

## **EXECUTIVE CABINET**

1. Any Cabinet recommendations on the reports that require Council decisions appear as separate items on the agenda.

## **GENERAL REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 25 JUNE 2015**

### **Public Questions**

2. There was one question from a member of the public, which related to the Central Lancashire Gypsy, Traveller & Travelling Showpeople's Accommodation Assessment - May 2015. That report appears as a separate item on the Council agenda.

### **Report of the Commission on the Future of Public Services in Chorley**

3. I presented the report of the Project Director which encloses the report from the commission on the Future of Public Services in Chorley.
4. On 4 and 5 March, the council hosted an independent commission to examine the future of public services in the borough. The commission received evidence from a range of organisations and individuals, and has produced a final report.
5. The report sets out the findings of the commission, and their recommendations for making public services sustainable while meeting the needs of the borough in the future.
6. I thanked all those people who were involved in the Commission and noted that, although other organisations deliver services across a different footprint, they are all delivering services for Chorley residents. The report doesn't give the answers, but evidences that, in the main, partners support the approach being taken by the Council.
7. We noted the report.

### **Chorley Council Performance Monitoring Report - Fourth Quarter 2014/15**

8. The Deputy Executive Leader and Executive Member (Resources) presented the report of the Chief Executive which sets out the performance against the delivery of the Corporate Strategy, and key performance indicators during the fourth quarter of 2014/15.
9. The report provides an update on the performance of last year's Corporate Strategy projects and the outcomes achieved. All projects have been successfully completed or are rated green with highly positive outcomes that have been developed and taken forward in 2015/16.
10. Overall performance of 2014/15 key projects is excellent, with 94% of the projects on track or scheduled to start later in the year. One project; Deliver the

Chorley Youth Zone has been rated amber due to delays in the agreement of the design, operation and funding for the Chorley Youth Zone. We considered a report on the Youth Zone later on the agenda.

11. Overall performance on the Corporate Strategy indicators and key service delivery measures is good. 75% of the Corporate Strategy indicators and 90% of the key service measures are performing above target or within the 5% tolerance. The Corporate Strategy measures performing below target are; the median workplace earnings in the borough, the number of town centre visits, the number of long term empty properties in the borough, and the percentage of customers dissatisfied with the way they were treated by the Council. The key service delivery measure performing below target is the time taken to process all new claims and change events for Housing and Council Tax benefit. Action plans are included within the report outlining what actions are being taken to improve performance.
12. We noted the report.

### **Cuerden Valley Country Park Visitors Centre**

13. The Deputy Executive Leader and Executive Member (Resources) presented the report of the Director of Public Protection, Streetscene and Community to consider providing £65,000 financial support to Cuerden Valley Country Park towards their new visitor centre.
14. The centre will help with viability and safeguard the park's future. The scheme addresses an action in the Play, Open Space and Playing Pitch Strategy to work with the Trust to address their sustainability.
15. It is intended that the building will be an environmentally friendly and sustainable in keeping with the Park's ethos, surroundings and environmental objectives. The building construction proposed involves eco-friendly methods and materials, consisting mainly of straw bales with a shingle roof, utilising timber from the park as part of the construction and with foundations incorporating recycled materials.
16. We supported the grant and noted this will be a major improvement to a Chorley asset. We granted approval to provide a grant of £65,000 to Cuerden Valley Country Park towards their visitor centre.

### **Single Front Office Policies Review**

17. The Deputy Executive Leader and Executive Member (Resources) presented the report of the Director of Customer and Advice Services seeking approval for several revised and updated policies.

18. As part of the implementation of the single front office, a review of policies within the service has been carried out to ensure that they are up-to-date and consistent with both the aims of the service and the council's corporate priorities.
19. The report provides a summary of each of the policies, outlining the legislative background, the general principles within each policy and the funding arrangements where applicable. The policies provide transparency for customers in terms of the council's approach. In addition, staff will follow operational procedures and guidance on a day-to-day basis.
20. We granted approval to consult on the policies with other precepting authorities, interested parties and the wider community and for the adoption of the policies under delegated powers by the Executive Member for Resources, following a successful consultation outcome.
21. We granted delegated authority to the council's Chief Financial Officer/Executive Member for Resources to approve changes to the policies where the changes are cost neutral and granted delegated authority to the council's Chief Financial Officer to approve the granting of discretionary housing payments and council tax discretionary hardship relief where these will exceed the current budget. Finally, we granted delegated authority to the council's Chief Financial Officer to approve bankruptcy and liquidation proceedings under the Debt Management Policy.

### **Executive Cabinet Response to the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group on Neighbourhood Working**

22. The Executive Member (Community Services) presented the report of the Director of Public Protection, Streetscene and Community providing the response to the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group Review of Neighbourhood Working. The review had been undertaken in late 2014 and reported to Executive Cabinet in February 2015.
23. We accepted all the recommendations, apart from one (Recommendation 4) relating to the provision of a single point of contact on neighbourhood matters for parish councils and community groups.
24. Councillor Murray thanked all those who contributed to the inquiry.
25. We granted approval to accept the recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group Review of Neighbourhood Working as outlined in the report.

### **VCFS Commissioning 2014/15 2016/17; End of Year One**

26. The Executive Member (Community Services) presented the report of the Chief Executive which gives an update on the performance of the commissioned VCFS providers during 2014/15.

27. In March 2014 Executive Cabinet approved the providers for the contracts procured through the VCFS commissioning process. It has been agreed that all contracts would be 1 +1 +1; meaning that the contract will be for 1 year with the option to extend on an annual basis for up to a further two years subject to contract review, with a maximum contract length of 3 years.
28. The report recognises the valuable work being undertaken within our communities by voluntary, community and faith groups. Each of the organisations commissioned has expressed that they can see no risks to the future delivery of their service, and that their service is on track to achieve year two and three targets. Following the successful contract reviews it has been agreed that in line with the contract, the Agreement will be extended for a further term of one year (1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016).
29. We noted the report.

### **Chorley Youth Zone**

30. I presented the confidential report of the Chief Executive which briefs Members on the proposed terms and conditions for the development of the Chorley Youth Zone off Railway Street, Chorley and sought authority for the Executive Member for Resources to approve the final agreed terms and conditions by way of an Executive Member Decision.
31. We granted approval that the terms and conditions set out in the report be approved and the Head of Governance and Property Services be authorised to negotiate and agree final terms and conditions with all relevant parties involved in the development and that such agreed terms be reported for approval by the Executive Member for Resources by way of an Executive Member Report.
32. We granted approval that the Director of Public Protection, Streetscene and Community, Jamie Carson, be the Council's nominated trustee on Chorley Youth Zone Charitable Trust.

### **Proposed Buckshaw Community Centre**

33. The Deputy Executive Leader and Executive Member (Resources) presented the confidential report of the Chief Executive which sets out the terms agreed for the acquisition of the land and building comprising the Buckshaw Community Centre off Ordnance Road, Buckshaw Village, and seeks authority to accept the terms as negotiated.
34. We granted approval that the terms be agreed and the Head of Governance and Property Services be authorised to complete the acquisition.

### **CCTV Infrastructure Upgrade - Procurement Update**

35. The Executive Member (Public Protection) presented the confidential report of the Director of Public Protection, Streetscene and Community which advises of the current procurement exercise for a contractor to deliver the CCTV infrastructure upgrade and repair/maintenance services which Executive Cabinet approved in October 2014 for delivery in 2015/16.
36. We noted the current progress of procuring a CCTV infrastructure upgrade including service and maintenance contract, the procurement process to date and granted approval to the evaluation process to be used in determining the successful contract bidder.
37. We granted delegated authority to the Executive Member for Public Protection to award the contract to the winning bidder in accordance with the proposed selection criteria.

### **Police Community Support Officer - Deployment Update**

38. The Executive Member (Public Protection) presented the confidential report of the Director of Public Protection, Streetscene and Community which updates on changes being made by Lancashire Constabulary to the number and deployment of Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) in the Chorley Council area.
39. We granted approval to continue the funding support for PCSO deployment in Chorley at current levels with an annual review to commence as part of the budget setting process for financial year 2016/17.
40. We noted the planned reduction in PCSO numbers and the Constabulary's use of an element of the PCSO resource to be directed to early intervention and prevention case work and we granted approval to task senior Council Officers to continue discussions with Lancashire Constabulary to implement any reduction in PCSO resource in consultation with the Council and at a pace that minimises its impact.

### **Recommendation**

41. That the report be noted.

COUNCILLOR ALISTAIR BRADLEY  
Executive Leader

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