



LANCASTER
CITY COUNCIL

Promoting City, Coast & Countryside

COUNCIL MEETING

**Wednesday, 28 July 2021 –
6.00 p.m.
Morecambe Town Hall**

Lancaster City Council welcomes members of the public to watch meetings. We have been streaming meetings since the return to face-to-face meetings in May, and we would recommend that members of the public MS teams to watch remotely. A link to the meeting is [HERE](#). If you wish to attend in person to speak or ask a question at the meeting, please email democracy@lancaster.gov.uk before midday on Friday 23 July with a copy of your speech or question.

Kieran Keane,
Chief Executive,
Town Hall,
Dalton Square,
LANCASTER,
LA1 1PJ



LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

Promoting City, Coast & Countryside

Sir/Madam,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Lancaster City Council to be held in the Town Hall, Morecambe on Wednesday, 28 July 2021 commencing at 6.00 p.m. for the following purposes:

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2. **MINUTES**

To receive as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on 23 June 2021 (previously circulated).

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations by Councillors of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Councillors are reminded that, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting).

Whilst not a legal requirement, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 and in the interests of clarity and transparency, Councillors should declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, at this point in the meeting.

In accordance with Part B Section 2 of the Code of Conduct, Councillors are required to declare the existence and nature of any other interests as defined in paragraphs 8(1) or 9(2) of the Code of Conduct.

4. **ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive any announcements which may be submitted by the Mayor or Chief Executive.

6. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 11**

To receive questions in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rules 11.1 and 11.3 which require members of the public to give at least 3 days' notice in writing of questions to a Member of Cabinet or Committee Chairman.

7. **PETITIONS AND ADDRESSES**

To receive any petitions and/or addresses from members of the public which have been notified to the Chief Executive in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

8. **LEADER'S REPORT** (Pages 5 - 7)

To receive the Cabinet Leader's report on proceedings since the last meeting of Council.

9. **EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS** (Page 8)

To receive a report of the Leader.

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

10. **MOTION ON NOTICE - REFORMS OF THE PLANNING SYSTEM (MOTION 1)** (Pages 9 - 10)

To consider the first of two motions on notice regarding reforms to the planning system. This motion has been submitted by Councillor Matthews (proposer) and Councillor Dant (seconder) and is included in the agenda papers along with an officer briefing note which covers both motions.

11. **MOTION ON NOTICE - REFORMS TO THE PLANNING SYSTEM (MOTION 2)** (Page 11)

To consider the second motion on notice regarding reforms to the planning system submitted by Councillor Thornberry (proposer) and Councillors Hanson, Lewis and Robinson.

The motion is set out in the agenda papers and the officer briefing note for both motions about the planning system is included with motion 1.

12. **MOTION ON NOTICE - AN ETHICAL AND SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT POLICY** (Pages 12 - 13)

To consider a motion on notice to be moved and seconded by Councillors Lewis, Duggan, Hamilton-Cox and Pritchard.

The motion and an officer briefing note are included in the agenda papers.

OTHER BUSINESS

13. **APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Group Administrators to report any changes to Committee Membership.

14. **QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12**

To receive questions in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rules 12.2 and 12.4 which require a Member to give at least 3 working days' notice, in writing, of the question to the Chief Executive.

15. **MINUTES OF CABINET** (Pages 14 - 19)

To receive the Minutes of Meeting of Cabinet held on 8 June 2021.



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Chief Executive

Town Hall,
Dalton Square,
LANCASTER,
LA1 1PJ

Published on Tuesday 20 July, 2021.



Leader's Report

28 July 2021

Report of the Leader of the Council

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the Leader's report to Council.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To receive the report of the Leader of Council.

REPORT

1.0 Cabinet

Information on Cabinet matters is provided in the minutes from the Cabinet meetings held on 7 June 2021. The minutes from the Cabinet meeting held on 13 July will be tabled at September's Council meeting.

2.0 Decisions required to be taken urgently

No urgent Cabinet decisions have been taken in this period.

3.0 Leader's Comments

3.1 July has been an extremely busy month in terms of the opening up of what was "normal" council business and projects and there have been a great many meetings as officers, members and outside agencies begin to pick up on their concerns and ambitions.

3.2 **Covid 19 work** - the month has been dominated by a rapid rise in infections and the stepping up of work at county and local level to ensure communities are best protected. Work with businesses has been ongoing and the excellence of this has been recognised in the way Lancaster materials have formed a significant part of

the Toolkit published by the county council for the use of all councils. The community meetings that recommenced this month revealed a level of anxiety about the end of restrictions and this was followed up by a very full and useful briefing for all communities week week ending 16th July. Our communications team are regularly putting out messages relating both to cautious opening up and being respectful of people's choice to wear masks.

- 3.3 Support for staff** - the combination of Covid work, rising infections and staff absence because of isolation and childcare requirements has put staff under a great deal of pressure. The pressure is felt in every department but particularly for staff working with the community. Recent public comment over weeds, litter and grass-cutting whilst understandable must feel very demoralising to staff. Thanks to the Environment staff who have done excellent work getting key areas cut, cleared and planted, despite all the other difficulties and for ensuring day to day waste collection goes ahead whatever. If members can find opportunities to indicate their support for staff wherever possible it will help keep up everyone's morale and hopes at this difficult point.
- 3.4 The Bay Unitary** -the leaders and chief execs plus consultants have met every week to progress the work required whatever the outcome might be. By the time you read this, the announcement will have been made and if we are successful, Lancaster will be plunged into an exciting series of discussions to take forward the work to create a unitary authority.
- 3.5 Eden** - Dave Harland CEO of Eden has visited, cabinet passed the land transfer arrangements and briefings have been arranged with council members and community regarding Eden's application for planning permission. We are all extremely hopeful that a government announcement of funding will happen in the autumn. I am expecting to meet with David Morris in the near future to discuss what more we can do to show government that this project is, as they say, not only a wonderful example of "levelling up" for the north, but also absolutely "shovel-ready".
- 3.6 Lancashire County Council** - the new county council leader, Cllr Phillippa Williamson, has approached all councils involved in the District Leaders' Forum asking for a joint shortlist of areas on which they would like to work with the county council. This request has gone to all leaders of groups in this district as agreed by the Forum. The Forum has welcomed the co-operative approach that is being taken by the county council.
- 3.7 Various Building Projects** - firstly, the plans for Mainway are developing fast with the support of a new consultancy with good appreciation of the social and environmental ambitions of the city alongside rigorous financial requirements. Secondly the city council helped lead an inspiring conference on community-led housing, "Solid Foundations" to explore initiatives like the current Lune Valley Land Trust development of passivhaus affordable housing. Thirdly, I attended a guided walk in Ancoats, Manchester to look at the highly successful regeneration work there, an invitation received after a recent article on Canal Quarter in Place North West. Definitely pause for thought and well worth a visit if you are in Manchester. Finally the Collaboration Agreement required for the HIF has been received from Lancashire county council and is being worked on by our legal officers.

3.8 Community and partnership work - Sharon Parkinson who leads on Housing Options took on the difficult job of bringing together a district contribution to the Changing Futures bid jointly with NHS colleagues in an incredibly short time. Announced 17 July it will bring £6.5 million into the Lancashire area for work with those with multiple vulnerabilities such as mental health needs, homelessness, domestic violence and substance use. In addition I was privileged to be invited to speak by Carnforth Town Council at their annual meeting, to meet the candidates for the position of the vicar of the Priory Church and to attend the Lancaster Black History Group presentation of young people and community research into Lancaster's family links to slavery.

3.9 Finally, the cabinet has been concentrating on revisiting plan 2030 priorities for action in the light of our corporate plan and budget situation and has now got to the point of considering what will form the affordable priorities for the next two years.

4.0 Decisions

The following Decisions were taken by Cabinet on 13 July 2021:

1. Provisional General Fund Outturn 2020/21
2. Release of Capital Programme – Development Pool (Electric Van)
3. Release of Capital Reserves for South Lancaster Growth Catalyst
4. Climate Emergency Review of Local Plan – consultation
5. Shared Services Agreement – Revenues & Benefits
6. Shared Services Agreement – Fraud Investigation Services

The following Officer Delegated Key Decision has been taken since the last Leader's report.

ODD3	Award of contract – Air Source Heat Pumps	Decision to proceed with award of contract authorised by Cabinet on 23 March 2021.
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The following Individual Cabinet Member Decisions were taken since the last Leader's report:

ICMD2	Roofing Contract	Councillor Matthews 18.6.21
ICMD3	Farming in Protected Landscapes programme for the Arnside & Silverdale AONB	Councillor Frea 18.6.21 (Call-in waived)
ICMD4	Participation in the Afghan locally employed staff relocation scheme	Councillor Matthews 5.7.21 (Call-in waived)

Background Papers

Cabinet agenda 13 July 2021

COUNCIL

**Executive Arrangements
28 July 2021
Report of the Leader**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report to Council on the appointment of a Cabinet Member to the Lancashire Police and Crime Panel and a change of appointment to the Community Safety Partnership.

This report is public

RECOMMENDATION

(1) That the report be noted

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Lancaster City Council has been asked to appoint a Member to the Lancashire Police and Crime Panel by the authority who administer the Panel, Blackburn with Darwen Council. I have appointed the appropriate Cabinet Member, Councillor Thornberry, whose portfolio area includes Community Safety. I will inform the meeting of the name of a substitute member, who must also be from the same group as the appointed member (Labour group).

1.2 In addition, there is a change of the appointment to the Community Safety Partnership. I will be taking on this appointment myself, in place of Councillor Thornberry who was appointed to the partnership by Cabinet on 8 June 2021.

2.0 Conclusion

2.1 The Police and Crime Panel appointment is an executive function and therefore has been made by the Leader. This report is submitted in accordance Cabinet Procedure Rules and is for noting.

Motion on Notice - Reforms to the Planning System (Motion 1)

Proposer Councillor Matthews, Seconder Councillor Dant.

The Government has published highly controversial proposals to reform the planning system.

One aspect that has raised particular concern for local authorities is the proposal to remove local residents' right to object to individual planning applications in their own neighbourhood if the area is zoned for growth or renewal.

Last month, the House of Commons called on the Government to protect residents' rights to retain a voice over planning applications, recognising that the best way to get necessary new homes built is to support communities, councils, and developers to work in partnership.

A motion was passed by the House of Commons, with support from MPs of all political parties, supporting the principle of protecting residents' right to a say over individual planning applications in their own area.

Many local people have already expressed anger that this long-established democratic right is under threat.

Lancaster City Council believes:

That planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver necessary new homes; and therefore, calls on the Government to protect the right of communities to object to individual planning applications.

The City Council therefore resolves:

To write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to ask the Government to protect the right of communities to object to individual planning applications, expressing the concerns above.

Officer Briefing note:

The motion reflects a view the Council has already expressed to Government.

When the White Paper was out for consultation in 2020, planners took a draft response to the Local Plan Review Group (10 Sept); then circulated the draft to Cabinet Members (18 Sept); then on 15 October the response was approved by Council Business Committee. It was submitted to Government on 27 October 2020.

In that response was the following answer to one of the questions:

Do you agree that there should be automatic permission for areas for substantial development (growth areas) with faster routes for detailed consent?

No.

Please provide a supporting statement:

The Council does not support the approach that there should be automatic permission granted in areas zoned for growth in the Local Plan. The proposed approach results in no ability for the council to consider whether the locally derived design codes have been appropriately

applied to new development nor whether the development proposals are consistent with national planning policy. The approach seems to seek to exclude input from local communities, elected members and professional officers.

To simply rely on the development industry to build out to the requirements of the local plan without any form of check and assessment procedure is not considered realistic or appropriate. It is not clear how any development proposals which seek to defer from adopted national or local planning policy will be managed or considered (for instance in the context of changing viability).

The Council believes that the likely outcome of the approach described in the White Paper will be development which deviates from either national or local planning policy (or both) and cannot be brought into line due to the lack of scrutiny at a local level. Should development come forward which does not reflect local or national policy and does not have any form of local scrutiny this will lead to a further erosion of public trust in the planning process.

So an objection has been raised to the loss of input from local communities.

Details of the proposed Planning Bill are awaited. There was some suggestion that this would be laid before parliamentary recess but it is more likely that the draft will appear in the Autumn.

The s151 Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer have been consulted and have no comments to add.

Motion on Notice - Reforms to the Planning System (Motion 2)

Proposer Councillor Thornberry, Seconders Councillors Hanson, Lewis and Robinson.

Last month the House of Commons called on the Government to protect residents' rights to retain a voice in planning applications.

The Government proposals to reform the planning system are based on the concept of a zoning system. If an area is zoned for growth or renewal, developers can be granted outline planning permission. The normal second stage of applying for full planning applications will be removed. Planning committees won't decide applications in the same way and people will not have the same right to comment on specific proposals.

The Council notes that:

- *there is an urgent local need for affordable housing;*
- *there are major concerns about development worsening flooding;*
- *Lancaster City Council Cabinet has just approved a consultation draft of updates to the local plan to strengthen our response to the climate emergency*
- *these are issues which could be ignored or bypassed if local involvement in planning is reduced*
- *planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver sustainable, affordable, accessible and necessary new homes*
- *the Government's proposed planning changes are a threat to local democracy and involvement.*

The Council resolves that:

- *the Chief Executive write to the Secretary of State expressing our belief that the rights of our residents and local groups to be heard in the local planning process and on individual planning applications should not only be maintained, but strengthened*
- *all consultation responses prepared by Lancaster City Council include this position, whenever relevant.*

(The Officer Briefing note for this motion is the same as that attached to Motion 1)

Motion on Notice - An ethical and sustainable investment policy

To be proposed and seconded by Councillors Lewis, Duggan, Hamilton-Cox and Pritchard.

Preamble

At the 23rd June 2021 meeting of Lancaster City Council, a resolution was passed which expressed the Council's support for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement and committed the council to write to Lancashire County Pension Fund urging them to divest in line with that campaign. Campaigns calling for ethical consumption and investment have a long history and have been used to influence national governments as well as individual companies e.g. Nestlé on baby milk formula, Shell for its environmental and human rights record, and apartheid in South Africa. In February 2020 the United Nations Human Rights Council received a paper from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General that provided a "Database of all business enterprises involved in the activities detailed in paragraph 96 of the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem" as had been requested by previous United Nations resolutions.

The June 2021 motion limited its scope to the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) of Israel. This followed on from several local mass gatherings protesting forced evictions and escalations in violence in Palestine. However, it has been suggested that by having this singular focus the motion was setting a higher standard for Israel than other nations, a form of antisemitism. This was raised during the debate, and in some emails received by the council afterwards, and several councillors also raised other human rights abuses and sustainability issues that they would like to see addressed in a comprehensive ethical and sustainable investment policy.

Given the previous motion and noting that while it has been welcomed by some residents and groups, members of our local Jewish community have expressed concern about the text of the motion, and they have communicated that the motion might create a more hostile environment for the local Jewish community. It is therefore important that this council resolves to develop a comprehensive ethical and sustainable investment policy without delay.

The Council notes that:

1. it has previously discussed the need to take an ethical and sustainable approach to investment of Lancaster City Council funds to support our priorities and to ask the same of those who manage funds on our behalf, including the Lancashire Pension Fund;
2. increasingly pension funds are large investors who are being asked to take an ethical and sustainable approach to investment including considerations of workers' condition in properties owned by funds, and where these funds have a geographic link, to support community wealth building;
3. many of the Sustainable Development Goals speak to the importance of investment as a driver for securing fundamental human rights, building resilience within communities and meeting the challenge of the climate emergency;
4. it is preferable to take a comprehensive approach to an ethical and sustainable investment policy rather than addressing it on a topic-by-topic basis;

5. taking the time to develop a comprehensive approach will strengthen the policy, give the council one reference point for full council's position on ethical and sustainable investment, and allow for one set of new investment instructions to be made, reducing development and implementation costs.
6. bringing together a comprehensive ethical and sustainable investment policy is a significant piece of work that should involve consultation with a range of stakeholders as well as taking expert advice;
7. undertaking this process via an overview and scrutiny task group will allow councillors to explore what are often complex ethical issues in a more discursive environment and with the benefits of expert advice and a mechanism to listen to community perspectives;
8. almost by definition ethical issues are rarely clear cut and there are often reasonable competing perspectives.
9. it is important we conduct a careful and respectful debate and reaffirm our commitment to this district being a place that supports everyone to know, claim and enjoy their human rights, and to be strong allies to everyone who faces discrimination and structural oppression in all its forms.

The Council hereby resolves to:

1. request Overview and Scrutiny Committee to establish a formal task group to develop a comprehensive ethical and sustainable investment policy and to bring forward a report to cabinet no later than would allow its recommendations to be considered by council in establishing the budget framework for the next financial year.
2. make no investment changes based on ethical or sustainability concerns until a comprehensive ethical and sustainability policy is agreed by council.

Officer Briefing note:

The capacity, financial and legal implications of the motion would depend on:

- The support requirements of the proposed O&S task and finish group (whether any coordination, advice, research or commissioning would be required from Officers)
- The scope (e.g. direct, indirect investments, treasury, capital, procurement, influencing others (e.g pension)) and nature (e.g. topic areas, mandatory / advisory) of the proposed policy, once developed by O&S.

There is currently no capacity assigned for work of this nature so it would need to be factored in to the ongoing budget setting process. There are some potential capacity and process benefits from having a single integrated policy in comparison to a large number of issue specific motions and policies.

Section 151 Officer comments: The Section 151 Officer has no comments to add.

Deputy Monitoring Officer comments: If the motion is passed, this request from Council is something the Overview and Scrutiny committee can consider when looking at its work programme and capacity, factoring in any other task group work that is already underway.

CABINET

5.00 P.M.

8TH JUNE 2021

PRESENT:- Councillors Caroline Jackson (Chair), Kevin Frea (Vice-Chair), Dave Brookes, Gina Dowding, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Tricia Heath, Erica Lewis, Sandra Thornberry and Anne Whitehead

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Cary Matthews

Officers in attendance:

Kieran Keane	Chief Executive
Mark Davies	Director for Communities and the Environment
Sarah Davies	Director of Corporate Services
Jason Syers	Director for Economic Growth and Regeneration
Paul Thompson	Chief Financial Officer (Head of Finance & Section 151 Officer)
Luke Gorst	Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Iain Robertson	Head of Property, Investment and Regeneration
Sally Lowton	Conveyancing Lawyer
Liz Bateson	Principal Democratic Support Officer

1 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13 April 2021 were approved as a correct record.

2 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE LEADER

In accordance with Rule 14 of Cabinet Procedure Rules the Leader had agreed to an item of urgent business with regard to South Lancaster Growth Catalyst - Housing Infrastructure Fund - Principles Agreement with Lancashire County Council –Delivering Bailrigg Garden Village. The reason for the urgency being that any further delay in approving the decision to enter into the Principles Agreement with Lancashire County Council, would imperil the £140M Housing Infrastructure Funding for South Lancaster Growth Corridor; and also the wider Grant Determination Agreement between Lancashire County Council and Homes England.

Whilst the report was public it contained an exempt appendix and the Leader advised that the item would be considered as the final item on the agenda (Minute 11 refers).

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Heath declared an interest in the Referral from Overview & Scrutiny (Minute 8) having been on the task group. She advised the meeting that she would be presenting the report but would not be participating in the debate or vote.

Councillor Lewis declared an interest in the Palatine Recreation Ground item (Minute 11) in view of her being a volunteer there.

Councillor Whitehead declared an interest in the Palatine Recreation Ground item (Minute 11) in view of her being a Member of the Palatine Projects Group.

4 PUBLIC SPEAKING

Members were advised that there had been no requests to speak at the meeting in accordance with Cabinet's agreed procedure.

5 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Jackson)

Cabinet received a report from the Chief Executive to make appointments to a number of Outside Bodies on which there were now vacancies following changes to Cabinet membership.

The options, options analysis, including risk assessment and officer preferred option, were set out in the report as follows:

Cabinet were reminded that Members nominated to outside bodies, partnerships and boards by Cabinet were representing the views of Cabinet in such positions, rather than any views they might hold as individuals. It was recommended that appointments be aligned as closely as possible to individual Cabinet Members' portfolios.

Councillor Brookes proposed, seconded by Councillor Dowding:-

"That Councillor Lewis be appointed to the Lancaster Community Fund Grants Panel, Councillor Thornberry be appointed to both the Community Safety Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Partnership with Councillor Matthews appointed as the Reserve on both of those outside bodies and that Councillor Heath be appointed to the BID Company Ltd and appointed as the Reserve on Growth Lancashire and that the Outside Bodies be notified of the revisions."

Councillors then voted:-

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) That Councillor Lewis be appointed to the Lancaster Community Fund Grants Panel, Councillor Thornberry be appointed to both the Community Safety Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Partnership with Councillor Matthews appointed as the Reserve on both of those outside bodies and that Councillor Heath be appointed to the BID Company Ltd and appointed as the Reserve on Growth Lancashire.
- (2) That the Outside Bodies be notified of the revisions.

Officer responsible for effecting the decision:

Chief Executive

Reasons for making the decision:

Representation on Outside Bodies is part of the City Council's community leadership role and is consistent with the Council's Plan and Priorities.

6 DELIVERING OUR PRIORITIES

(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Jackson)

Cabinet received a report from the Director of Corporate Services which provided an update on the progress of key corporate projects and performance measures for the period January-March 2021 (Q4 2020- 21), and for some annual indicators, the full year April 2020-March 2021. During this time, much of the council's activity had been re-focused to support residents and communities during the Covid-19 pandemic; the report provided some information on the impact of this re-alignment on projects and services.

No options were provided as the report was for consideration and noting.

Cabinet noted the report.

Officer responsible for effecting the decision:

Director of Corporate Services

Reasons for making the decision:

Robust, meaningful, and timely information on the council's key projects and success measures provides an important perspective on the direction of the organisation in delivering its strategic priorities under its Policy Framework. The future development of project and performance reporting will be more closely aligned with the council's overall strategy, in accordance with the report to Cabinet in March 2021.

7 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was moved by Councillor Dowding and seconded by Councillor Brookes:-

"That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act."

Members then voted as follows:-

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

8 REFERRAL FROM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY - MORECAMBE FUTURE HIGH STREET BID INFORMAL TASK GROUP

Cabinet received a report from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee which requested

Cabinet to consider the recommendations of the Committee with regard to the Morecambe Future High Street Bid. The report was public with an exempt appendix.

The report set out a number of recommendations that were agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its last meeting on 28th April 2021 after an Informal Task Group was set up to consider the Morecambe Future High Street bid which was not successful. The Informal Task Group reported back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee which agreed the recommendations which were referred to Cabinet for consideration. Councillor Heath who had chaired the informal task group presented the report.

After some discussion Cabinet agreed to defer consideration of the item to the next Cabinet meeting in order that enquiries could be made with Democratic Services as to whether there was a report from the task group that could be presented to Cabinet along with the recommendations.

9 ASSET ACQUISITION UPDATE (Pages 8 - 11)

(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Heath)

Cabinet received a report from the Director for Economic Growth & Regeneration that was exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972. The options, options analysis, including risk assessment and officer preferred option were set out in the exempt minute.

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) The resolution is set out in a minute exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Officer responsible for effecting the decision:

Director for Economic Growth & Regeneration

Reasons for making the decision:

The decision is consistent with the Council priorities. Exactly how the decision fits with Council priorities is set out in the exempt minute.

10 PALATINE RECREATION GROUND - BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS (Pages 12 - 13)

(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Hamilton-Cox)

Cabinet received a report from the Director for Economic Growth & Regeneration with regard building improvements at Palatine Recreation Ground. The report was exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

The options, options analysis, including risk assessment and officer preferred option, were set out in the exempt report.

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) The resolution is set out in a minute exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Officers responsible for effecting the decision:

Director for Economic Growth & Regeneration

Reasons for making the decision:

The decision is consistent with the Council's priorities. Exactly how the decision fits with Council priorities is set out in the exempt minute.

11 URGENT BUSINESS REPORT - SOUTH LANCASTER GROWTH CATALYST - HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE FUND - PRINCIPLES AGREEMENT WITH LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL –DELIVERING BAILRIGG GARDEN VILLAGE

(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Jackson)

Cabinet considered an urgent business report from the Director for Economic Growth & Regeneration with regard to South Lancaster Growth Catalyst - Housing Infrastructure Fund - Principles Agreement with Lancashire County Council –Delivering Bailrigg Garden Village. The report set out the background and context to the successful Lancashire County Council Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) application and sought authority to enter into a Principles Agreement with Lancashire County Council. This was a non-legally binding agreement setting out the broad principles of how the unfunded elements of wider South Lancaster Growth Catalyst costs (£98M) would be recovered by Lancaster City Council. The report was public with an appendix exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

At the discretion of the Chair non-Cabinet members in attendance were invited to address the meeting during consideration of this item.

The options, options analysis, including risk assessment and officer preferred option, were set out in the report as follows:

Options Analysis

Advantages:

The Housing Infrastructure Fund unlocks government investment worth £140m to Lancaster District and enables Local Plan and South Lancaster Growth Catalyst objectives to be met. The infrastructure investment will deliver the Bailrigg Garden Village project and create new places and neighbourhoods for the benefit of people and communities in South Lancaster.
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Disadvantages:

There are no economic disadvantages in delivering the South Lancaster Growth Catalyst Programme.
--

Risks:

Failure to enter into a Principles Agreement with Lancashire County Council will result in reputational damage to Lancaster City Council as it is unlikely that the HIF fund will be allocated by Homes England and there are potential wider strategic implications that

could be affected by such a decision.

The officer preferred option was to recommend entering into a Principles Agreement with Lancashire County Council by the latest 30 June 2021, following approval by Cabinet.

Councillor Jackson proposed, seconded by Councillor Lewis:

“That the recommendation, as set out in the report, be approved and that it be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader to agree to any minor amendments to the Principles Agreement .”

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) That the key tenets of the Principles Agreement be agreed in advance, working towards the completion of a Partnership Agreement programmed to be signed by 30th August 2021.
- (2) That it be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader to agree to any minor amendments to the Principles Agreement .

Officers responsible for effecting the decision:

Chief Executive
Director for Economic Growth & Regeneration

Reasons for making the decision:

The decision enables Lancaster City Council to work with Lancashire County Council, to formulate the detailed terms of the main Partnership Agreement between the two councils. This Includes the detailed processes relating to the delivery of the Catalyst Programme and the management and recovery of the funding contributions and related risks.

Chair

(The meeting ended at 6.52 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Liz Bateson, Democratic Services - email ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk**

MINUTES PUBLISHED ON MONDAY 14 JUNE, 2021.

**EFFECTIVE DATE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS CONTAINED IN THESE MINUTES:
TUESDAY 22 JUNE, 2021.**