

# Public Document Pack



Dear Councillor

## **COUNCIL – WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2016**

Please find attached the Executive Decision from the meeting held on Monday 18 January 2016 relating to the item(s) below.

<b>Agenda No</b>	<b>Item</b>
7	<b>Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (Pages 1 - 12)</b>
8	<b>Workforce Strategy 2016/ 2020 (pages 13 - 18)</b>
9	<b>Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight (pages 19 - 26)</b>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Tewson".

Director of Governance and Regulatory Services

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<b>Report to:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE</b>
<b>Decision Number:</b>	EX1/2016
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Alan Cavill, Director of Place
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> January 2016

## **BLACKPOOL LOCAL PLAN PART 1: CORE STRATEGY - ADOPTION**

### **1.0 Purpose of the report:**

- 1.1 To appraise members of the findings of the Inspector's Report on the Blackpool Core Strategy including the Inspector's recommended Main Modifications to the Core Strategy which are needed to make the document sound and an appropriate basis for the planning of the Borough (refer Appendix 2a(i) and 2a (ii) top the Executive report).
- To appraise members of the Additional (minor) Modifications to the Core Strategy set out in Appendix 2b to this report and to seek Executive agreement to recommend to Council to adopt the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy including the Modifications referred to above. A text version only of the Adoption version of the Core Strategy is presented at Appendix 2c (i) to the Executive report along with the amended Policies Maps (Appendix 2c(ii) to the Executive report and to inform members of the next stages.

### **2.0 Recommendation(s):**

#### **2.1 That Executive recommends to Council:**

- (i) To accept the Inspector's findings and his recommendations and adopt the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy with the Main Modifications recommended by the Inspector as set out in Appendix 2a(ii) to the Executive report and with the additional (minor) modifications to the Core Strategy set out in Appendix 2b to the Executive report and the amended Policies Maps at Appendix 2c(ii) to the Executive report.
- (ii) To authorise the Chief Executive to undertake the necessary steps for the adoption process to be completed.

- (iii) To authorise the Director of Place to make any final modifications to improve readability and the final presentation of the document, and to correct any factual matters or typographical errors.

**3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):**

3.1 To progress Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy, which forms part of the statutory planning framework, to adoption to support Blackpool’s future regeneration and growth.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No,  
If the Local Plan  
is approved it  
will become the  
new Planning  
Policy document

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

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

The earlier Issues and Options document set out a range of alternative strategic development options which have been considered in detail. The Preferred Options document April 2010 also highlighted alternatives where appropriate on certain key issues.

**4.0 Council Priority:**

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:

- “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”
- “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

**5.0 Background Information**

5.1 The Council is now at the Adoption Stage in the plan making process following receipt of the Inspector’s Report and his recommendations (refer Appendix 2a to the Executive report). As Executive will be aware, the Core Strategy is a key document which forms part of the statutory planning framework for Blackpool which will facilitate the physical, economic and social change which is seen by the Council and its partners as essential to Blackpool’s future. It sets out where new development including housing and employment, retail and leisure should be located to meet

Blackpool's future needs to 2027; identifies areas which will be regenerated , protected or enhanced; and sets out key development principles such as for design and affordable housing. The Core Strategy will be used to determine planning applications and priorities for the Borough over the next 12 years.

5.2 In developing the Core Strategy there were a number of stages that the Council was required to go through, each stage providing an opportunity for the community and other stakeholders to be involved in choosing the right planning policies for Blackpool.

5.3 Earlier stages of the Core Strategy included an Issues and Options document consulted upon during Autumn 2008; the Preferred Option document consulted upon during Spring 2010; the Revised Preferred Option document consulted upon during late Spring 2012; and the Proposed Submission document consulted upon Summer 2014.

5.4 As part of the Core Strategy preparation a significant amount of evidence and supporting documents have been produced including:

- **Sustainability Appraisal (SA)** which is a legal requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The Sustainability Appraisal evaluates the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the spatial vision, objectives and policies, including the cumulative effects. The Sustainability Appraisal is produced throughout the preparation process and has informed policy at every stage of the preparation process.
- **Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening** which is required by Law to protect European Sites of Biological Importance in the region. Again like the Sustainability Appraisal the Habitat Regulations Assessment screening process has informed policy in the Core Strategy to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects likely to occur.
- **Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)** which identifies the infrastructure required to support the delivery of the Core Strategy.
- **Background evidence documents** which develop a detailed understanding of key issues and characteristics of Blackpool and the Fylde Coast and inform and justify the strategy and policies.

Supporting documents to the Core Strategy can be viewed on the Council's website at <https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Planning-environment-and-community/Planning/Planning-policy/Blackpool-local-plan/Evidence-base.aspx>

- 5.5 Following the consultation, the Council formally submitted the Core Strategy - Proposed Submission document to the Secretary of State in December 2014 (refer Appendix 2d to the Executive report). Planning Inspector Malcolm Rivett was appointed to hold the Examination. The formal hearings took place in May 2015 and lasted for 3 days.
- 5.6 The hearings were structured around the 'Matters and Issues' published by the Inspector following his scrutiny of the Plan prior to the Examination, as well as his consideration of relevant representations received from public and private sector organisations, the development industry, landowners and the local community.
- 5.7 Arising from the discussions at the hearings, some minor amendments to wording were identified to provide further clarification and explanation as well as in some instances ensure consistency with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the latest ministerial statements. The main modifications were subject to Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment screening followed by further public consultation for a period of 6 weeks from 25 August 2015 to 6 October 2015.
- 5.8 Following the consultation the Inspector asked the Council to provide a brief response to the representations received. On receipt of the Council's response the Inspector considered the representations to the Main Modifications in the context of all representations and evidence heard at the Examination hearings, before producing a draft report for fact checking by the Council. The Council then received the final report on the examination into Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy on 23 November 2015. The report was published on 24 November 2015 in accordance with the regulations.
- 5.9 **The Inspector's Findings and Recommendations**

The findings and recommendations of the Inspector are set out in detail in Appendix 2a to this Executive report including a number of Main Modifications.

The report contains the Inspector's assessment of the Core Strategy in terms of Section 20(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). It considers first whether the plan's preparation has complied with the Duty to Co-operate, in recognition that there is no scope to remedy any failure in this regard. It then considers whether the plan is sound and whether it is compliant with the legal requirements. The National Planning Policy Framework(paragraph 182) makes clear that to be sound, a local plan should be positively prepared; justified; effective and consistent with national policy.

All the modifications recommended by the Inspector to enable the plan to be found sound and/or legally compliant and capable of adoption were proposed by the

Council subject to minor alteration by the Inspector after considering the representations from other parties on these issues

5.10 The Main Modifications can be summarised as follows

- Amendments to provide greater clarity about (i) the housing requirement figure, (ii) the way in which proposals for housing will be considered in the period until the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies document is adopted and (iii) ongoing work to ensure that housing needs are met across the Fylde Coast housing market area;
- Clarification that (i) the 30% affordable housing requirement is not a minimum and (ii) bedroom number requirements are subject to viability considerations, and modifications to align policies with national policy in the light of the Housing Standards Review;
- Inclusion of the requirement that development at the Leisure Quarter should not undermine existing resort core uses and attractions.
- Various amendments to ensure clarity and that the plan is internally consistent and aligns with national policy in particular in relation to natural and historic heritage matters, alternative uses of employment sites, town centre uses in the resort core, wind turbines, development at Marton Moss, car parking, and surface and waste water.

5.11 **In the Assessment of Duty to Co-operate** (pages 4 to 5 Appendix 2a to this Executive report) the Inspector is satisfied that in preparing the Plan the Council has undertaken ongoing, constructive and active engagement with other bodies as appropriate on matters of strategic and cross-boundary significance. The Council has therefore complied with the Duty to Co-operate.

5.12 **In the Assessment of Soundness** the inspector reports that:

- i) Subject to the recommended modifications **MM01– MM03, MM05** and **MM12 – MM18**, the policies in respect of the **strategic location of development** and for **housing, health and education** are positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. They therefore provide a sound basis for managing development in Blackpool. (pages 7 to 17 Appendix 2a to this report);
- ii) Subject to **MM06**, the plan's strategy for **economic development and employment land** is positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy (pages 17 to 19 Appendix 2a to this report);
- iii) Subject to **MM07** and **MM19 – MM24**, the plan's strategy for **retail and other**

**town centre uses** is positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy (pages 19 to 21 Appendix 2a to this report);

- iv) Subject to **MM08** and **MM10 - MM12**, the plan's policies for **transport, green infrastructure, water management, sustainable design and renewable/low carbon energy** are positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy (pages 21 to 22 Appendix 2a to this report);
- v) Subject to **MM09**, the plan's policies in respect of **quality of design and heritage** are positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy (pages 22 to 23 Appendix 2a to this report);
- vi) Subject to the recommended modifications **MM25 – MM27**, the plan's strategy and policies in respect of **Blackpool Resort Core** are positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy (pages 23 to 24 Appendix 2a to this report);
- vii) Subject to **MM28 – MM30**, the plan's strategy and policies in respect of **South Blackpool Growth and Enhancement** are positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy (pages 24 Appendix 2a to this report);
- viii) Having regard to **national standards**, the plan's policies and requirements would not put the viability of its implementation as a whole at serious risk. In this context Policy CS11, which sets out requirements in relation to Planning Obligations, is soundly based (pages 24 to 25 Appendix 2a to this report).

### **Other Matters**

The Inspector is satisfied that the Sustainability Appraisal meets the requirements of the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) and that he is also satisfied that the Appraisal's assessment of the plan's policies against the identified Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (including landscape/townscape and heritage) are realistic and adequate.

Members should note in particular the Inspector reports the following as soundly based:

- the twin focus of regeneration and supporting growth in the Core Strategy;
- the 280 dwellings per year (4,200 dwellings across the plan period) figure for the objectively assessed need for housing in Blackpool;
- the phased approach to housing delivery set out in the plan;
- the policy requirement for only outer area housing schemes to contribute towards affordable housing at 30% rate, subject to negotiation where specific viability constraints exists;



- the approach to Traveller sites through a criteria based approach with the target for new permanent and transit pitches and plots to be set out in the Local Plan Part 2: Site Allocations and Development Management Policies;
- the approach to identifying 31.5ha requirement for additional employment land over the plan period;
- the approach to managing holiday accommodation set out in Policy CS23

With respect to Policy CS23 the Inspector urges the Council to complete the review of the precise boundaries to the holiday accommodation areas set out in the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) as soon as possible given the effect of the policy and the Supplementary Planning Document on individual small businesses, and the need for ongoing regeneration of the inner area.

#### 5.14 **Assessment of Legal Compliance**

The Inspector's examination of the compliance of the Plan with the legal requirements is summarised in the table on page 26 of the Inspector's report (refer Appendix 2a to the Executive report), and relates to compliance with the Local Development Scheme (LDS); Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and relevant regulations; Sustainability Appraisal (SA); Appropriate Assessment (AA); National Policy; and the 2004 Act (as amended) and 2012 Regulations. The Inspector concludes that the Plan meets all the legal requirements.

In conclusion the Inspector states that with the recommended main modifications set out in the Appendix to his report the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy satisfies the requirements of Section 20(5) of the 2004 Act and meets the criteria for soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework

#### 5.15 **Additional (minor) Modifications**

In addition, a list of additional (minor) modifications to the plan considered necessary, including in light of the main modifications have also been prepared. These additional (minor) modifications are set out in Appendix 2b to the Executive report. These modifications are not required to be formally considered by the Inspector and relate to typographical errors, accuracy, to reflect current position and clarity.

Appendix 2c(i) to this report provides a text only draft of the adoption version of the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy incorporating the Inspector's modifications along with the minor (additional) modifications. The introduction to the document has also been redrafted to reflect the adoption stage of the document. Following adoption by Council the formatting and presentation will be finalised. Appendix C(ii) to the Executive report contains the Policies Maps. This document comprises a series

of tables and maps which illustrate the changes to the current proposals map.

**5.16 Next Steps**

As required by legislation, once the Core Strategy is adopted it needs to be made available as soon as reasonably practical by publishing on the Council's website and printed copies need to be made available for both inspection and purchase.

The Council also has to make available an Adoption Statement and the Sustainability Appraisal Report. In addition, the Council will need to send notice to those who have registered interest as well as ensuring that there is publicity about the adoption. The notification will include information about the adoption and also give notice that the decision to adopt triggers a six week period for High Court Challenge within the terms of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

5.17 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

**5.18 List of Appendices:**

Appendix 2a(i) and 2a(ii) – Inspector's Report to Blackpool Council including Main Modifications in the Appendix to the Report

Appendix 2b – Additional (Minor )Modifications

Appendix 2c(i) – Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy - Adoption (text version only)

Appendix 2c(ii) – Policies Maps

Appendix 2d – Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy - Proposed Submission (June 2014)

Available at the following link:

<https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Planning-environment-and-community/Documents/Proposed-Submission-Core-Strategy.pdf>

**6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 The Core Strategy, when adopted by the Council, will be the key strategic spatial document forming part of the Council's statutory Local Plan. It would appear given the report of the Planning Inspector that the Core Strategy incorporating the modifications outlined in this report satisfies the requirements of Section 20(5) of the 2004 Act and therefore meets the criteria for soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework.

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 The Core Strategy has been resourced by existing staff within the Development Plans and Projects Team.

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 An Equalities Assessment has been undertaken during the preparation of the Core Strategy.

**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 The work has been undertaken within existing budgetary provisions.

**10.0 Risk Management considerations:**

10.1 The Core Strategy is the key document which will provide the statutory planning framework to enable and assist the delivery of Blackpool's future development requirements. Without its progress acquisition, land assembly and planning approval for key regeneration and development projects will be undermined and delayed. In addition with the publication of the National Planning Framework in March 2012 there is an imperative to progress the Core Strategy through to adoption as quickly as possible to ensure the Council has a planning framework that is directing development within the Borough which reflects the community and elected members priorities and needs and to avoid national policy being the principle basis for making decisions. The latter could lead to an increase in appeals if applications are received proposing development which is not in line with the priorities and needs of Blackpool.

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 None

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 Extensive consultation has taken place during the preparation of the Core Strategy as referred in paragraph 5.3 of this report. The outcome of the consultations has informed subsequent iterations of the Strategy.

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 Sustainability Report and Addendums which can be accessed on the Blackpool

Council Website under the following links:

<https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Planning-environment-and-community/Planning/Planning-policy/Blackpool-local-plan/New-Blackpool-local-plan/Corestrategysubmission.aspx>

<https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Planning-environment-and-community/Documents/Core-Strategy-SA-Addendum-July-2015.pdf>

Examination Library which includes various submitted documents which can be accessed on the Blackpool Council Website:

<https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Planning-environment-and-community/Planning/Planning-policy/Blackpool-local-plan/New-Blackpool-local-plan/Local-plan-2012---2027-examination.aspx>

Equalities Assessment

**14.0 Key decision information:**

- |      |   |         |
|------|---|---------|
| 14.1 | Is this a key decision?   | Yes     |
| 14.2 | If so, Forward Plan reference number:                               | 24/2015 |
| 14.3 | If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? | No      |
| 14.4 | If <b>yes</b> , 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 <b>yes</b> , please give reason:   |    |

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE**

**16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):**

Date informed: 8<sup>th</sup> January 2016 Date approved:

**17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

17.1 None

**18.0 Executive decision:**

18.1 The Executive resolved as follows:

That Executive recommends to Council:

(i) To accept the Inspector's findings and his recommendations and adopt the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy with the Main Modifications recommended by the Inspector as set out in Appendix 2a(ii) to the Executive report and with the additional (minor) modifications to the Core Strategy set out in Appendix 2b and the amended Policies Maps at Appendix 2c(ii) to the Executive report.

(ii) To authorise the Chief Executive to undertake the necessary steps for the adoption process to be completed.

(iii) To authorise the Director of Place to make any final modifications to improve readability and the final presentation of the document, and to correct any factual matters or typographical errors.

18.2 **Date of Decision:**

18<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**19.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

To progress Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy, which forms part of the statutory planning framework, to adoption to support Blackpool's future regeneration and growth.

**19.1 Date Decision published:**

19<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**20.0 Executive Members in attendance:**

20.1 Councillor Blackburn, in the Chair

Councillors Cain, Campbell, Collett, Cross, Jackson, Kirkland, Smith, I Taylor and Mrs Wright

**21.0 Call-in:**

21.1

**22.0 Notes:**

22.1

<b>Notice of:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE</b>
<b>Decision Number:</b>	EX2/2016
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Carmel McKeogh, Deputy Chief Executive
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> January 2016

## WORKFORCE STRATEGY 2016-2020

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the Workforce Strategy 2016 – 2020.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To recommend Council to approve the Workforce Strategy 2016 – 2020.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The Workforce Strategy is a key element of the Council's corporate business planning framework and is designed to provide direction for the current and future management and development of people across the Council. It is an over-arching document that informs business planning, workforce planning, employment policy development, procedures and practice. The current People Strategy developed in 2010 is due to expire and a new five-year strategy has been developed by the Human Resources Team working in conjunction with the Corporate Leadership Team in order to identify key actions which will help us to ensure the workforce fits into the overall vision and priorities for Blackpool. The new strategy also reviews progress on the 2010-15 strategy

The Workforce Strategy is developed at a time of unprecedented change and funding cuts. The purpose of the strategy is to ensure that employees are developed and empowered to deliver their objectives which are aligned to the Council Plan and Council priorities so that the Council can make a real difference to the lives of Blackpool residents.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council?

No, if approved this strategy will replace the existing People

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

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Not to approve the Workforce Strategy

#### **4.0 Council Priority:**

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

- "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"
- "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

#### **5.0 Background Information**

5.1 The new Workforce Strategy (Appendix 3a, to the Executive report) has been developed alongside the new Council Plan and is a five year strategy setting out a vision for our employees. It has been designed to ensure that Council employees are supported and developed to deliver against the Council Plan and Council priorities.

5.2 Without the appropriate skills, knowledge and experience within the Council, it cannot deliver the Council plan. The Workforce Strategy will show how the Council will support employees to achieve success. The strategy describes the key actions required in relation to employee development to ensure the Council can deliver the its vision, whether this is through leadership development, skills development, recruitment and retention, pay and reward or employee health and wellbeing.

5.3 The strategy will stress the Council's commitment to its workforce and outline the actions which will be put in place to enable the Council to realise its ambitions and deliver services which are tailored to local needs whilst also delivering value for money and delivering more for less.

5.4 The strategy sets out which measures will be used to monitor performance and report to Corporate Leadership Team on an annual basis. Following approval of this strategy a clear link will be established to the Council's annual Business Planning process to ensure that consideration is given to any employee support and development required in order to meet the annual service objectives.

5.5 The Workforce Strategy includes the Council's equality objectives and ambitions for the workforce.



## 5.6 **Consultation**

Blackpool Council is committed to employee engagement and therefore already had a broad range of information to help inform the strategy refresh including:

- Investors in people accreditation
- Real World Leadership evaluation
- Collective 360 process and refresh
- IPA development need outcomes
- IPA process 'How was it for you?' feedback
- Induction and probation questionnaires
- Exit interview feedback
- 12 question feedback
- Children's and Adults Workforce Development group outputs
- Children's Social Work sub group
- Points of View

5.7 In addition to the above consultation has been undertaken with Corporate Leadership Team, Senior Leadership Team, Elected Members, Trade Unions and employees.

5.8 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

## 5.9 **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 3a: Workforce Strategy 2016-20

## 6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 None

## 7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 The strategy will set out the vision for employees and has been designed designed to ensure that Council employees are supported and developed to deliver against the Council Plan and Council priorities.

## 8.0 **Equalities considerations:**

8.1 All Human Resources policy is focussed on the core aim of mainstreaming good equality practice across the Council.

**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 As outlined in paragraph 5.6 included with Background Information.

**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: 13/2015

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: 8<sup>th</sup> January 2016 Date approved:

**17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

17.1 None

**18.0 Executive decision:**

18.1 The Executive resolved as follows:

To recommend Council to approve the Workforce Strategy 2016 – 2020.

**18.2 Date of Decision:**

18<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**19.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

The Workforce Strategy is a key element of the Council's corporate business planning framework and is designed to provide direction for the current and future management and development of people across the Council. It is an over-arching document that informs business planning, workforce planning, employment policy development, procedures and practice. The current People Strategy developed in 2010 is due to expire and a new five-year strategy has been developed by the Human Resources Team working in conjunction with the Corporate Leadership Team in order to identify key actions which will help us to ensure the workforce fits into the overall vision and priorities for Blackpool. The new strategy also reviews progress on the 2010-15 strategy

The Workforce Strategy is developed at a time of unprecedented change and funding cuts. The purpose of the strategy is to ensure that employees are developed and empowered to deliver their objectives which are aligned to the Council Plan and Council priorities so that the Council can make a real difference to the lives of Blackpool residents.

**19.1 Date Decision published:**

19<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**20.0 Executive Members present:**

20.1 Councillor Blackburn, in the Chair

Councillors Cain, Campbell, Collett, Cross, Jackson, Kirkland, Smith, I Taylor and Mrs Wright

**21.0 Call-in:**

21.1

**22.0 Notes :**

22.1

<b>Notice of:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE</b>
<b>Decision Number:</b>	EX3/2016
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Amy Cross, Cabinet Member for Reducing Health Inequalities and Adult Safeguarding
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> January 2016

## LOCAL AUTHORITY DECLARATION ON HEALTHY WEIGHT

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To present the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To recommend the Council to sign up to the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight including both the national themes outlined in paragraph 5.2 and the local priorities outlined at paragraph 5.3.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 Obesity is a serious Public Health problem for the town and contributes significantly to poor health. Not only does obesity result in an increase in chronic disease leading to distress and sickness, there are significant impacts for the broader economy of Blackpool through disability, unemployment and burden on the social care system.

The picture for the children in Blackpool is a major concern. The data from the National Child Measurement Programme for 2014/15 shows that 26% of Reception children (approximately 2,600) have excess weight (overweight or obese) compared to 23% for the North West and 22% nationally. The children are also weighed in Year 6 and for the same year, 38% have excess weight compared to 34% for the North West and 33% nationally. Rates of overweight and obesity are increasing faster than the national average which appears to be starting to level off.

High levels of sugar consumption, particularly in the form of sugary drinks, are increasingly being recognised as a key driver of obesity levels, but is also a major contributor to poor levels of dental health in children in Blackpool. We are seeing high numbers of admission to hospital for tooth extraction under general anaesthetic amongst children in the town. In Blackpool, 1,168 children aged 0-19 years were

admitted to hospital for a simple tooth extraction in the three year period 2011/12 to 2013/14. Children in Blackpool are being admitted to hospital for tooth extraction at a younger age than the national average with three quarters of those admissions being under 10, compared to 57% aged under 10 across England.

In Blackpool it is estimated that there are approximately 83,500 Blackpool residents aged 16 and over who are overweight or obese. This is 72% of the Blackpool population compared to the North West 66% and England 63.8%.

There is a growing consensus that preventing childhood obesity is key to achieving healthy lives in adulthood and ultimately to reversing obesity prevalence. To achieve this we need to change our approach as a society to food, drinks and physical activity and prioritise the creation of 'healthy-preference learning environments' for children. Also highlighted is that a relatively quick way to reduce inequalities by enabling disadvantaged communities to express healthy food preferences by ensuring access to healthy food, skills and social support.

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:

Not to recommend Council to sign up to the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight.

#### **4.0 Council Priority:**

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

- "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

#### **5.0 Background Information**

5.1 Public Health, Blackpool Council, has been working with Food Active to develop the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight. Food Active is a collaborative programme launched by the North West Directors of Public Health in November 2013. The purpose of the collaboration was to tackle the increasing levels of obesity. Focusing on population-level interventions which take steps to address the social, environmental, economic and legislative factors that affect people's ability to change their behaviour. The three key objectives which were agreed by the Directors of

Public Health were:

- Sugary drinks duty
- Stronger national regulatory controls on junk food marketing
- Improved spatial planning measures

5.2 A key focus of Food Active has been to develop a Local Government Declaration on Healthy Weight. The declaration is a statement that the Council encapsulates a vision to reduce obesity/improve the health and wellbeing of the population by being a responsible Local Authority by continuing to advance existing strategies. To sign the Declaration would mean the Council would show a commitment to reducing unhealthy weight in our communities, protect the health and wellbeing of staff and population and make an impact on health and social care. The key themes of the declaration are:-

- Protecting residents from the commercial pressures and vested interests of the food and drink industry supplying high fat, salt and sugar products.
- Consider how commercial partnerships with the food and drink industry may impact on messages communicated around healthy weight to the local community.
- Review provision in all our public buildings, facilities and providers to make healthy foods and drinks more convenient and affordable and limit access to high-calorie, low-nutrient foods and drinks (to include all public institutions such as schools, hospitals, care homes, leisure facilities).
- Increase public access to fresh drinking water on local authority controlled sites.
- Consider supplementary guidance for hot food takeaways, specifically in areas around schools, parks and where access to healthier alternatives are limited.
- Advocate plans with partners including the NHS and all agencies represented on the Health and Wellbeing Board, healthy cities, academic institutions and local communities to address the causes and impacts of obesity.
- Strive to protect our children from inappropriate marketing by the food and drink industry.
- Support the government in taking action at national level to help local authorities reduce obesity prevalence and health inequalities in our communities.
- Ensure food and provided at public events includes healthy provisions, supporting food retailers to deliver this offer.
- Support the health and well-being of local authority staff and increase knowledge and understanding of overweight and obesity to create a culture and ethos that de-normalises unhealthy weight.
- Consider how strategies, plans and infrastructures for regeneration and town planning positively impact on physical activity.

- Monitor the progress of the plan against commitments and publish the results.

5.3 In addition to the broad themes, the Council has developed its own local priorities for tackling the issues of obesity. These are:-

- Consider weighted/financial support for 'healthier' retail (e.g. greengrocers, co-operatives etc.) in deprived areas.
- Improve the quality of packed lunches by developing a local agreement with schools to implement guidance.
- Work with schools to achieve walk to school.
- Take a stepped approach to reduce sugary drinks available in vending machines on locally controlled sites.
- To work with commercial outlets within all public sector premises to develop a food and drink policy.

5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.5 **List of Appendices:**

None

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 There are no legal considerations in relation to signing the Local Authority Declaration.

7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 There are no Human Resources implications.

8.0 **Equalities considerations:**

8.1 Obesity and poor nutrition are significant contributors to health inequalities in the town and reducing the inequalities is a fundamental part of the strategy.

9.0 **Financial considerations:**

9.1 There are no costs associated to signing up to the declaration



**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 Sign up to the declaration is seen as a core aspect of the Healthy Weight Strategy going forward, therefore failure to sign up would compromise the future delivery of the Healthy Weight Strategy.

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 None

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 A stakeholder event has been held with partners and further consultations are planned during 2016 with Council departments.

12.2 The Local Authority Declaration has been discussed at Corporate Leadership Team, Leadership, Senior Leadership Team and the Health and Wellbeing Board, who are all supportive of the Council signing up to the declaration.

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 Blackpool Health and Wellbeing Board (2015) Health Behaviours in Blackpool; A summary of the Blackpool Lifestyles Survey 2015  
Blackpool Council, Public Health; SHEU Survey Results; Supporting the Health and Well-being of Young People in Blackpool.

Department of Health (2015). Government response to the House of Commons Health Select Committee Report on the Impact of physical activity and diet on health. London: HM Government

Hawkes C, Smith TG, Wardle J, Hammond R A, Friel S, Throw A M et al (2015) Smart Food policies for obesity prevention. Lancet, 2410-2421

NICE (2015) Obesity: Prevention and lifestyles weight Management in children and young people; NICE quality standard 94. London

**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:

Date approved:

**17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

17.1 None

**18.0 Executive decision:**

**18.1 The Executive resolved as follows:**

To recommend the Council to sign up to the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight including both the national themes outlined in paragraph 5.2, of the Executive report, and the local priorities outlined at paragraph 5.3, of the Executive report.

**18.2 Date of Decision:**

18<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**19.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

Obesity is a serious Public Health problem for the town and contributes significantly to poor health. Not only does obesity result in an increase in chronic disease leading to distress and sickness, there are significant impacts for the broader economy of Blackpool through disability, unemployment and burden on the social care system.

The picture for the children in Blackpool is a major concern. The data from the National Child Measurement Programme for 2014/15 shows that 26% of Reception children (approximately 2,600) have excess weight (overweight or obese) compared to 23% for the North West and 22% nationally. The children are also weighed in Year 6 and for the same year, 38% have excess weight compared to 34% for the North West and 33% nationally. Rates of overweight and obesity are increasing faster than the national average which appears to be starting to level off.

High levels of sugar consumption, particularly in the form of sugary drinks, are increasingly being recognised as a key driver of obesity levels, but is also a major contributor to poor levels of dental health in children in Blackpool. We are seeing high numbers of admission to hospital for tooth extraction under general anaesthetic amongst children in the town. In Blackpool, 1,168 children aged 0-19 years were admitted to hospital for a simple tooth extraction in the three year period 2011/12 to 2013/14. Children in Blackpool are being admitted to hospital for tooth extraction at a younger age than the national average with three quarters of those admissions being under 10, compared to 57% aged under 10 across England.

In Blackpool it is estimated that there are approximately 83,500 Blackpool residents aged 16 and over who are overweight or obese. This is 72% of the Blackpool population compared to the North West 66% and England 63.8%.

There is a growing consensus that preventing childhood obesity is key to achieving healthy lives in adulthood and ultimately to reversing obesity prevalence. To achieve this we need to change our approach as a society to food, drinks and physical activity and prioritise the creation of 'healthy-preference learning environments' for children. Also highlighted is that a relatively quick way to reduce inequalities by enabling disadvantaged communities to express healthy food preferences by ensuring access to healthy food, skills and social support.

**19.1 Date Decision published:**

19<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**20.0 Executive Members present:**

20.1 Councillor Blackburn, in the Chair

Councillors Cain, Campbell, Collett, Cross, Jackson, Kirkland, Smith, I Taylor and Mrs Wright

**21.0 Call-in:**

21.1

**22.0 Notes :**

22.1