

## CABINET

6.00 P.M.

9TH JULY 2024

**PRESENT:-** Councillors Phillip Black (Chair), Caroline Jackson, Joanne Ainscough, Gina Dowding, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Peter Jackson, Jean Parr, Nick Wilkinson and Jason Wood

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Catherine Potter

Officers in attendance:

Mark Davies	Chief Executive
Luke Gorst	Chief Officer - Governance and Monitoring Officer
Paul Thompson	Chief Officer - Resources and Section 151 Officer
Mark Cassidy	Chief Officer - Planning and Climate Change
Joanne Wilkinson	Chief Officer - Housing and Property
Elliott Grimshaw	Business Imp & Project Delivery Lead
Liz Bateson	Principal Democratic Support Officer

### 10 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 June 2024 were approved as a correct record.

### 11 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE LEADER

The Chair advised that there were no items of urgent business.

### 12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made at this point.

### 13 PUBLIC SPEAKING

Members were advised that no members of the public had registered to speak in accordance with Cabinet's agreed procedure.

### 14 LANCASTER DISTRICT STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP'MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING'

**(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Peter Jackson)**

Cabinet received a report from the Chief Executive to request that Cabinet adopt the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Lancaster District Strategic Partnership.

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

	Option 1: Adopt the MOU and commit the council to the stated objectives of the partnership.	Option 2: Do not adopt the MOU and do not commit to the objectives of the partnership.
Advantages	If adopted, the Chief Executive will sign the MOU and formalise the partnership with all other strategic organisations involved.	No advantages are identified for this option.
Disadvantages	No specific disadvantages are identified for this option.	The Council will need to revise aspects of the MOU with partners. Or if not adopted, the Council will be weakened in its ability to work with partners to deliver mutually beneficial strategic outcomes for the district.
Risks	None identified.	None identified.

The recommended option is to proceed with adopting the MOU so that the Chief Executive can sign the MOU with all other partners and move towards the delivery of outcomes (Option 1). The report provides details of the objectives of the Lancaster District Strategic Partnership and outlines the content and importance of the MOU.

Councillor Peter Jackson proposed, seconded by Councillor Wood:-

“That the recommendation, as set out in the report, be approved.”

Councillors then voted:-

***Resolved unanimously:***

- (1) That Cabinet agrees to the principles of the partnership as detailed in the Memorandum of Understanding and authorises the Chief Executive to sign on the Council’s behalf.

**Officer responsible for effecting the decision:**

Chief Executive

**Reasons for making the decision:**

Cabinet adoption of the MOU will enable officers and strategic partners to deliver on the stated objectives outcomes.

The strategic priorities for the Lancaster District Strategic Partnership correlate with the strategic principles of the Council Plan 2024-2027. The partnership may evolve so that there is added resource and capacity, between partners, to deliver projects and services aligned to the strategic and financial decision-making already set out in the Council Plan 2024-2027.

**15 LGA CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE FEEDBACK REPORT**

**(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Phillip Black)**

Cabinet received a report from the Chief Executive to request that Cabinet formally accepts the feedback in the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge report for the final report to be published by the deadline of 18th July 2024.

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

	Option 1: Accept the findings and recommendations in the report.	Option 2: Do not accept the findings and recommendations in the report.
	If accepted, the report will be published, and the Chief Executive will develop an action plan to act on the recommendations and monitor progress.	No advantages are identified for this option.
	No specific disadvantages are identified for this option.	The Council will need to engage with the LGA on any disputed findings and recommendations. This will slow down the process of establishing an action plan for CPC recommendations.
	None identified.	None identified.

The recommended option is to accept the report findings and recommendations, so that the report can be published and for the Chief Executive to develop an action plan to act on the recommendations (Option 1). The report must be published by 18th July 2024, and the action plan by 4th September 2024.

*The meeting adjourned at 6.22pm whilst a disturbance in the public gallery was resolved. The meeting reconvened at 6.26pm.*

During the debate it was noted that the LGA Executive Summary referred to ‘the former seaside resort of Morecambe’ and it was agreed to formally minute that Cabinet would like to see the word ‘former’ removed before the report was made publicly available.

Councillor Phillip Black proposed, seconded by Councillor Dowding:-

“That the recommendations, as set out in the report, be approved.”

Councillors then voted:-

**Resolved unanimously:**

- (1) That Cabinet formally acknowledges the work undertaken by the peer team and accepts the feedback in the Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC) report.

- (2) That responsibility for the development of an action plan to meet the CPC recommendations be delegated to the Chief Executive.

**Officer responsible for effecting the decision:**

Chief Executive

**Reasons for making the decision:**

The CPC feedback report provides a number of recommendations that align with the strategic principles of the Council Plan 2024-2027. The development of an action plan for the recommendations will consider the scope of actions in consideration of the strategic and financial decision-making already set out in the Council Plan 2024-2027.

Cabinet acceptance of the findings and recommendations in the CPC report will result in the report being published and a new action plan to be developed to act on the recommendations for organisational developments. Alongside this a comms and engagement plan will ensure that staff, members and partners are briefed on the excellent findings of this review.

**16 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Councillor Wood and seconded by Councillor Hamilton-Cox:-

“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.

**17 BURROW BECK SOLAR PROJECT (Pages 7 - 9)**

**(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Dowding)**

Cabinet received a report from the Chief Officer – Planning & Climate Change to seek approval to deliver a 4MW ground-mounted solar project on land known as ‘Burrow Beck.’ 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.

It was proposed by Councillor Dowding seconded by Councillor Wood and resolved unanimously when put to the vote:-

***Resolved unanimously:***

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:**

Chief Officer - Planning and Climate Change

**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.

**18 ASSET CONSIDERATION - LANCASTER (Pages 10 - 11)****(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Hamilton-Cox)**

Cabinet received a report from the Chief Officer Housing and Property. 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.

It was proposed by Councillor Hamilton-Cox, seconded by Councillor Wood and resolved unanimously when put to the vote:-

***Resolved unanimously:***

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:**

Chief Officer Housing and Property

**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.

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Chair

(The meeting ended at 7.14 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact**

**Liz Bateson, Democratic Support - email [ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk)**

**MINUTES PUBLISHED ON THURSDAY 11 JULY, 2024.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS CONTAINED IN THESE MINUTES:  
FRIDAY 19 JULY, 2024.**

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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