

Partner Organisations
Sent by Email

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Your ref:
Our ref: JM/JA
Date: 10 December 2015

Dear Partner

Consultation on proposed budget options

We are seeking the opinion of partners on Lancashire County Council's Cabinet proposed budget options.

The County Council continues to face an unprecedented financial challenge. We recently conducted an analysis based on current spending and forecast demand for services, which showed that the council would not have sufficient financial resources to meet its statutory obligations by April 2018, even if it no longer continued to deliver any of its non-statutory services. The review also showed that the council will need to rely heavily on its reserves in order to set a balanced budget for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

This extremely difficult financial picture is the result of continued cuts in funding by Government, rising costs and rising demand for key services. Over the next five years to 2020/21 the council needs to make savings of £262m on top of those agreed within previous budget processes. Our proposed budget options seek to meet that need.

We are now consulting on Cabinet's policy decisions and budget proposals and a full list can be viewed [here](#). We would also like to hear your thoughts on any actions that may be taken to mitigate the impact of these policy decisions and budget reductions.

We will be considering your feedback and this will be reported back to the Full Council at their meeting on 11 February 2016 when the budget is set. Therefore, we would be grateful if you could provide any comments that you would like us to consider by the end of 18 January 2016. You can do this by completing our online questionnaire [here](#), or emailing moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk

There will be a second stage of consultations beginning in January, when we will be consulting in more detail when, for example, specific proposals are made in relation to future library provision.

County Councillor Jennifer Mein
Leader Lancashire County Council
PO Box 100 County Hall Preston PR1 0LD

Thank you and I look forward to receiving your comments by 18 January 2016.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Mein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'M'.

County Councillor Jennifer Mein
Leader of Lancashire County Council