

CABINET

Lancaster District Strategic Partnership 'Memorandum of Understanding'

Report of Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To request that Cabinet adopts the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Lancaster District Strategic Partnership.			
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date of notice of forthcoming key decision		N/A	
This report is public.			

RECOMMENDATIONS OF CLLR PETER JACKSON

- (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.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the objectives of the Lancaster District Strategic Partnership (LDSP) and the content of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Terms of Reference (TOR's) for the partnership.
- 1.2 It should be noted that district strategic partners have agreed on the partnership's objectives and the content of the MOU and TOR's. Workshops and discussion with council officers and some cabinet members established the partnerships objectives and resultant MOU and TOR's.
- 1.3 The MOU sets out some principles of how strategic partners can coordinate mutually beneficial city and regional projects via the Lancaster District Strategic Partnership.
- 1.4 The MOU is not legally binding.

1.5 The full list of partner organisations can be seen in the Appendix A to this report and listed below. It is anticipated that all partner organisations will commit to the MOU and become the Founding Members of the Lancaster District Strategic Partnership.

- Lancaster City Council
- Lancaster University
- University of Cumbria
- Lancaster and Morecambe College
- Lancaster District Chamber of Commerce
- University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay
- Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB
- Lancaster District CVS
- Lancaster Arts Partnership
- Lancashire County Council

2.0 Proposal Details

2.1 The Lancaster District Strategic Partnership (the "LDSP" or the "Partnership") has been established to spearhead the wider district's collective strategic ambitions. The overarching strategic priorities for the partnership will be: 1) Sustainability and the Climate Emergency, 2) the Economy, 3) Health and Wellbeing and 4) Communities.

2.2 Agreed strategic priorities have alignment with the ambitions of the Council Plan 2024-2027. It is anticipated that the LDSP will add value to the council's ability to deliver strategic ambitions, by applying a partnership approach to delivery.

2.3 Adoption of the MOU will commit the council to the collective objectives of the LDSP.

2.4 The overarching objectives for the LDSP are to;

- Improve the transparency of strategic workstreams that already take place in the district
- Coordinate and facilitate improved ways of working between partners, to add value to existing strategic programmes
- Identify gaps in strategic and operational workstreams in the district
- Prepare, plan, resource and deliver new collaborative workstreams with 'Project Teams'. (This will only take place where there is an identified gap or where new activity adds value to the partnership vision and objectives)
- Mitigate any duplication of efforts between partners

3.0 Details of Consultation

- 3.1 Portfolio Holders have worked with Officers to engage with strategic partners to agree the content of the MOU.

4.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

	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.

5.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)

- 5.1 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).

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 The report provides details of the objectives of the Lancaster District Strategic Partnership and outlines the content and importance of the MOU. Cabinet adoption of the MOU will enable officers and strategic partners to deliver on the stated objectives outcomes.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

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.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

No direct impact.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

No legal implications arising directly from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications arising directly from this report.

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Human Resources:

No HR implications arising directly from this report.

Information Services:

No ICT implications arising directly from this report.

Property:

No property implications arising directly from this report.

Open Spaces:

No open spaces implications arising directly from this report.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix A: Memorandum of Understanding

Appendix B: Terms of Reference

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Ref: [Click here and type Ref, if applicable]