

Public Document Pack

Blackpool Council

13 February 2015

To: Councillors Blackburn, Cain, Campbell, Collett, Cross, Jackson, Jones, Rowson, I Taylor and Wright

The above members are requested to attend the:

EXECUTIVE

Monday, 23 February 2015 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room A, Town Hall, Blackpool

A G E N D A

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; 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.

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|----------|--|-----------------|
| 2 | COUNCIL TAX 2015/2016 | (Pages 1 - 6) |
| 3 | PROPOSED RENT REVIEW 2015/2016 | (Pages 7 - 12) |
| 4 | LOCAL GOVERNMENT DECLARATION ON TOBACCO CONTROL | (Pages 13 - 20) |
| 5 | QUEENS PARK REDEVELOPMENT - PHASE 2 | (Pages 21 - 32) |
| 6 | REGISTRATION - SCANNING OF RECORDS | (Pages 33 - 38) |
| 7 | COMMISSIONING STRATEGY FOR ADULT AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE | (Pages 39 - 68) |

Venue information:

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

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager, Tel: (01253) 477157, e-mail lennox.beattie@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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| Report to: | EXECUTIVE |
| Relevant Officer: | Steve Thompson, Director of Resources |
| Relevant Cabinet Member: | Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council |
| Date of Meeting: | 23 rd February 2015 |

COUNCIL TAX 2015/2016

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 Proposals for Blackpool Council's level of Council Tax for 2015/2016 and the General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/2016.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider all information received since the meeting of the Executive on 9th February 2015 including the Final Settlement Funding Assessment which was announced on 3rd February 2015 and to determine whether or not to confirm the Executive's recommendation to Council regarding the Revenue Budget 2015/2016.

2.2 To recommend to Council approval of an unchanged level of Council Tax for the year 2015/2016 of £1,306 at valuation band D equivalent.

2.3 To recommend to Council the revised level of net expenditure for the General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/2016 of £128,073,000.

2.4 To note that the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority will meet on 16th February 2015 and set their precept for the financial year 2015/2016 this will be reported verbally at this meeting.

2.5 To note that the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire's precept for the year 2015/16 at valuation band D equivalent is also to be agreed on the 16th February 2015 and will therefore be verbally reported at this meeting.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The Executive is required to consider the outcome of the consultation meetings and survey before finalising its Budget proposals.

The setting of the General Fund Revenue Budget and the level of Council Tax is consistent with the principles approved by the Executive at its meeting on 9th February 2015.

- 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? Not applicable – the report once approved will become the Council's new approved Budget
- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None, the proposed Council Tax is consistent with the previously recommended General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/16.
- 4.0 Council Priority:**
- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

"Deliver quality services through a professional, well-rewarded and motivated workforce "
- 5.0 Background Information**
- 5.1 At its meeting on 9th February 2015 the Executive considered a report of the Director of Resources that recommended to Council approval of a net expenditure for the General Fund Revenue Budget of £127,712,000 that would result in an unchanged Council Tax for the year 2015/16 of £1,306 at valuation band D equivalent.
- 5.2 The Final Settlement of Blackpool Council's 2015/16 Settlement Funding Assessment was announced by the Department for Communities and Local Government on 3rd February 2015. The impact of this was an increase in Blackpool's funding allocation of £361,000 in 2015/16. Therefore, in order to maintain a freeze in council tax in 2015/16 a revised General Fund Estimate of £128,073,000 is now recommended with the £361,000 increase in funding being added to Contingencies to provide some further cushion against any non-delivery of / or slippage within the 2015/16 Budget savings target of £25.2m.
- 5.3 As part of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement the threshold for 'excessive' Council Tax increases was set at 2%, an increase of 2% or more requiring a local referendum to be held. The level of Council Tax recommended in this report will not invoke this requirement.

- 5.4 The draft General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/2016 and supporting information were further considered by meetings of the Finance and Audit Committee with Trade Union representatives and with Business Ratepayers and a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee, all held on 13th February 2015. The views presented at these meetings will be reported to the Executive.
- 5.5 The precepts of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire were agreed on 16th February 2015 for the year 2015/16 will be verbally reported to this meeting of the Executive.
- 5.7 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No
- 5.8 **List of Appendices:**
None
- 6.0 **Legal considerations:**
- 6.1 None
- 7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**
- 7.1 Human Resources considerations were outlined in the General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/2016 report to the Executive meeting on the 9th February 2015.
- 8.0 **Equalities considerations:**
- 8.1 An Equality Analysis was produced for the General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/2016 report to the Executive on 9th February 2015, this remains applicable.
- 9.0 **Financial considerations:**
- 9.1 As outlined in this report.
- 10.0 **Risk management considerations:**
- 10.1 A Risk Analysis was produced for the General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/16 report to the Executive on 9th February 2015, this remains applicable.
- 11.0 **Ethical considerations:**
- 11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

- 12.1 Consultation has taken place at separate meetings with the Trade Unions and Business Ratepayers on 13th February 2015. It has also taken place at a meeting of the Blackpool Equalities Forum (21st January 2015). The relevant minutes will be circulated to the Executive.
- 12.2 An open access public consultation started on 12th January 2015 and has run for four weeks. This consisted of an online form publicised via Your Blackpool and Social Media, and a hard copy form available from Council reception points, children's centres and libraries.
- 12.3 A report with the results of the open access consultation will be available on 16th February, once the data has been input and analysed. The report will be circulated to Executive members prior to this meeting to inform their decision making.
- 12.4 Key stakeholders including Area Forum community representatives have been consulted upon the budget proposals particularly in relation to their area. A copy of the minutes of the meeting held with Area Forum community representatives on the 10th February 2015 will be circulated to Executive members prior to this meeting to inform their decision making.

13.0 Background papers:

- 13.1 Budget working papers and above consultation minutes and feedback.

14.0 Key decision information:

- 14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes
- 14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 28/2014
- 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: 13th February 2015 Date approved: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1

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| Report to: | EXECUTIVE |
| Relevant Officers: | Alan Cavill, Director of Place and Steve Thompson, Director of Resources |
| Relevant Cabinet Member: | Councillor Gillian Campbell, Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Safety and Enforcement |
| Date of Meeting: | 23 rd February 2015 |

PROPOSED RENT REVIEW 2015/2016

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the level of rents and service charges to be charged in connection with Housing Revenue Account dwellings during 2015/2016.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

To recommend to the Council that:

- 2.1 That a rent freeze is implemented in 2015/2016.
- 2.2 That as previously agreed, the level of Housing Revenue Account balances remain protected at £1 million.
- 2.3 That de-pooled services (as detailed in Appendix C) and that other service charges (as detailed in Appendix D and E) are charged as recommended.
- 2.4 That the Leaseholder Management Charge is amended in line with the cost of managing the service.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure that rent levels are appropriate and the Housing Revenue Account is financially secure currently and in the medium term.

The rent freeze is proposed on the basis that maximum rent increases are in any case low due to the relevant inflation rate, and tenants face a number of other financial challenges.

Retaining the previously agreed level of a £1million at which Housing Revenue Account balances are protected ensures that prudent balances are maintained.

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? Not applicable - the report once approved will become part of the Council's new approved budget

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

To set a different rate for rents.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:

- Improve housing standards and the environment we live in by using housing investment to create stable communities
- Create safer communities and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour

5.0 Background Information

5.1 As part of the preparation of the draft 2015/2016 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget, Members must consider the level of rents and service charges to be set in connection with Council Housing dwellings during the next financial year.

5.2 The report, circulated to members under separate cover, details the 2015/2016 Draft Budget and the proposed changes in rent and service charges.

5.3 New charges for Housing Revenue Account Services and related Non-Housing Revenue Account properties are also proposed.

5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.5 List of Appendices:

Report on the Housing Revenue Account

Appendix A: Housing Revenue Account Draft Budget 2015/2016

Appendix B: Rent Parameters

Appendix C: Depooled Charges
Appendix D: Review of Fees and Charges
Appendix E: Charges for non Housing Revenue Account properties

(all circulated to members under separate cover)

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 An Equalities Impact Analysis has been completed.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 These are set out in the report.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 The rent report is shared with the board of Blackpool Coastal Housing, which includes tenant and leasehold representatives and independent members.

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: 29/2014

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: 13th February 2015 Date approved: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

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| Report to: | EXECUTIVE |
| Relevant Officer: | Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health |
| Relevant Cabinet Member: | Councillor Eddie Collett, Cabinet Member for Public Health |
| Date of Meeting: | 23 RD February 2015 |

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DECLARATION ON TOBACCO CONTROL

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To brief the Executive on the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control and invite the Executive to recommend that the Council signs up to the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

To recommend the Council to:

- 2.1 Endorse the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control.
- 2.2 Sign up to the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 By endorsing and signing up to the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control the Council will:

- demonstrate Blackpool Council's commitment to the:
 - World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
 - Tobacco Control Plan for England and;
 - Blackpool Tobacco Control Strategy
- protect local health policy from the tobacco industry
- provide strong leadership on tobacco issues within the council

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:

The alternative option is not to endorse the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

“Improve health and well-being especially for the most disadvantaged “

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Background

Smoking is associated with a range of illnesses and is the primary preventable cause of ill health and premature death. Each year, there are over 403 smoking related deaths (around a quarter of all deaths in Blackpool every year) and 2,125 smoking related hospital admissions in Blackpool. Annual costs to Blackpool's health service associated with smoking-related illness are estimated to exceed £7m each year with an additional £744,000 as a result of secondhand smoke.

Whilst figures in other areas of England have seen reductions in the numbers of adults who smoke, in Blackpool the figures have remained static over the last few years at around 29.5% of the adult population smoking as compared to the England average at 20%. Smoking rates in the most deprived communities in Blackpool remain disproportionately high.

Tobacco control remains central to achieving Blackpool Council's Vision and Priorities, as well as to meeting the Council's international obligations such as the World Health Organisation's Framework Convention for Tobacco Control. For Blackpool to become a more successful town, with opportunities for everyone to flourish, everyone needs to remove the burden of ill health, which tobacco contributes significantly to.

Blackpool Council is committed to tackling tobacco related harm through its Tobacco Strategy 2014-2016. This Strategy has been developed with input from the Blackpool Tobacco Alliance which includes partners from Lancashire Fire and Rescue, North West Ambulance, Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group and Blackpool Teaching Hospitals and sets out the next steps on Blackpool's journey to becoming tobacco-free. The strategy and associated action plan has been endorsed by Blackpool's Health and Wellbeing board.

5.2 **The Declaration**

The Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control is a statement of a Council's commitment to ensure tobacco control is part of mainstream public health work and commits Councils to taking comprehensive action to address the harm from smoking.

The Declaration commits Councils to:

- Reduce smoking prevalence and health inequalities
- Develop plans with partners and local communities
- Participate in local and regional networks
- Support Government action at national level
- Protect tobacco control work from the commercial and vested interests of the tobacco industry
- Monitor the progress of their plans
- Join the Smokefree Action Coalition

5.3 **Key reasons for signing up to the declaration**

The Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control is a national response to the enormous and on-going damage smoking does to the health of Blackpool's communities. It has been developed to provide a very visible opportunity for local government to:

- Publicly acknowledge the significant challenge facing Blackpool
- Voluntarily demonstrate a commitment to lead local action to tackle smoking
- Secure the health, welfare, social, economic and environmental benefits that come from reducing smoking prevalence
- Publish a statement of declaration to protecting local communities from the harm caused by smoking.

The key reasons for signing up to the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control are:

1. To demonstrate Council commitments to the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and the Tobacco Control Plan for England

Under the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, to which the UK is a signatory, countries have pledged to protect health policy from the commercial interests of the tobacco industry. Local authorities are also subject to this treaty. By signing the Declaration, Blackpool Council will demonstrate commitment to a comprehensive local approach.

2. To protect local health policy from the tobacco industry

Tobacco companies have a long record of attempting to influence council policies. For example, in England they have sponsored schools and museums, paid for industry branded smoking shelters on Council property and used subsidiaries to arrange meetings with members and officers on local harm reduction policies. Signing the Declaration allows the Council to send a clear signal to the public, health professionals and the industry itself that local health policy will not be influenced by the vested interests of the industry.

3. To provide strong leadership on tobacco issues within the Council

Signing the declaration demonstrates a strong corporate and political commitment by the Council as a whole to make tackling the harm from smoking a priority. This is particularly important as tobacco remains the biggest cause of premature death and contributes to half the difference in life expectancy between the rich and poor.

5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information?
No

5.5 **List of Appendices:**
Appendix 1: Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control document

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 No implications identified

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None specific. Any new initiatives would be considered as part of operational budgets or subject to separate proposals to be considered.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 No implications identified

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None specific. Any new initiatives would be considered as part of operational budgets or subject to separate proposals to be considered.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 No implications identified.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 Signing the declaration would support the Council's core values, morals and beliefs.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Not applicable

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 Blackpool Tobacco Control Strategy

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: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1

Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control

We acknowledge that:

- Smoking is the single greatest cause of premature death and disease in our communities;
- Reducing smoking in our communities significantly increases household incomes and benefits the local economy;
- Reducing smoking amongst the most disadvantaged in our communities is the single most important means of reducing health inequalities;
- Smoking is an addiction largely taken up by children and young people, two thirds of smokers start before the age of 18;
- Smoking is an epidemic created and sustained by the tobacco industry, which promotes uptake of smoking to replace the 80,000 people its products kill in England every year; and
- The illicit trade in tobacco funds the activities of organised criminal gangs and gives children access to cheap tobacco.

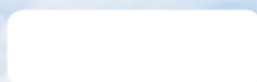
As local leaders in public health we welcome the:

- Opportunity for local government to lead local action to tackle smoking and secure the health, welfare, social, economic and environmental benefits that come from reducing smoking prevalence;
- Commitment by the government to live up to its obligations as a party to the World Health Organization’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) and in particular to protect the development of public health policy from the vested interests of the tobacco industry; and
- Endorsement of this declaration by the Department of Health, Public Health England and professional bodies.

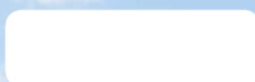
We commit our Council from this dateto:

- Act at a local level to reduce smoking prevalence and health inequalities and to raise the profile of the harm caused by smoking to our communities;
- Develop plans with our partners and local communities to address the causes and impacts of tobacco use;
- Participate in local and regional networks for support;
- Support the government in taking action at national level to help local authorities reduce smoking prevalence and health inequalities in our communities;
- Protect our tobacco control work from the commercial and vested interests of the tobacco industry by not accepting any partnerships, payments, gifts and services, monetary or in kind or research funding offered by the tobacco industry to officials or employees;
- Monitor the progress of our plans against our commitments and publish the results; and
- Publicly declare our commitment to reducing smoking in our communities by joining the Smokefree Action Coalition, the alliance of organisations working to reduce the harm caused by tobacco.

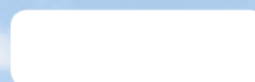
Signatories



Leader of Council



Chief Executive



Director of Public Health

Endorsed by

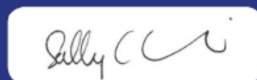
Jane Ellison, Public Health Minister, Department of Health



Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive, Public Health England



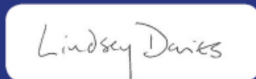
Professor Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health



Dr Janet Atherton, President, Association of Directors of Public Health



Dr Lindsey Davies, President, UK Faculty of Public Health



Graham Jukes, Chief Executive, Chartered Institute of Environmental Health



Leon Livermore, Chief Executive, Trading Standards Institute



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| Report to: | EXECUTIVE |
| Relevant Officers: | Alan Cavill, Director of Place |
| Relevant Cabinet Member: | Councillor Gillian Campbell, Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Safety and Enforcement |
| Date of Meeting: | 23 rd February 2015 |

QUEENS PARK REDEVELOPMENT - PHASE 2

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 Proposal to enter into a grant funding agreement with the Homes and Communities Agency and to agree the contract value parameters for Phase 2 of the demolition and redevelopment of the Queens Park estate.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To authorise entry into a grant funding agreement with the Homes and Communities Agency in the amount of £1,950,000 in relation to the Affordable Homes Programme 2015/2018.

2.2 To authorise the conversion of 70 existing properties to affordable rents to contribute to the funding of Queens Park Phase 2, in accordance with the Homes and Communities Agency grant funding agreement.

2.3 To authorise variation of the Queens Park redevelopment proposals and agreements to account for the replacement of open market sale properties with affordable rent properties.

2.4 To authorise the Director of Place, subject to a published officer decision, to enter into a Design and Build contract with Lovell Partnerships Ltd for the construction of a second phase of affordable rent homes (for completion by 31 March 2018), subject to the financial parameters outlined in the report.

2.5 To authorise commencement of design works, consultation and the implementation of a scheme of improvement to Layton Recreation Ground, and to delegate agreement of the final detail to the Director of Place.

2.6 To authorise the Director of Place, subject to a published officer decision, to negotiate and enter into further grant funding agreements with the Homes and

Communities Agency to support delivery of additional units within the Queens Park development.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The continued appointment of Lovell Partnerships Ltd for the second phase of the redevelopment of Queens Park Estate will enable the development of new homes for Blackpool residents and bring about substantial improvement to the Queens Park area.

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:

Alternative development options were considered by Executive prior to the determination to seek redevelopment in September 2011.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

"Improve housing standards and the environment we live in by using housing investment to create stable communities"

5.0 Background Information

5.1 In April 2013 following the completion of an extensive OJEU compliant selection procedure, Executive authorised the completion of a legal framework with Lovell Partnerships Ltd to commence the redevelopment of the Queens Park Estate and set aside funds within the Housing Revenue Account for improvements to Layton Recreation Ground (EX/16/2013).

5.2 This framework supported the design and build of 180 affordable rent properties for the Council and provided the opportunity for Lovell to build 18 homes for open market sale and included;

a. a development agreement detailing the conditions which would support progression from the first to the second phase of development and the mechanism for agreeing the land transaction for the construction of the open market homes;

b. a JCT Design and Build Contract for the construction of the first Phase of 91

homes to the value of £9.968m; and

c. a second JCT Contract for the remaining development phase at a value of £10,079,378 subject to adjustment in line with building cost inflation at the time that the conditions to proceed outlined in the development agreement (in a. above) are met.

5.3 The development agreement sets out the conditions for both the Developer and the Council to support progression from Phase 1 to Phase 2, as outlined below. The conditions are designed to provide protection to both parties to walk away in the event of non-performance or affordability problems. They also make allowance for the variation of the detail in the event that change is necessary to enable development to proceed.

5.4 The development requires the Council to;

a. secure any relevant public open space required to enable the development

b. provide the developer with a site for the construction of the open market homes which has good legal title

c. procure vacant possession of the Phase 2 site; and

d. have sufficient funding to carry out the Phase 2 development.

5.5 It is the progress towards satisfaction of the development conditions, variations to the form and content of the scheme and agreement of the value of that second contract of works that is the topic of this report.

5.6 Development Progress

The legal framework was completed in July 2013 and work on Phase 1 commenced with handover of the site to the developer on the same date. A complex demolition stage was completed in May 2014 consisting of the careful demolition of two 17 storey tower blocks and five blocks of deck access flats, bedsits and maisonettes, totalling 176 units and a garage court containing 47 units. Phase 1 construction is now progressing toward completion with first homes occupied in February 2015 and final phase completion programmed for Summer 2015.

5.7 Due to efficiencies in the scheme layout, the Phase 1 contract was adjusted at the point of finalisation by 1 unit to allow construction of 92 homes and associated infrastructure. This increased the value by £89,824 to £10,057,824, the corresponding value of Phase 2 reducing by the same amount.

5.8 During the period since development commenced, the community living in the remaining parts of the Estate (the Phase 2 site) has steadily decreased and is now stable, with the tenants of the majority of existing occupied properties awaiting moves into new Phase 1 properties and others preparing for moves off site. There are approximately 75 properties currently occupied and clear relocation plans in place. A programme of negotiation with leaseholders and commercial tenant operations has continued in parallel with other elements of the scheme and is nearing completion. Authority to make a Compulsory Purchase Order was given (EX1/2014) on 27th January 2014, the Order being made on 30th April 2014, to provide a backstop to these activities.

5.9 Vacant possession of several blocks within the Phase II area has already been achieved and the remaining blocks will be vacated during the first half of 2015 as Phase 1 is completed.

5.10 Phase 2 proposals

The agreement created a break between phases in order to allow for change in circumstance to be accounted for in the period between tender and the point at which a decision to further proceed needs to be taken, as outlined above. There are two major factors which have determined reconsideration of the constitution of the proposals;

a. Affordability and value for money. Building Cost Inflation is an indicator of the change in cost of items such as labour and materials which affects the value of building contracts. Due to demand from renewed confidence in investment nationally as sectors of the economy have emerged from recession, this marker has been the subject of tremendous growth in the last couple of years and is indicatively in the region of 20% higher than when the tenders were returned in November 2012. Inflationary pressures relating to the Phase 2 tender therefore make affordability and consequently, value for money, a significant concern.

b. Impact of previously unregistered utility infrastructure affecting the development of the site. During the course of additional investigations to underground services a major sewer has been identified running through the site which was not accounted for on the utility providers asset registers. Whilst this is not an uncommon occurrence, the scale of the asset is such that a redesign of the Phase 2 scheme is necessitated. This exercise adds additional constraints, which have to be designed around and potentially introduce additional elements of cost.

5.11 A redesign exercise has been undertaken. Factors accounted for in the redesign include;

- Maintaining the unit mix of one to four bedroom homes;

- Continuing the design and layout language between phases;
- Providing a high quality urban environment which relates with adjoining areas;
- Respecting the relationship with Layton Recreation Ground whilst maximising the amount of green space within the development;
- Ensuring private amenity space for all residents; and
- Making allowances for easements and constraints around utilities.

5.12 The second phase proposes the construction of between 95 and 105 affordable rent properties for the Council. The actual numbers are subject to detailed design around the constraints and in taking account of planning considerations but will result in an increase from the 88 properties previously anticipated. This increase in affordable rent properties has been achieved through deletion of the market sale homes previously anticipated.

5.13 Contract Value

A key factor affecting the decision to proceed relates to the impact of building cost inflation since the scheme was originally tendered in November 2012. As highlighted, this marker is indicatively running at 20%, the impact of which would be to increase the adjusted tendered phase 2 scheme of 88 units by approximately £2m, taking the average all-in unit cost from the tendered value of £113,500 (based on adjusted phase 2 contract value of £9,989,553 after phase reduced to 88 units) to the region of £136,000 (20% uplift applied to adjusted phase 2 tender cost).

5.14 Given the time gap between phases the agreements were structured to allow proper consideration of inflationary pressures on affordability and at these projected levels are considered to represent poor value for the Housing Revenue Account. This position is worsened by the costs associated with providing serviced plots for market sale, which although providing a contribution toward goals of providing mixed tenure on the estate, add a burden associated with providing infrastructure to service the plots being sold, including roads, which cannot be met by the transaction.

5.15 Consequently, with cooperation from Lovell, the need to redesign the scheme to avoid the buried utilities has supported negotiations around maximising efficiencies in design and implementation which have focussed around;

- Deletion of the market sale properties and, subject to detailed design and cost, replacement with affordable rent properties;
- Rationalisation of infrastructure serving the site; and
- Rationalisation of construction elements of the scheme without reducing quality.

- 5.19 Whilst this increases the number of units being built, it helps to concentrate cost inflation within expected boundaries resultant in an expected average all-in unit cost in the region of £120-125,000. This cost uplift is generally consistent with that originally anticipated at the point of tender, i.e. applying the appropriate rate of building inflation.
- 5.20 In terms of financial affordability under the self-financing regime for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) there is a requirement not to exceed a maximum level of debt imposed by central government ('headroom'). The maximum debt level for Blackpool's Housing Revenue Account is £35.739m; at present less than half of that debt facility is being utilised. Undertaking Phase 2 at the indicative costs in this report does not lead to issues with headroom during the period of redevelopment or in the medium term.
- 5.21 Under the self-financing regime the Council is required to ensure that the Housing Revenue Account is viable over a 30 year timeframe. There are a number of factors which impact on the viability of the Housing Revenue Account, as well as major redevelopment schemes these include the costs of the maintenance of existing stock and in particular the levels of rental income received. As stated in the executive item for Phase 1 and recent Rent Reports the business plan requires rent rises at an average of 3% to be viable based on current assumptions relating to the costs of the capital programme and potential implications of the introduction of Direct Payments on rent collection levels.

5.22 Layton Recreation Ground

The master plan balances a high density of built environment with improved green spaces which will be supported by investment in the open environment of Layton Recreation Ground. This intent was approved by Executive when the legal framework was established and £600k has been allocated within the Housing Revenue Account to support the development of an improvement scheme. This will resolve matters associated with drainage, pathways and facilities within the space in addition to play facilities being provided as a part of the development contract. The development of Phase 2 should coincide with the progression of ideas, consultation with the community and delivery. Executive is therefore asked to approve commencement of the design process and delegate decisions on delivery to the Director of Place to a maximum value of £600,000.

5.23 Affordable Home Programme 2015-2018

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) has indicatively awarded the scheme funding out of its Affordable Homes Programme 2015-2018. At present £25,000 per plot grant for the first 78 units (£1.95m) has been secured, subject to approval from Executive to enter into the grant funding agreement. The proposed funding

agreement also requires that 70 existing homes are converted from social rent to affordable rent when they come up for re-letting, providing a small additional revenue stream to help fund the new homes.

5.24 Officers have held initial discussions with the Homes and Communities Agency in respect of the potential for grant funding for the additional units proposed. The Homes and Communities Agency's Affordable Homes Programme 2015-2018 is not fully committed and there is therefore the opportunity to seek further grant funding for the additional units. It is therefore proposed that the Director of Place be authorised to negotiate with the Homes and Communities Agency and enter further grant funding agreements to support delivery of additional units within the Queens Park development.

5.25 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.26 **List of Appendices:**

None

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 The development agreement in place will need to be amended to reflect the outcome of the negotiations with the developer, and a replacement contract will need to be completed.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 The project is being overseen by existing staff within the Council and Blackpool Coastal Housing.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 The Council has a wide ranging statutory responsibility under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, known as the "Public Sector Duty" to have "due regard" in decision making to the need to :

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other prohibited conduct
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations between different (defined) groups

8.2 The recommendations in the report have been examined to understand the scope of possible impacts on people because of the protected characteristics of:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender Reassignment
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Pregnancy and Maternity

8.3 Consideration to equalities has been undertaken at all stages of the process. An Equalities Impact Analysis was undertaken and considered by Executive prior to determination to proceed with the Queens Park redevelopment (EX16/2013)

8.4 Residents directly impacted by these proposals have been consulted and individual needs have been assessed. The Council and Blackpool Coastal Housing are taking all reasonable steps to ensure that identified needs are met and people are effectively supported and helped to relocate.

8.5 The development of better quality housing in the town is expected to positively impact on equality of opportunity and community cohesion through the creation of more stable communities in the inner wards.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 See the main body of the report. The final cost of the work is still being negotiated, but with rent increases at the levels discussed in the Phase 1 report and recent Rent Reports can be afforded within the Housing Revenue Account. As indicated in the Executive Item for Phase 1 the improvement of Layton Recreation Ground falls as an additional, but necessary, element of the successful redevelopment of the estate and its integration into the surrounding community. The relevant sum (£600,000) has been included within the overall Housing Revenue Account budget framework.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Risk of not being able to assemble site – various activities are being undertaken to mitigate this risk including the acquisition of third party interests, relocation/removal of commercial operations and the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order as a safety net if negotiations fail. Relocation of rooftop masts is in hand with notices served, although delays could impact on the demolition programme.

10.2 Risk of not securing the relevant statutory permissions and authority to develop – the master plans have been developed in consultation with relevant agencies and with reference to the development brief. Elements involving public open space have

previously been advertised but subsequent amendments to the master plan in order to mitigate risks associated with buried utilities will require further advertisement. Investment in the quality of the open space and new open space provision on existing parts of the estate will help to lift the quality of the area.

- 10.3 Funding risks associated with phase 2 – this phase of development has been accounted for within the service budget and whilst there are challenges associated with the Housing Revenue Account, these can be managed in line with other service budgets. The contract used would be a priced design and build with greater certainty of cost sitting within this framework, thereby reducing the risk of overruns or unforeseen claims. Grant funding is time limited and programme and developer activity reflects these constraints in delivery, although these pressures are lessened as delivery will be actioned towards the front end of the programme which has an end date of March 2018.
- 10.4 Risk of breaching Housing Revenue Account Debt Ceiling – the long term Housing Revenue Account business plan is sensitive to prolonged periods of increased costs and lower than anticipated rent increases. The impact of these factors can over time lead to there being insufficient funds available to adequately maintain the Council's housing stock and potentially breach the maximum allowable debt facility. The proposals are affordable within the short to medium term but careful management of Housing Revenue Account resources will be necessary to ensure the long term viability of the Housing Revenue Account.
- 10.5 Failure to comply with Homes and Communities Agency Grant conditions – the Homes and Communities Agency grant funding agreement places conditions on the Council, these include conditions relating to the quality of the development, rents that can be charged and the deadline for completion of the homes being developed. The Phase I development was due to be completed by 31 March 2015 and is delayed due the failure of utility providers to provide services in a timely manner. The Homes and Communities Agency are aware of this delay and a dispensation is expected, it does however place an element of the grant funding at risk. The Phase 2 development is programmed to complete well before the Homes and Communities Agency programme deadlines but nevertheless, failure to complete the development by the end of March 2018 will put grant funding income at risk. Robust project management procedures are in place that will seek to ensure compliance with the Grant Funding conditions to the extent that they are within the control of the Council.
- 11.0 Ethical considerations:**
- 11.1 The managed relocation of residents has created voids which will impact on this indicator. A change in stock profile from flats with high turnover to a more stable mix of family housing will reduce turnover and improve and aid the stability of the

Council's Housing Revenue Account in the longer term. Phase 1 of the redevelopment is now approaching completion with the first homes being occupied.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Extensive consultation informing the decision to redevelop and continuous engagement with the Resident Project Group, resident newsletters and through public events.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 Queens Park Equality Analysis

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 21/2014

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: 13th February 2015 Date approved: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1

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|---------------------------------|--|
| Report to: | EXECUTIVE |
| Relevant Officer: | Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Regulatory Services |
| Relevant Cabinet Member: | Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Member for Tourism and Leisure |
| Date of Meeting: | 23 RD February 2015 |

REGISTRATION – SCANNING OF RECORDS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider and approve the purchase of a software package designed specifically for register offices which will provide the instant retrieval of family registers.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree to engage Microform Imaging Ltd to provide a Registration imaging solution, as they are the only supplier who provide this service. Microform Imaging Ltd's Registration Entry Gateway (REG) is software designed specifically for register offices for instant retrieval of family registers. The service incorporates the whole process from digital preservation of registers to ensuring compatibility with the REG software and installation for use on the Council's IT system.

2.2 To agree Prudential Borrowing in the sum of £83,000 for the purchase of the system, with the repayments made on the basis set out in the report (staff savings and increased income).

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 It is important that a solution is found to preserve these registers and indexes, by scanning of these electronically it will also decrease the time taken by the team in the processing of certificate applications therefore improving the service that the team offer to the Council's customers and increasing income.

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 – subject to the Prudential Borrowing being agreed.

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

To retain the current manual process accessing the paper records but there is increasing danger of the records becoming damaged beyond repair, with daily use.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

“ To deliver quality services through a professional, well-rewarded and motivated workforce “

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The registers which are maintained by the Registration Team date back to 1837, the registers and indexes are used on a daily basis by the team for copy birth, death and marriage certificates and it is vital that a solution is found to preserve these registers and indexes, by the scanning of these electronically.

5.2 The scanning of these documents will also improve the time taken by the team in the processing of all certificate applications, therefore improving the turnaround of requests. This will see a large reduction in staffing time which will improve the service and deliver savings in staffing costs by removing the need for experienced staff to produce the certificates themselves. This will also improve greatly the overall service that the team offer to our customers for a service with an increasing demand. Over recent years there has been an increase in the numbers of certificates requested and the proposals in the fees and charges for the service now allow for a quicker turnaround and this will more than meet the repayment for the prudential borrowing.

5.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.4 List of Appendices:

None

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 In accordance with Contract Procedure Rules, the Head of Procurement and Projects, after consultation with the Cabinet Member, is of the opinion that the work, goods and services can only be obtained from a sole supplier and there would be no benefit to the Council in giving public notice for inviting tenders.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 In year staff savings already made and the income to be generated for the fees and charges for this service (which are currently in place) will more than meet the approximate £10,000 per year cost over a 10 year period.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 Providing this online service will allow equal opportunity to customers to access these records and request copies at any time.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 Total cost of system is a £82,279.99 (plus VAT) one off fee for the scanning of all registers and indexes, the software solution, safe collection and returns of all of the registers and free maintenance for the first 12 months. Ongoing maintenance can be met thereafter from current budgets (approx £5,000 per year).

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The registers which are maintained by the Registration Team date back to 1837. Following the closure of the South King Street offices and the move of the team into Municipal Buildings these are now stored in the Registrars strong rooms in the Town Hall and Municipal Buildings. The registers and indexes are used on a daily basis by the team for copy birth, death and marriage certificates and due to this are at increasing daily risk of becoming damaged through wear and tear.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 The scanning of the registers will preserve the integrity of these historic records and also provide an immediate response to requests from members of the public for information which they would otherwise have to come into the office for or wait an unacceptably long time for it to be sent to them by post.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Microform Imaging offer a bespoke service suited to Registry Services. The product was designed in co-operation with Liverpool Registry Office who following a tender exercise spotted a gap in the market for a bespoke system for Registrars. There are no other companies who provide this same service.

12.2 Staffordshire County Council's Procurement Team recently investigated the market for a similar Registry data project. Staffordshire's experience was that the main suppliers in the data capture market have business models which rely on 'selling' the data via subscription through their websites and stated that whilst this works well for historic material, it is not suitable for more modern Registers.

12.3 Staffordshire County Council confirms that it could not find any suppliers other than Microform Imaging Ltd able to combine the scanning/storage/retrieval aspects in a coherent format so negotiated a rate with this supplier and engaged with them on their Council's Terms and Conditions. Warwickshire County Council has also engaged with this supplier to provide this service.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 Details of quotation recommended and also details of other Councils who use these products.

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: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1

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|----------------------------------|---|
| Report to: | EXECUTIVE |
| Relevant Officer: | Delyth Curtis, Director of People |
| Relevant Cabinet Members: | Councillor Kath Rowson, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Councillor Ivan Taylor, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services |
| Date of Meeting: | 23 RD February 2015 |

COMMISSIONING STRATEGY FOR ADULT AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 Commissioning Strategy for Adult and Children's Social Care 2015 - 2018

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the strategy document

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 A new strategy is required to reflect the needs of a combined Adult and Children's function and due to new legislation.

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 approve a different strategy.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:
 “Improve health and well-being especially for the most disadvantaged”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 A new Commissioning Strategy for Adult and Children's Social Care has been formulated. The strategy has been devised to take into account the needs and requirements of a combined Contracts and Commissioning function.

5.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.3 List of Appendices:

Appendix 7a: Adult and Children's Social Care

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 The strategy has been developed to meet the requirements of the Care Act and the Children and Families Act.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 An equalities analysis has been prepared and is included in the document.

.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 An equalities analysis has been prepared and is included in the document.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The strategy has been developed in to take into account the budget for 2015/16 and medium term financial strategy.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 As above.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 A delivery plan has been developed for 2015/16 and this will be reviewed on an annual basis.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Consultation has taken place from September 2014 until January 2015 and a full consultation log is included in the strategy document.

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? N/A

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: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1



**Commissioning Strategy:
Adult and Children's Social Care
2015 - 2018**

Foreword

I am pleased to present the Commissioning Strategy for Adult and Children's Social Care for the period 2015 until 2018.

The role of our directorate is to commission and provide high quality care and support for the population of Blackpool, within available resources, ensuring that everyone has their eligible assessed needs met.

The Care Act 2014 places new duties on the local authority to facilitate and shape the local market for adult social care as a whole. The Children's and Families Act 2014 brings new responsibilities to make provision for children and families more responsive to local needs. This Commissioning Strategy has been developed with these and other strategic responsibilities in mind.

High quality care and support can only be achieved through developing a vibrant responsive market of service providers. The role of our directorate is critical in achieving this.

At a time when there are increasing pressures on the council's budgets fundamental changes to the way we provide care and support services need to happen.

People who use our services are at the heart of everything we do and so throughout the development of this strategy we have engaged and involved people through a range of communication channels, including provider and user forums, young and older peoples groups, partnership boards and commissioning reviews.

Providers of services and people that need support have told us what matters and what is important to them. This has been paramount in shaping our Commissioning Principles and Priorities.



Delyth Curtis
Director of People



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Tell us what you think

The Commissioning Strategy for Adult and Children’s Social Care has been developed through a programme of partnership engagement and consultation.

Blackpool Council welcomes feedback and is committed to an ongoing dialogue with providers of services and the people of Blackpool.

Telephone:

01253 477764 and ask to speak to someone about the Commissioning Strategy

Email:

contracts.team@blackpool.gov.uk

Section One:

Introduction

Purpose and progress



Commissioning is the process by which public authorities plan the services that are needed by people that live in the local area. We need to ensure that services are available for people of Blackpool, are of high quality, appropriate to their needs and give value for money.

Strategic Commissioning is the process of long term planning which ensures that resources are used in the right way at the right time to meet demand and need. This involves the use of accurate information to measure current need and predict future demand, informing the design and delivery of local services.

A key stage of this process is the involvement of local residents, ensuring we are delivering appropriate services to people, families and their carers’.

The purpose of this Commissioning Strategy is to state how Blackpool Council’s Adult and Children’s Social Care Directorate will embrace the national principles and vision for adult and children’s social care through its commissioning function. It will also show how Blackpool Council will meet need and deliver excellent quality social care and support for the population of Blackpool across the care pathway.

The strategy identifies the commissioning principles and priorities for Adult and Children’s Social Care. Commissioning has to deliver flexible services which are responsive to individual needs and choice and that are targeted appropriately to meet the needs of vulnerable people. Services must deliver agreed priorities and make best use of resources.

From this document each work stream will develop a detailed delivery plan which will show how the vision, principles and priorities laid out in this strategy will be delivered in Blackpool.

Developing the Commissioning Strategy

This strategy has been developed by Blackpool Council's Adult and Children's Social Care Directorate. It covers the areas of adult and children's social care which fall within the commissioning and contracting remit of this Directorate.

The remit includes Adults, Adult and Parent Carers, Young Carers, Children's Social Care and Children's Health and Education Services. Blackpool Council will be working closely with Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group, Public Health and Education to ensure that resources are used effectively and collectively.

Whilst developing this strategy a number of key factors have been reviewed and analysed including:

- Demographic data identifying the current and projected population profile and needs of Blackpool. Much of this information has been taken from the Blackpool Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and from intelligence gathered through commissioning activity undertaken by Blackpool Council's Adult and Children's Services Commissioning and Contracts team
- National and Local Strategic guidance and requirements
- Ongoing financial remodelling by the Government to reduce public expenditure
- Consultation with a range of stakeholders, refer to appendix B

The council's vision 2013 – 2015 sets out an image of the future in Blackpool that the authority wishes to create over the long term.

"We will build a Blackpool where aspiration and ambition are encouraged and supported. We will seek to narrow the gap between the richest members of our society and the poorest and deliver a sustainable and fairer community, of which our communities will be proud."

Blackpool Council has priorities on which to focus efforts and resources to make a positive difference to the people of Blackpool.

This Commissioning Strategy supports the achievement of these priorities:

- Tackling child poverty, raising aspirations and improving educational achievement
- Safeguarding and protecting the most vulnerable
- Improving health and wellbeing especially for the most disadvantaged
- Improving housing standards and the environment we live in by using housing investment to create stable communities
- Creating safer communities and reducing crime and anti-social behaviour

Section Two:

National and Local Strategic relevance

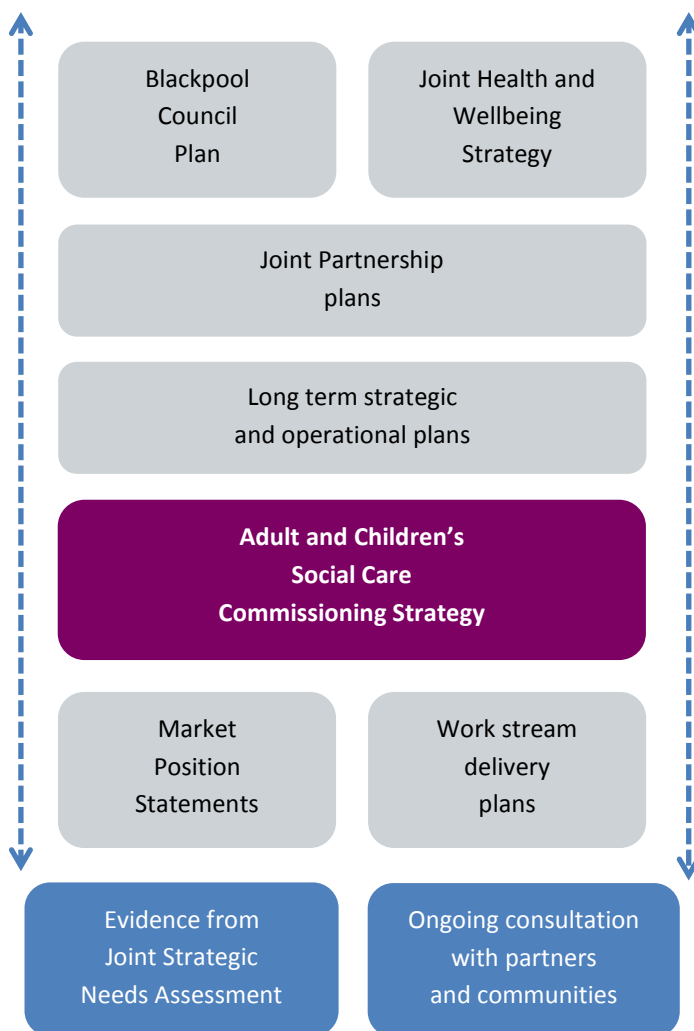
Introduction

Blackpool Council is a large and complex organisation responsible for the delivery and provision of a wide range of services and ultimately accountable to the residents of Blackpool. To function effectively the council has developed an approach to ensure that its plans and those of its partners are aligned, as illustrated.

Blackpool Council's Corporate Plan and the Health and Wellbeing Board's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy are the key drivers for the strategic direction which all partners across Blackpool are working towards.

Partners have developed joint plans to support reductions in duplication and to better manage demand. To support these plans local partners have developed specific and longer term operational and strategic actions setting out the activity delivered.

Ongoing consultation and intelligence gathering via the JSNA process influences and shapes the future direction.



National and Local context

Whilst developing this Commissioning Strategy Blackpool Council recognise that to best meet the needs of those requiring care and support it needs to shift the intention from tackling ill health to promoting good health, wellbeing and independence. Blackpool Council's focus is directed by national policy and legislation and shaped by local demand.

National context

There is important law and national guidance influencing the commissioning of health and social care services for adults and children, including:

Care Act 2014

The Act consolidates existing laws and places individuals' wellbeing at the centre of care

Children and Families Act 2014

The Act reforms the systems for adoption, looked-after children, family justice and special educational needs

Localism Act 2011

The Act devolved more decision making powers to local government, local communities and individuals

Equalities Act 2010

The Act provides a single framework to tackle disadvantage and discrimination

Public Services Social Value Act 2012

The Act requires public authorities to have regard to economic, social and environmental wellbeing

Children's Act 2004

The Act provides the legal basis of how social services and other agencies deal with issues relating to children

Building Capacity

Partnership in Care Agreement 2001

The agreement focuses on public and private sectors entering into placing older people in care homes or giving them other forms of support

Think Local Act Personal 2011

A national partnership transforming health and social care through personalisation and community-based support

Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework, Public Health and NHS Outcomes frameworks

Three frameworks setting outcomes and indicators for measuring social care and public health

The Comprehensive Spending Review 2013 - 2016

The spending review establishes how much money partners will have to spend on services

Integrated Care and Support, our shared commitment 2013

This policy promoting the delivery of integrated care built around the needs of individuals

National strategy for Carers and Carers at the heart of the 21st century family and communities 2008 and Recognised, valued and supported: Next steps for carers strategy 2010

These documents set out the Government's commitment to service for carers

Health and Social Care Act 2012

The Act creates a new commissioning framework for the provision of social care and public health

The NHS five year forward view 2014

Sets out how the health service needs to change and a vision for a better NHS

No health without mental health 2011

Cross government
Mental Health outcomes strategy

Valuing People 2011

A strategy for Learning Disability for the 21st century

Think Autism 2014

Fulfilling and rewarding lives, the strategy for adults with autism

Local context

The commissioning priorities for Blackpool are influenced but not limited to the following plans and programmes:

Blackpool Council's Plan 2013 - 2015

The plan describes the council's priorities, values and ambitions over the next three years and explains what the council will do to help improve the lives of local people.

Blackpool Health and Wellbeing Board's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013 -2015

The strategy sets out a framework for integrating local services and reducing health inequalities and is a key influence in the commissioning of health, social care and public health and other community based services

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

A statement of current and future health and wellbeing needs of the people of Blackpool

Housing Related Support Strategy 2014

Commissioning intentions for housing related support services

Homelessness Prevention Strategy 2014

Sets out how Blackpool Council will address a range of housing issues. The ultimate goal is to ensure local people have settled in homes which will enable them to build settled lives

Adult Social Care Market Position Statements 2014

Statements for Residential Care and Care at Home indicate the direction for adult health and social care provision and shows the tools and support available to current and potential providers



Blackpool Public Health Annual Report

An independent assessment of the health of the people of Blackpool

Blackpool CCG Strategic Plan

Through local pooled budget arrangements will encourage health and social care partners to work more closely together

Joint SEND Commissioning Plan 2014

The plan outlines how Children's and Young People's needs are met across agencies

Children and Young Peoples Plan 2013 - 2016

Provides a review how effective we have been putting things in place to make continuous improvements for children and young people in Blackpool, to be replaced by

Children and Young Peoples Strategy (under development)

Agreed priorities, actions and measures based on evidence in the Children's Strategic Needs Assessment

Better Start Programme

A ten year programme funded by the Big Lottery that will enable key agencies to work together to help give children up to three years of age a better start to life

Understanding our community

In order to commission effective services it is important to understand the demographics, demand and use of services across Blackpool.

- Blackpool is a unitary authority. The council's area is one of the most densely populated towns in the country with around 64,000 households in the town
 - Blackpool's population is estimated to be 141,400 of whom 50.86% are female and 49.14% male. Blackpool is a densely populated area of 3488 hectares
 - There are 40.7 persons per hectare in Blackpool. Only Manchester and Liverpool in the North West are more densely populated
 - Blackpool has a greater proportion of people aged 65 and over: 19.9% of the population of Blackpool are aged 65 and over compared to 17.4% in England and Wales as a whole
 - The percentage of Blackpool's population who are members of minority ethnic groups is 3.5% compared to 14% in England and Wales
 - Between 2002 and 2013 Blackpool consistently had fewer births than deaths. The biggest contributor to Blackpool's recent decrease in population is migration out of the town. However the population of Blackpool is expected to grow steadily over the coming years according to ONS projections. This is mainly due to migration from other parts of the county
 - Blackpool's mortality rate for people under 75 years from preventative liver disease and respiratory disease is the worst in England this is mainly due to smoking and drinking
 - Life expectancy in Blackpool is amongst the lowest in the country. Although life expectancy is improving overall, it is not improving as fast as elsewhere. Male life expectancy in Blackpool ranks last of all upper tier local authority areas and female life expectancy is the second lowest
- Male life expectancy in Blackpool** between 2011 and 2013 was 74.0 years 5.0 years less than the English average
- Female life expectancy in Blackpool** between 2011 and 2013 was 80.1 years 2.9 years less than the English average
- The number of women who are at risk of domestic abuse is 100.5 per 10,000 which is nearly four times the national average
 - Blackpool experiences considerable levels of disadvantage with a low skill and low pay economy based on a seasonal tourist trade. During 2010 Blackpool ranked as the 6th most deprived of 354 local authorities in England
 - In the twelve months ended October 2014 there was a success rate of 47.4% of alcohol treatments in Blackpool compared to 39.2% in England as a whole
 - Take up of the NHS health check programme was 25.1% during 2013/14 and is the best in the country

Children

- Over 9,000 children live in poverty in Blackpool, 30.2% of all children
- Some wards have at least 40% of children living in poverty which is equivalent to at least 500 children in each ward
- Two thirds of children in poverty live with lone parents
- Blackpool has had better take up of childcare, a higher rate of employment, and more people on benefits living in energy efficient homes than other areas with similar levels of child poverty
- There are a significant number of children acting as carers many of which are not in contact with support services
- The referral rate of vulnerable children into social care is significantly higher than the national average
- At March 2014 there were 1872 children that had been identified through an assessment as being formally in need of a specialist children's service, and 443 children being looked after by the local authority

Carers

- Census evidenced that between 2001 and 2011 the number of people providing unpaid care increased by 0.62%
- As at 2011 the number of people providing unpaid care was 18,330 which equates to nearly 13% of the local population



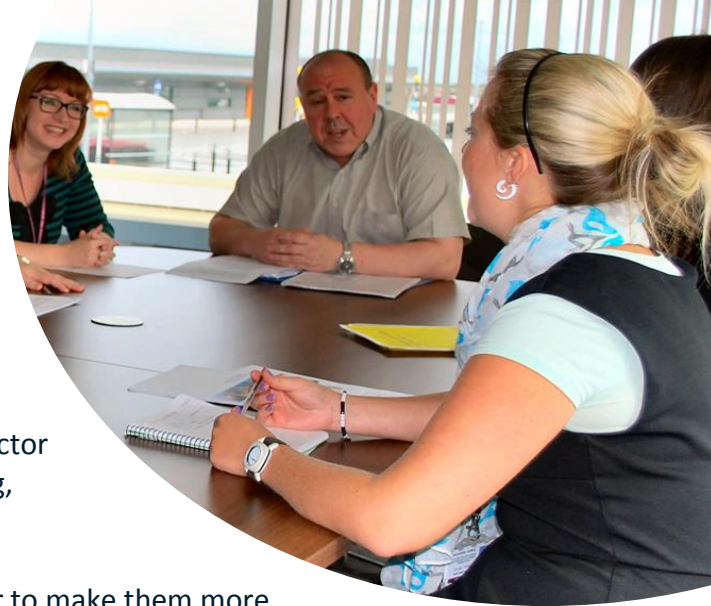
Adults

- By 2020 the number of people aged over 65 is estimated to increase to over 29,000 an increase of 5%
- The older age group, people aged 80 and over is predicted to increase by 10% as people live longer and migrate to the town
- The likely impact of this trend will be increased demand for health and social care assessment, appropriate housing options, high rates of mobility, personal care and domestic needs, and increasing demand for services to support people with dementia
- Approximately 13,000 people in Blackpool are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA). This represents 9.2% of the population and is nearly twice the national average

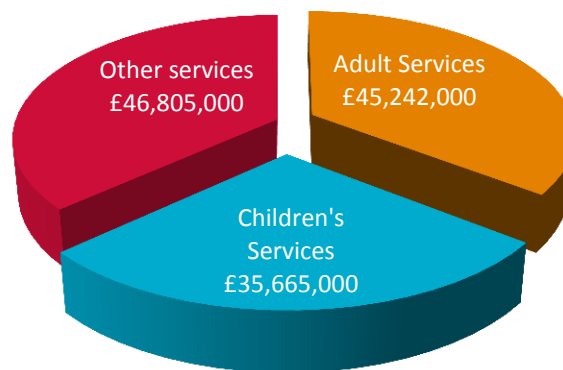
Finance

Reducing budgets mean that Blackpool Council has to continue to work efficiently when commissioning services. The council will be continuing to expand the amount of work it does with public sector, voluntary sector partners, including shared services, joint commissioning, pooling resources and co-location of staff.

Blackpool Council will also be bringing services together to make them more efficient and resilient. Blackpool Council and service providers will need to redesign services to make sure they are really delivering the outcomes that are needed to make life better for the people of Blackpool.



Net expenditure budget 2015 – 2016



- The target savings for the council as a whole are set at £25m for 2015/16.
- Savings targets for the next three years have yet to be confirmed however, the council does face financial challenges for the life of this strategy.
- In addition to the Children's Social Care and Health budgets, Blackpool has been successful in a bid for Big Lottery funding of £45m over 10 years to help give 0 – 3 year olds in Blackpool a better start in life. This programme will have a significant impact on investment in services for babies up to the age of three and will enhance support for parents and young families across Blackpool.

The initiative is run by Blackpool Better Start partnership, led by the NSPCC working with Blackpool Council, NHS organisations, voluntary organisations and a number of local parents.

What people have told us...

People and communities have been fundamental in helping us deliver our commissioning strategy. This has helped us to understand what it is like to be a “recipient” of services; the impacts on people personally and collectively; and understanding of where a greater or lesser emphasis on particular outcomes would be desirable.

Needs to be easy to access preventative services

Innovative solutions are required

Stronger links are needed with health centres

There are strong partnerships working in local third sector

Services need to be more bespoke

The service has changed my life

Young Carers Centre helps me get away for a few hours

People with acute needs cannot wait for services

Quality is more important than quantity

We need to be aware of over complicating the process

Continuity of care is the most important thing to me

The service has given me confidence to talk

We don't want to keep repeating our story

We want to be involved in developing services & plans

Young people need to have a voice and be listened to

Information needs to be easy to understand

Section Three:

Commissioning principles and priorities



Blackpool Council are committed to the following principles and priorities whilst working through the commissioning process

| The Commissioning Principles | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1 | We will ensure that Blackpool Council’s corporate priorities are at the forefront of the strategy and the guiding principles which establish the way we commission services |
| 2 | We will work in partnership. We will work alongside other public, private and the voluntary sector to deliver integrated services wherever possible |
| 3 | We will promote quality services and promise to monitor and manage services we buy to ensure that they are effective and delivering what is needed |
| 4 | We will use our commissioning processes to maximise value for money and the benefits for our local residents making the best use of resources |
| 5 | We will listen to the views of local residents. We will consult and engage throughout the commissioning process to make sure that services are what residents want |
| 6 | We will commission services focussed on outcomes for communities and individuals with an emphasis on prevention and early intervention |
| 7 | In all our commissioning we will be aware of social value ensuring maximum benefit is derived from resources |

The Commissioning Priorities

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 |  | <p>To ensure the provision of a range of services for adult, young people and children with care and support needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keep vulnerable children and adults safe ▪ Ensure that children and adults can remain independent and safe in their own home for as long as possible ▪ To support the health and wellbeing of adults and children |
| 2 |  | <p>To ensure the people of Blackpool with eligible support needs are supported to access training, education, employment and volunteer opportunities</p> |
| 3 |  | <p>To make high quality information and advice available to the population of Blackpool and ensure that the information and advice is available when, how and where they need it</p> |
| 4 |  | <p>To promote a culture of high expectations and aspirations through the provision of those services which support all peoples to achieve their potential</p> |
| 5 |  | <p>To recognise carers as expert care partners, support them to enjoy a life outside of caring and to remain mentally and physically well: treated with dignity. To ensure that Children and Young People are protected from inappropriate caring roles and provide support for those who do care</p> |

Monitoring success

- The successful implementation of this strategy will impact upon Blackpool Council's performance in relation to Adult Social Care and Children's Health and Social Care. The strategy will be monitored through reporting and feedback to the Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care Executives.

Individual service implementation plans will be monitored by the appropriate Partnership Boards and Executive Steering Groups.



Providing feedback or comments

- by email:
contracts.team@blackpool.gov.uk
- or by telephone:
01253 477764
- or by writing:
Blackpool Council
Contracts & Commissioning Team
Adult and Children's Services
PO Box 4
Blackpool
FY1 4NA
- To ensure our services are accessible to all, documents are prepared by Blackpool Council are available in large print, Braille, audio cassette or on computer disc upon request








We can also provide help for British Sign Language users and provide information in other languages. Please ask for details or telephone 01253 477477

Appendix A

Delivery Plan 2015/2016




The following delivery plan will be implemented during the first year of this strategy.

This plan will be updated and reviewed annually, and the strategy document will be updated accordingly.

| Ref | Priorities that will be achieved | Actions for 2015/2016 |
|------------------|---|---|
| Universal | | |
| 1 |  | Develop and deliver a programme of Commissioning Reviews of Adults and Children's internal and external services to ensure that commissioned services are meeting need, desired outcomes and delivering quality services |
| 2 |  | To work with Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group to fully implement and integrate the principals of the Better Care Fund Programme. To jointly develop with health and social care professionals a neighbourhood / locality model with co-located integrated teams around groups of GP practices. The emphasis will be to put health and wellbeing at the heart of health and social care provision through enhanced primary care and integrated working |
| 3 |  | Develop and implement a local autism commissioning plan in line with the national "Think Autism" strategy and the Children and Young Persons Autism Pathway |
| 4 |  | Continue to integrate the functions of Blackpool Council's Commissioning and Contracting teams for Adult and Children's Social Care |
| 5 |  | Ensure that there are suitable mechanisms in place to consider the effectiveness, obtain feedback, and register concerns or complaints about the commissioning process |
| 6 |  | In partnership with adult social care review the processes for allocation of packages of care to ensure that there is a fair, transparent and efficient commissioning process |
| 7 |  | Review all provider service specifications and service level agreements to support needs based outcome focussed service delivery |




| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 8 |  | Further develop our Market Position Statements to include all areas of Commissioned Services and to ensure that they focus on outcomes not services |
| 9 |  | Work with providers of services to identify workforce development requirements and identify opportunities to support these |
| 10 |  | To ensure that internal staff involved in the commissioning and contracting process are well trained, competent, and familiar with evolving based practice and market developments |
| 11 |  | To engage with stakeholders and partners to structure local care and support markets and ensure that all 'Market Shaping ' activity considers compliance with the Equalities Act 2010 |
| 12 |  | Develop stronger links with Adult Social Care practitioners to identify gaps in service provision and opportunities for joint working |
| 13 |  | Work within Blackpool Council's procurement rules and legal framework offering choice and innovation when meeting social care needs |

Partnerships






| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 14 |  | To continue to work in partnership with key stakeholders including Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group, other public bodies and the private and voluntary sector by engagement in panels, forums and partnership boards to ensure there is an open dialogue and a co-production approach to commissioning services |
| 15 |  | Develop partnerships across health, education, schools, parents and special educational needs groups |
| 16 |  | To continue to work in partnership with Healthwatch Blackpool to ensure the consumer voice is heard in relation to the experiences and feedback of local people on the health and social care services they receive |

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 17 |  | Work in partnership with the Blackpool Centre for Early Child Development, led by the NSPCC, in the development of the Better Start Programme to improve outcomes for some of our most vulnerable families, using evidence based programmes which will support a healthy start in life for young children 0-3 years old |
| 18 |  | Work in partnership with police, probation and public health to create a Domestic Abuse strategy and action plan and drive forward transformational change in the delivery of services |
| 19 |  | Work in partnership with Children's Provider Services to review the implementation of the HeadStart programme pilots, to build resilience in young people aged 10-14 |
| 20 |  | Work with local partners and wellness services to support the actions of the local Dementia Action Alliance and to develop a dementia strategy |
| 21 |  | Work in partnership with Public Health, Fairness Commission and Voluntary Sector to address the social isolation agenda through an assets based approach |
| 22 |  | Work with external providers to maximise social benefits through the delivery of services, including payment of living wage, creation of local jobs and training opportunities |






Advice and Information





| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 23 |  | Work in partnership to establish an advice and information service relating to care and support across Blackpool to meet the needs of the local population. To enable people to make informed choices about their care and support needs regardless of how this is funded |
| 24 |  | To continue to develop and promote www.blackpool4me.com and the SEND Local Offer www.blackpool.gov.uk/localoffer to enable people to make informed choices about their care and support needs |
| 25 |  | Work in partnership to identify options for a "personal assistant" register to support people who wish to manage their own budgets or those that pay for their own care |

Carers








| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 26 |  | Ensure that Carers have access to information which is timely, accurate and fit for purpose |
| 27 |  | Review the Care Act requirements in relation to carers to ensure that the responsibilities of the authority are met |
| 28 |  | Work to increase the number of carer's assessments undertaken by the council's Adult Social Care teams to ensure the individual carers' needs are understood and that a specific support plan is drawn up based on those needs |
| 29 |  | Identify hidden carers to ensure they are supported to continue to care |
| 30 |  | Work to have processes in place to identify young carers, assess and define their needs and ensure services available to meet identified needs |







Children and Young People

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 31 |  | To ensure there is timely support and appropriate interventions for those families and children who need it most |
| 32 |  | To ensure there is sufficient placement provision that meets the needs of Blackpool's looked after children, prioritising placements and adoption |
| 33 |  | To support a strategic review of speech, language and communication services to achieve a more coordinated approach to provision, to improve skills across all ages of children and young people |
| 34 |  | Ensure that appropriate Adult, Police and Criminal Evidence and Remand provision is available to support Young Offenders |
| 35 |  | To explore opportunities for future commissioning of mediation and dispute resolution for children with special educational needs and disability services |

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 36 |  | To collaborate in a Pan Lancashire Public Law Outline arrangement to ensure that all care, supervision and other Part 4 care proceedings are completed within a maximum of 26 weeks |
| 37 |  | Undertake a review of Special Educational Needs especially out of area in relation to behaviour issues |
| 38 |  | To explore appropriate opportunities to participate in North West procurement activities via Placements North West |
| 39 |  | Participate in the Department for Education pilot for extending the rights of children and young people to appeal health and social care aspects of their education, health and care plan to tribunal |

Adults

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 40 |  | Implement the Care Act requirements in relation to advocacy services and commission sufficient resource to ensure the voice of adults and children are heard |
| 41 |  | Ensure the provision of quality care at home through the commissioning of new care at home frameworks for adults, children and people with learning disabilities |
| 42 |  | Further develop the delivery of a programme of dementia awareness training in residential care homes and to include care at home agencies |
| 43 |  | Increase the number of Elderly Mentally Infirm (EMI) residential beds in Blackpool to reduce the need for out of area placements and delayed hospital discharge |
| 44 |  | To examine the practice of Top-up payments in residential care |
| 45 |  | Work in partnership with Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group and other partners to establish Operational Resilience Plans to ensure system resilience within residential and home care provision all year round |
| 46 |  | Contribute to the redesign of the Supported Hospital Discharge pathway, ensuring Adult Social Care considerations are made and working together to ensure the best patient experience in the most appropriate way |

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 47 |  | To consider the provision of counselling services in light of requirements of the Care Act |
| 48 |  | To work with the Client Finances Team to develop services to support people who lack the mental capacity to manage their own finances. This may require the council or another suitable representative to act as an appointee to claim, collect and use benefits on behalf of the person |
| 49 |  | Explore options to provide support to people with capacity to help them manage their finances effectively, for example, by signposting to suitable money advice |
| 50 |  | To explore options for a local quality scheme for Residential and Nursing Care Homes |
| 51 |  | Ensure that where possible there is continuity of care provider for people when moving from Continuing Health Care funded by NHS to Social Care funded by the council |
| 52 |  | Ensure a seamless transition of care packages for young people becoming adults especially in relation to the Children and Families Act and the Care Act duties |

Housing and Employment

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 53 |  | Support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness through the delivery of the priorities and actions identified in the Housing Related Support Strategy 2014 |
| 54 |  | Ensure supported employment opportunities are available for people who are assessed as being eligible for care and support as an integrated part of personal health and social care provision |
| 55 |  | Develop a positive support and accommodation pathway for young people 16-24 years old, which will encourage transformational change across all sectors to provide holistic support to vulnerable young people |
| 56 |  | To work in partnership with Housing Strategy, Planning, Housing Providers and Adult Social Care to ensure that sufficient and effective accommodation and support options are available for people with mental health conditions meet their needs and recovery is enabled |

Appendix B

Consultations

| Date | Group | Location | Number of people |
|----------------|--|-----------------|------------------|
| August 2014 | Providers of Adult Services | Winter Gardens | 52 |
| August 2014 | Providers of Children's Services | Winter Gardens | 49 |
| September 2014 | Voluntary and Community Sector | Winter Gardens | 38 |
| October 2014 | Website surveys | Online | 32 |
| November 2014 | Young carers group | Church Street | 9 |
| November 2014 | Carers Hugs Group | Church Street | 14 |
| November 2014 | Age UK Staff and Volunteers | Abingdon Street | 30 |
| November 2014 | Providers of services for people with autism | Whitegate Drive | 6 |
| November 2014 | Autism assessment service user group | Whitegate Drive | 12 |
| December 2014 | Blackpool Council Adult Social Care Teams | Various | 35 |
| December 2014 | LGBT young people group | Central Drive | 4 |
| December 2014 | Young people group | Central Drive | 16 |

Appendix C

Version control

| Date | Reference | Details |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 16 th Dec 2014 | Internal draft version 1.0 | Initial internal draft for approval by Adult Social Care and Blackpool Children's Improvement Board |
| 22 nd Dec 2014 | Internal draft version 1.1 | Minor additions to action plan for Children and Young People |
| 7 th Jan 2015 | Public draft version 1.1 | Public release of draft document for consultation |
| 26 th Jan 2015 | Public draft version 1.2 | Updates following feedback, additions to action plan, updated finance and community sections. Equality analysis added. |
| 6 th Feb 2015 | Final version 2.0 | Feedback taken into account and final version prepared. |
| 10 th Feb 2015 | Final version 2.1 | Revisions following feedback from Central Leadership Team |

Approvals/Key stakeholder notifications

| Date | Reference | Details |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 18 th Dec 2014 | Adult Executive | Draft 1.0 approved |
| 7 th Jan 2015 | Blackpool Voluntary Sector Forum | |
| 12 th Jan 2015 | Children's Shadow Improvement Board | |
| 20 th Jan 2015 | Strategic Commissioning Group | |
| 22 nd Jan 2015 | Children's Senior Management Team | Draft 1.1 approved |
| 9 th Feb 2015 | Central Leadership Team | Version 2.0 approved with revisions |

Appendix D

Equality analysis

STEP 1 – IDENTIFYING THE PURPOSE OR AIMS

| | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | <p>What type of policy, service or function is this? Changing/updated ✓</p> |
| 2 | <p>What is the aim and purpose of the strategy? The purpose of the Commissioning Strategy is to state how Blackpool Council’s Adult and Children’s Social Care Directorate will embrace the national principles and vision for adult social care through its commissioning function. The strategy identifies the commissioning principles and priorities and shows how these will be delivered by a detailed plan.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Please outline any proposals being considered The Commissioning Strategy for Adult and Children’s Social Care 2015 – 2018 outlines Blackpool Council’s vision and principles and priorities for development.</p> |
| 4 | <p>What outcomes do we want to achieve? Delivery of the principles and priorities through a detailed annual plan</p> |
| 5 | <p>Who is the policy intended to benefit? Residents of Blackpool</p> |
| 6 | <p>Who are the main stakeholders, customers and communities of interest?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Residents of Blackpool ▪ Adults and Children who may use services provided by Social Care ▪ Blackpool CCG and Public Health ▪ Local voluntary and community sector ▪ Local minority groups and forums ▪ Providers of services for Adults and Children |
| 7 | <p>Does the policy have any existing aims in relation to equality / diversity or community cohesion? The strategy has no exclusions in relation to any user groups. Some commissioned services have specific access criteria.</p> |

STEP 2 – CONSIDERING EXISTING INFORMATION AND WHAT THIS TELLS YOU

| | |
|----------|---|
| 8 | <p>Please summarise the main data / research The research and data considered has been detailed in the main document. A consultation record has also been included, refer to Appendix B. Consultation events have taken place with front line internal and external staff, providers of services, users of services and the voluntary sector. A variety of feedback mechanisms have been used including interviews, presentations, and website surveys. Specific areas for development have been included in the delivery plan as a result of these consultations. It was widely agreed that service</p> |
|----------|---|

provision has changed significantly over recent years due to reductions in funding and the key to future success is continued efficient partnership working and accurate advice and information.

Consultation on the draft strategy document took place during January 2015. It was felt that the document was well presented and in an attractive format and easy to follow. The delivery plan was updated and amended as a result of feedback and agreement made that the plan would be updated on an annual basis.

9 What are the impacts or effects for Key Protected Characteristics?
The Commissioning Strategy for Adult and Children's Social Care should have no differential impact on any specific equality strand. All services within the scope of the strategy are to support residents of Blackpool.

10 What do you know about how the proposals could affect community cohesion?
The strategy confirms the council's commitment to supporting people who qualify for services from social care and to provide advice and information to people who may fund their own care.

STEP 3 – ANALYSING THE IMPACT

11 Does the strategy create any additional barriers for any groups or disabled people?
None have been identified.

STEP 4 – DEALING WITH ADVERSE OR UNLAWFUL IMPACT

12 What can be done to improve the strategy in order to reduce or remove any adverse impact of effects identified?
No adverse effects have been identified. Continued dialogue and consultation will take place with users of services and minority groups as part of the commissioning process.

STEP 5 – CONSULTING THOSE AFFECTED FOR THEIR VIEWS

13 What feedback or responses have you received to the findings and possible courses of action?
The strategy was developed following consultation and engagement sessions between August and December 2014. A consultation log is included please refer to Appendix B. The first draft strategy was published for consultation and feedback during January 2015. Further views and comments were incorporated into the final document which was approved and published during February 2015.

STEP 6 – ARRANGEMENTS FOR MONITORING AND REVIEW

14 Outline your arrangements for future monitoring and review
Ongoing review will take place as part of the commissioning process. A webpage will also be developed for feedback to be provided online. The delivery plans will be updated and published on an annual basis and this will be over seen by the Adult Executive and the Children's Senior Management Team.

Prepared by:

Commissioning and Contracts Team

People Directorate

Blackpool Council

PO Box 4 Blackpool FY1 1NA

Published February 2015