



LANCASTER
CITY COUNCIL

Promoting City, Coast & Countryside

COUNCIL MEETING

**Wednesday, 28 September 2016 -
6.00 p.m.
Morecambe Town Hall**

Susan Parsonage,
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 September 2016 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 13 July 2016 (previously circulated).

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

Members 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 10 and in the interests of clarity and transparency, Members 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, Members 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. **PETITION - RYELANDS PARK** (Pages 1 - 10)

To receive a petition and address to Council, notification of which has been received by the Chief Executive in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

Members are advised that the petition has in excess of 200 signatures and relates to a local matter which affects no more than two wards. It has been scheduled for debate at this meeting and a report of the Chief Officer (Environment) is attached, in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme.

9. **LEADER'S REPORT** (Pages 11 - 13)

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

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

10. **MOTION ON NOTICE - DECISION BY LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO CLOSE FIRBANK CHILDREN'S CENTRE ON THE RIDGE ESTATE IN LANCASTER** (Pages 14 - 15)

To consider the following motion submitted by Councillors Tim Hamilton-Cox, Abi Mills and Andrew Kay:-

This council notes:

That the level of deprivation on education and health measures in the lower super output area (LSOA) covering part of the Ridge and Newton places the LSOA in the bottom 10% in England;

That the latest (2012) OFSTED report on Firbank said of the staff: 'Their extremely caring, respectful attitudes and dedication to improving the lives of the most disadvantaged families is a seam of gold influencing all of this centre's work, inspiring loyalty, confidence and cooperation among professional partnerships and parents. Consequently, provision and outcomes are good.'

And further, that the OFSTED report underlined the symbiotic relationship between centre, nursery and school: 'The onsite nursery, the centre and the adjacent school sensibly share the assessment and support systems for children. This eases the children's movement between settings, which is particularly important for children who are receiving additional support...The centre is becoming a real hub of the local community';

That closure is likely to impact on the viability of the nursery currently co-located in the building and which offers the only nursery provision in the area;

That closure is contrary to the statutory role of Lancashire County Council 'to secure sufficient children's centres which are accessible to all families with young children, and targeted evidence-based interventions for those families in greatest need of support';

That the proposed alternative provision at Lune Park (in Ryelands Park) is not accessible to much of Bulk ward in the 30-minute pram-pushing time set as the accessibility criterion in the County Property Strategy, and that it is a pedestrian-averse route;

That closure contradicts the leader of Lancashire County Council's comment (May 2016) on the Property Strategy which has occasioned closure: that, "We are not cutting services but reducing the number of expensive buildings..."

This council acknowledges the unprecedented squeeze on council budgets caused by government funding cuts but calls on Lancashire County Council to prioritise services to families in greatest social need in order to prevent future, more intensive and expensive intervention by children's social care services.

Accordingly, this council mandates the Chief Executive to write to Lancashire County Council calling on it to reverse its decision to close Firbank Children's Centre at its next Cabinet meeting on 6th October for the reasons set out above.

An officer briefing note is attached.

OTHER BUSINESS

11. **ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO POLITICAL GROUPS** (Pages 16 - 22)

To consider the report of the Chief Executive.

12. **REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES** (Pages 23 - 26)

To consider the report of the Chief Executive.

13. **CABINET APPOINTMENT** (Pages 27 - 28)

To consider the report of the Leader.

14. **AMENDMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS – FOOD SAFETY AND HYGIENE REGULATIONS 2008 AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1990** (Pages 29 - 33)

To consider the report of the Monitoring Officer.

15. **CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

To consider any changes to committee membership or chairmanships.

16. **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.

17. **MINUTES OF CABINET** (Pages 34 - 39)

To receive the Minutes of Meeting of Cabinet held on 6th September, 2016.



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Chief Executive

Town Hall,
Dalton Square,
LANCASTER,
LA1 1PJ

Published on 20 September, 2016.