP programme sees the height and weight all of children in Reception (aged 4-5 years) and Year 6 (aged 10-11 years) in state schools. The latest results show that nationally almost a quarter of reception children are overweight or obese and this figure rises to a third amongst Year 6 children, with the national situation worsening.

I am pleased that locally, this year's figures for Blackpool present a potentially more optimistic picture, with trends improving. Amongst Blackpool residents the results show a reduction in the proportion of overweight of around 6% and a modest reduction in obesity for 10-11 year olds and a slight although not statistically significant reductions for 4-5 year olds. The figures for Blackpool remain slightly higher than the national average for 4-5 year olds, but the figure for 10-11 year olds figure is in line with the national average. We need to be cautious as this is just one-year's figure and the general trend for Blackpool has been an increasing trend in obesity in line with the national experience. Nevertheless, I am hopeful that the signs of improvement in Blackpool attest to our continued efforts in this area.

As Members are aware, over the past few years the Public Health Directorate has led a variety of work in the form of Blackpool's Healthier Weight Strategy and the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight. In addition, our universal Free School Breakfast Programme is playing a critical role, with an evaluation that concludes the scheme is contributing to healthy preference learning (see below) and international evidence that regular, healthy breakfast habits are associated with reduced likelihood of obesity.

Evaluation of Blackpool's Free School Breakfast Programme

Blackpool Council's free school breakfast programme offers a free breakfast to all primary school pupils attending state primary schools. The programme rolled out from January 2013 and sees around 11,000 breakfasts served each school day in 33 primary schools across the town. The offer is a universal and for all primary school pupils from Reception to Year 6 inclusive and Blackpool Council's catering team delivers the programme.

An initial evaluation of the programme was undertaken in 2013 by Professor Margaret Defeyter, an academic with an international reputation in evaluating school breakfast schemes, and Dr Pamela Graham from Northumbria University. Following this, Northumbria University established a three-year, full-time PhD project under the academic supervision of Prof Defeyter to consider the impact of universal free school breakfast on social, behavioural and educational outcomes in primary school children in Blackpool.

The research produced through this doctoral study has confirmed that the school breakfast's programme has a range of benefits for children and families across the town, including:

- Support for the development of healthier breakfasting habits and developing preferences for healthier foods;

- Children consuming more fruits due to the increased availability and convenience of the breakfast offer in schools and breakfast skipping was low;
- Contribution to alleviating food insecurity and help to alleviate pressure in households during morning routines, particularly for large families;
- The universal nature of the programme was considered significant feature in reducing stigma and particularly for those parents experiencing working poverty; and
- The scheme provides a calm and positive start to the day, with children ready to learn.

The research did show that a small number of children consume two or more breakfasts. However, importantly, the research demonstrated that these children are not consuming more than the average daily calorie intake allocated for breakfast. All of the research findings in relation to this Blackpool study are consistent with the growing body of academic research on the benefits of free school breakfasts. From this wider literature, there is an emerging consensus that consuming a regular, healthy breakfast at school is associated with a reduced likelihood of developing obesity.

Transforming Services and Working with Partners

Integration 2020: Building a New Village – Business Planning Event, October 2017

In October, Public Health organised a large, well-attended (over 140 people) event at the Winter Gardens to take forward action on how the NHS Vanguard New Models of Care Neighbourhood Teams can be taken to the next stage of development in terms of integration and partnership working. Our aim is to achieve multi-agency neighbourhood teams that promote community health improvement and ill-health prevention through integrated public, private and voluntary sector provision. At the event, each Neighbourhood group started to work on developing the practical actions needed to take things forward, which included identifying whom they would need involved and where leadership was coming from. A follow-up workshop is planned for Wednesday 17 January 2018. In the meantime, neighbourhoods are encouraged to meet again, maintain the momentum and take forward their individual actions so that they can report on progress at the January event.

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Report to:	COUNCIL
Relevant Officer:	Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Partnerships
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting:	22 November 2017

PROPOSAL TO DISSOLVE THE BLACKPOOL, FYLDE AND WYRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND FORM AN ECONOMIC PROSPERITY BOARD

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the recommendation of the Executive from its meeting on 6 November 2017, regarding the management of the governance of the economic development agenda across the Fylde Coast.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To authorise the Leader of the Council, in his role as 'member' of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company (EDC) to dissolve the aforementioned Company. (This will require a special resolution of the 'members' of the company. In effect this will be the three Leaders of the three Councils signing a resolution to disestablish the Company).

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To instill a stronger and robust governance framework for the economic development agenda across the Fylde Coast, bringing in greater political accountability.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

To continue with the Economic Development Company as it is or reconstitute the company with a different set up.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”.

5.0 Background Information

5.1 In June 2016, a revised set of articles of association for the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company was agreed by the Board and subsequently approved by the ‘members’ (the Leaders of the three Councils). These revised articles were intended to bring the articles up to date and reflect changes such as the departure of Lancashire County Council from the company.

5.2 As part of that process, a governance review was undertaken with a view to changing the articles to reflect the responsibility for programme managing delivery of the Enterprise Zones amongst other things.

5.3 Part of the review also involved the examination of examples of similar arrangements elsewhere across the country. Views were sought and feedback received from the Local Government Association (LGA), who encouraged partners to consider a series of options, some of which represented new ideas beyond the original remit of the review.

5.4 The review has indicated that a company by its nature is a ‘clunky’, an inefficient way of delivering joined up working on economic development and there is also no direct political accountability, in the current set up. A common alternative was the formation of a joint committee amongst relevant councils charged with economic development, on a sub-regional basis. The Executive considered this proposal at its meeting on 6 November and agreed on behalf of Blackpool Council to form this Joint Committee. (Fylde and Wyre Borough Councils are considering the same proposal during this month).

5.5 Although legally it will be a joint committee, this body will be known as an Economic Prosperity Board. In addition to the three Leaders of the Council, there will also be three co-opted members as formal members of the Board. This is to reflect the important role and view point that private sector representatives have had on the Economic Development Company (EDC).

5.6 The formation of this Joint Committee leaves the company redundant and all three Councils are also being asked to give approval to dissolve the company, which is the purpose of this report (although the formation of the joint committee is an Executive function, approval to dissolve the company is a responsibility of Council).

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

6.0 List of Appendices

Appendix 5(a) – Executive Decision Notice EX37/2017

A copy of the supporting documentation to this decision notice was submitted with the agenda for the Executive and can be found on the [Council's website](#)

7.0 Legal considerations:

7.1 A Joint Committee can be formed pursuant to powers under the Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000 and under the Local Authorities (Arrangement for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012.

8.0 Human Resources considerations:

8.1 The support for the Joint Committee could be provided through the constituent councils, as set out in the draft Procedure Rules.

9.0 Equalities considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Financial considerations:

10.1 Any costs can be subsumed by the relevant host council, or where appropriate shared across the constituent authorities.

11.0 Risk management considerations:

11.1 A joint committee approach will ensure Fylde Coast involvement from members and officers.

12.0 Ethical considerations:

12.1 A joint committee approach would enhance democratic and political accountability.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 Consultation has taken place with Leaders of the three Councils and the current directors of the Economic Development Company.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

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Notice of:	EXECUTIVE
Decision Number:	EX37/2017
Relevant Officer:	Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Partnerships
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting:	6 November 2017

PROPOSAL TO DISSOLVE THE BLACKPOOL, FYLDE AND WYRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND FORM AN ECONOMIC PROSPERITY BOARD

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider a more efficient and effective way of managing the governance of the economic development agenda across the Fylde Coast.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To recommend Council to authorise the Leader of the Council, in his role as ‘member’ of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company (EDC) to dissolve the aforementioned company. (This will require a special resolution of the ‘members’ of the company. In effect this will be the three Leaders of the three Councils signing a resolution to disestablish the company).
- 2.2 Subject to 2.1 above, to establish a Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board (EPB) in the form of a Joint Committee and approve the Procedure Rules for that Board as appended at Appendix 2a, to the Executive report.
- 2.3 Subject to 2.1 above, to confirm that the Leader of the Council will be Authority’s representative on the Economic Prosperity Board and that the Leader of the Council be authorised, in accordance with the Procedure Rules of the Economic Prosperity Board, to appoint a substitute member to attend in his absence, should the need arise.
- 2.4 Subject to 2.1 above, that the servicing of the Economic Prosperity Board be undertaken on a rotational basis between the constituent authorities and the Economic Prosperity Board at its first meeting be asked to agree which Authority will commence with that role as the ‘Host Authority’.

2.5 Subject to 2.1 above, to invite Lancashire County Council to be a member of the Economic Prosperity Board on the basis as set out in the Procedure Rules as set out at Appendix 2a, to the Executive report.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To instill a stronger and robust governance framework for the economic development agenda across the Fylde Coast, bringing in greater political accountability.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

To continue with the Economic Development Company as it is or reconstitute the company with a different set up.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

“The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 In June 2016, a revised set of articles of association for the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company was agreed by the Board and subsequently approved by the ‘members’ (the Leaders of the three Councils). These revised articles were intended to bring the articles up to date and reflect changes such as the departure of Lancashire County Council from the company.

5.2 As part of that process, a governance review was undertaken with a view to changing the articles to reflect the responsibility for programme managing delivery of the Enterprise Zones amongst other things.

5.3 Part of the review also involved the examination of examples of similar arrangements elsewhere across the country. Views were sought and feedback received from the Local Government Association (LGA), who encouraged partners to consider a series of options, some of which represented new ideas beyond the original remit of the review.

- 5.4 Based on this review of the Economic Development Company's current purpose and function and the scope of strategic economic development on the Fylde Coast, it was acknowledged that consideration should be given to alternative models of delivering the kind of governance required. For example, in many areas local partners and clusters of Local Authorities in functional economic areas deliver what is required through an 'Economic Prosperity Committee'. In the context of the Fylde coast, such a committee would comprise of the three councils, with partners (co-opted members), as opposed to the existing company structure. Such an arrangement would deliver effective oversight on the work being undertaken in the Enterprise Zones, political interface and accountability on strategic policy areas for the Fylde coast and the link with the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership.
- 5.5 The review has indicated that a company by its nature is a 'clunky' and inefficient way of delivering joined up working on economic development. A company does not naturally have an oversight role with councils whose representatives make up its Board (i.e. the Chief Executives) and also there are a number of overheads with a company that are not necessary for the duties required such as the production of accounts (whether trading or not), producing an annual confirmation statement, filing returns/ associated fees and paying for insurances for Directors. There is also no direct political accountability, in the current set up.
- 5.6 In considering the formation of a Joint Committee, a number of areas of good practice were reviewed and the attached at Appendix 2a, to the Executive report, is a draft set Procedure Rules.
- 5.7 Although legally it will be a joint committee, it is recommended that it be known as an Economic Prosperity Board, with in addition to the three Leaders of the Council, there be three co-opted members as formal members of the Board, to reflect the important role and view point that private sector representatives have had on the Economic Development Company (EDC).
- 5.8 The Economic Development Company has proved a good vehicle for officer collaboration, however the three Chief Executives now meet on a regular basis and will act as principal advisers to the new Board. In terms of formally supporting the Board, it is recommended that the servicing of the Board on a constitutional basis be done by rotation (unless otherwise agreed by the Board) and that one of the constituent Authorities acts as the 'Lead Authority' in terms of undertaking the economic duties delegated to the Board by the constituent authorities.
- 5.9 **Is the Corporate Delivery Unit aware of this report?** Yes
- The Corporate Delivery Unit has been consulted on the report but does not have any issues to raise.

5.10 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.11 **List of Appendices**

Appendix 2a – Proposed Procedure Rules for the Economic Prosperity Board.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 A Joint Committee can be formed pursuant to powers under the Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000 and under the Local Authorities (Arrangement for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 The support for the Joint Committee could be provided through the constituent councils, as set out in the draft Procedure Rules.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 Any costs can be subsumed by the relevant host council, or where appropriate shared across the constituent authorities.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 A joint committee approach will ensure Fylde Coast involvement from members and officers.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 A joint committee approach would enhance democratic and political accountability.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Consultation has taken place with Leaders of the three Councils and the current directors of the Economic Development Company.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: N/A Date approved:

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1 None.

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1 The Executive resolved as follows:

1. To recommend Council to authorise the Leader of the Council, in his role as 'member' of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company (EDC) to dissolve the aforementioned company. (This will require a special resolution of the 'members' of the company. In effect this will be the three Leaders of the three Councils signing a resolution to disestablish the company).
2. Subject to 1 above, to establish a Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board (EPB) in the form of a Joint Committee and approve the Procedure Rules for that Board as appended at Appendix 2a, to the Executive report.
3. Subject to 1 above, to confirm that the Leader of the Council will be Authority's representative on the Economic Prosperity Board and that the Leader of the Council be authorised, in accordance with the Procedure Rules of the Economic Prosperity Board, to appoint a substitute member to attend in his absence, should the need arise
4. Subject to 1 above, that the servicing of the Economic Prosperity Board be undertaken on a rotational basis between the constituent authorities and the Economic Prosperity Board at its first meeting be asked to agree which Authority will commence with that role as the 'Host Authority'.
5. Subject to 1 above, to invite Lancashire County Council to be a member of the Economic Prosperity Board on the basis as set out in the Procedure Rules as set out at Appendix 2a, to the Executive report.

18.2 Date of Decision:

6 November 2017

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

To instill a stronger and robust governance framework for the economic development agenda across the Fylde Coast, bringing in greater political accountability.

19.1 Date Decision published:

7 November 2017

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1 Councillor Blackburn, in the Chair

Councillor Benson, Jackson, Kirkland, Smith, I Taylor and Mrs Wright

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1 Non-Executive Members in attendance: Councillors D Coleman and L Taylor

Apologies were received from Councillors Cain and Cross who were elsewhere on official Council business.

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Report to:	COUNCIL
Relevant Officer:	Alan Cavill, Director of Place
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Highways
Date of Meeting:	22 November 2017

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the recommendation of the Executive from its meeting on 6 November 2017, regarding the approval of the extension of the period for the current Local Transport Plan and to start the process of refreshing the Local Transport Plan.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the extension of the Local Transport Plan, 2011 to 2016, until April 2018.

2.2 To delegate authority to the Director of Place to make minor amendments to the Local Transport Plan document as necessary and publish the plan.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 Blackpool Council is required to have a Local Transport Plan in place. Continuing with the current plan enables continuity while a refresh of the plan is undertaken.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool".

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 Blackpool Council is required to have a Local Transport Plan in place and the current Local Transport Plan expired on 31 March 2016. To enable the Council to meet its statutory requirements and to review fully the plan for the future, it is proposed to extend life of the current document for a further year so a new plan can be prepared.
- 5.2 The current Local Transport Plan originally approved by Council in March 2011 identified six key issues: highway maintenance, road safety, congestion, visitor economy, parking and accessibility, which remain valid. It is proposed to continue with these priorities for a further year to enable continuity while seeking to deliver a new Local Transport Plan for 2018/ 2023, with its associated implementation plan.
- 5.3 A new plan will enable the emerging regeneration position to be considered from the transport needs perspective within the new plan, including the new conference centre, leisure quarter development and possible employment hub.
- 5.4 The Executive considered this proposal at its meeting on 6 November and agreed to recommend Council accordingly. This purpose of this report is to give formal consideration to the extension of the plan.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

6.0 List of Appendices

Appendix 6(a) – Executive Decision Notice EX38/2017

A copy of the supporting documentation to this decision notice was submitted with the agenda for the Executive and can be found on the [Council's website](#)

7.0 Legal considerations

7.1 None.

8.0 Human Resources considerations

8.1 None.

9.0 Equalities considerations

9.1 None.

10.0 Financial considerations

10.1 None.

11.0 Risk management considerations

11.1 The Council is legally required to have a Transport Plan under the Transport Act 2000, amended by the Local Transport Act 2008.

12.0 Ethical considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 Consultation took place before the initial approval of the Local Transport Plan and extensive consultation is planned for its refresh.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

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Notice of:	EXECUTIVE
Decision Number:	EX38/2017
Relevant Officer:	Alan Cavill, Director of Place
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Highways
Date of Meeting	6 November 2017

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider recommending Council to approve an extension of the time period for the current Local Transport Plan and start the process of refreshing the Local Transport Plan.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To recommend the Council to extend the Local Transport Plan strategy, 2011 to 2016, until April 2018.
- 2.2 Subject to the approval 2.1 above, to recommend Council to delegate authority to the Director of Place to make minor amendments to the Local Transport Plan document as necessary and publish the plan.
- 2.3 To note the work already undertaken in refreshing the Local Transport Plan and that an updated Implementation Plan will also be produced for approval next year.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 Blackpool Council is required to have a Local Transport Plan in place. Continuing with the current plan enables continuity while a refresh of the plan is undertaken.
- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Blackpool Council is required to have a Local Transport Plan in place. The current Local Transport Plan expired on 31 March 2016, being extended as noted above in paragraph 1.1. To enable the Council to meet its statutory requirements and also to review fully the plan for the future, it is proposed to extend life of the current document for a further year so a new plan can be prepared that takes account of:

- Blackpool Local Plan, Part 1: Core Strategy (2012-2027), adopted January 2016.
- the Blackpool Strategic Parking Review being produced by consultants AECOM for the Council.
- the Fylde Coast Highways and Transport Masterplan, July 2015, produced jointly with Lancashire County Council
- Any Department for Transport guidance that becomes available.

5.2 The current Local Transport Plan was approved by Executive in March 2011 (EX27/2011) and is attached in amended form as an appendix. In view of the continuing uncertainty around a possible combined authority, an Local Transport Plan pertaining to Blackpool’s transport needs solely will be prepared.

5.3 The plan identified six key issues: highway maintenance, road safety, congestion, visitor economy, parking and accessibility, which remain valid. Strategic objectives had been devised to address the issues that had been identified and the strategy described how the challenges would be met over the five-year Local Transport Plan period. It is proposed to continue with these priorities for a further year to enable continuity while seeking to deliver a new Local Transport Plan for 2018-2023, with its associated implementation plan. A new plan will enable the emerging regeneration position to be considered from the transport needs perspective within the new plan, including the new conference centre, leisure quarter development and possible employment hub.

5.4 Blackpool was required to develop a new Local Transport Plan (LTP) to be in place for the year 2016, which would be sent to the Department for Transport (DfT). At the Council meeting of 29 June 2016, it was determined that the current plan approved

in March 2011 would be extended for a further year.

5.5 Over the intervening period, no further guidance on Department for Transport's expectations for a new plan has been released. Also there has been uncertainty regarding the combined authority proposal, possibly involving a joint Local Transport Plan with Lancashire County Council and Blackburn with Darwen Council.

5.6 In the light of this, it has not been possible to prepare a new Local Transport Plan to take effect during 2017 and it is therefore proposed that the March 2011 Local Transport Plan with its associated Implementation Plan be extended for a further year to April 2018 as work to refresh the current strategy is underway.

5.7 **Is the Corporate Delivery Unit aware of this report?** Yes

The Corporate Delivery Unit has been involved in the production of this report and has accepted the rationale behind the extension of the Local Transport Plan. It has been agreed that the Corporate Delivery Unit will be integral in the development of the revised Plan.

5.8 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.9 **List of Appendices**

Previously approved Local Transport Plan 2011-2016 (amended to 2018).

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 None.

7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None.

8.0 **Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None.

9.0 **Financial considerations:**

9.1 None.

10.0 **Risk management considerations:**

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Consultation took place before the initial approval of the Local Transport Plan and extensive consultation is planned for its refresh.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 7/2017

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days?

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: 27 October 2017 Date approved: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1 None.

18.0 Executive decision:

The Executive resolved as follows:

1. To recommend the Council to extend the Local Transport Plan strategy, 2011 to 2016, until April 2018.
2. Subject to the approval of 1 above, to recommend Council to delegate authority to the Director of Place to make minor amendments to the Local Transport Plan document as necessary and publish the plan.
3. To note the work already undertaken in refreshing the Local Transport Plan and that an updated Implementation Plan will also be produced for approval next year.

18.2 Date of Decision:

6 November 2017

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

Blackpool Council is required to have a Local Transport Plan in place. Continuing with the current plan enables continuity while a refresh of the plan is undertaken.

19.1 Date Decision published:

7 November 2017

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1 Councillor Blackburn, in the Chair

Councillor Benson, Jackson, Kirkland, Smith, I Taylor and Mrs Wright

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1 Non-Executive Members in attendance: Councillors D Coleman and L Taylor

Apologies were received from Councillors Cain and Cross who were elsewhere on official Council business.

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Item 7 - Notices of Motion

To consider the following motions, which have been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 12.1:

a) **Alleygates.** Councillor Humphreys to propose.

The Council notes that it is at present not legally possible to apply for gating orders where the highway to be gated represents the only access to a property. The Council expresses its concern that this can on occasion thwart the settled wish of all local residents and impair the fight against anti-social behaviour including fly tipping. The Council therefore asks the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary to ask the Government to amend legislation to allow greater flexibility in these circumstances.

b) **Waiving Of Car Park Charges – Festive Period.** Councillor Williams to propose.

The current planned and emergency construction work that is happening all over Blackpool especially around and to access roads, will no doubt cause a great deal of congestion and traffic delays for regular shoppers, local visitors and also the extra potential shoppers leading up to Christmas.

Retailers and other associated trades are already expressing concern about the affect the road closures and construction will have on their businesses especially if shoppers decide not to travel into the town centre to avoid the disruption.

This Council should show its understanding and address these concerns by improving the already offered parking discount by offering totally free car parking in all council owned town centre car parks from the 18 December up until Christmas Eve.

This Council is proud to support local businesses and the waiving of fees for this set period will not only prove and endorse that statement, but also demonstrate that the Council is willing to forgo its own income to protect that of others.

Accordingly, the Council asks the Director of Place to put in place the necessary arrangements and approvals to allow free car parking in all council owned town centre car parks from the 18 December up until Christmas Eve.

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