



Promoting City, Coast & Countryside

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, 24 June 2020 6.00 p.m.

Please note – this will be a 'remote meeting', a link to which will be available on Lancaster City Council's Website at least 24 hours before the meeting. Access is through Microsoft 'Teams'.

Anyone wishing to make an address or ask a question of Council should register by contacting <u>democracy@lancaster.gov.uk</u> with their question or speech no later than 12:00pm on Friday 19 June 2020.

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





Promoting City, Coast & Countryside

Sir/Madam,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Lancaster City Council to be held virtually using Teams Live Events on Wednesday, 24 June 2020 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 18 May 2020 (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, PETITIONS AND ADDRESSES (Pages 7 - 8)

To receive an address and a question from Ms Geraldine Onek, in accordance with the Council's Constitution. The address and question are set out in the agenda papers.

To receive any further questions, petitions or addresses which may be submitted in accordance with the Council's Constitution and notice requirements.

7. **LEADER'S REPORT** (Pages 9 - 12)

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

REPORTS REFERRED FROM CABINET, COMMITTEES OR OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

8. CONSTITUTION - JOINT COMMITTEE WITH BARROW BOROUGH AND SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCILS (Pages 13 - 14)

Report of Cabinet.

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

9. MOTION ON NOTICE - AREA-WIDE DEFAULT 20MPH SPEED LIMIT FOR LANCASTER (Pages 15 - 17)

To consider the following motion submitted by Councillor Paul Stubbins and Councillors Dant, Dowding, Frea and Young:-

Full Council notes that:

- 1. In the light of the current Covid-19 situation, local authorities including Lancashire County Council have been asked by Government to act swiftly to reallocate road space to encourage cycling and walking and to enable social distancing
- Specifically, the Transport Traffic Management Act 2004: network management in response to COVID-19, published 9 May 2020 requires local authorities to make 'significant changes to their road layouts to give more space for cyclists and pedestrians' and includes adopting 20mph speed limits in built up areas as a measure to be considered.
- 3. The Secretary of State for Transport has made available a £2billion fund and fast tracked statutory guidance that would enable Lancashire County Council to change the regulation of sections of its road system quickly.
- 4. The Covid-19 crisis has led to a significant reduction in the volume of traffic through and around the City of Lancaster. The effect has been to produce a noticeable improvement in air quality and on many roads a more pleasant environment for pedestrians and cyclists.
- 5. With reduced motor traffic however, there has also been higher speeds than usual seen on the A6 and it has been widely reported that the number of speeding drivers caught by traffic police has risen sharply. Cyclist fatalities since 23 March have been revealed to be running at more than double the average for the time of year, with 14 cyclists in Great Britain and one in Northern Ireland losing their lives in road traffic incidents in the month that followed lockdown.
- 6. The A6 through Lancaster is constantly near the top of the table for serious accidents, according to the Road Safety Foundation, and monitoring of data every year from 2014 to 2019 has shown a consistent high level of killed or seriously injured cyclists to maintain that position.

- 7. The improvements in safety for pedestrians and cyclists of reducing motor vehicle speeds from 30mph to 20mph, in terms of risk of serious injury, is widely accepted. Already more than 20 urban authorities in the UK have a policy of setting 20mph as the default for all their streets. Since 2011, Lancashire County Council has implemented a 20mph speed limit on many residential streets and outside schools, with a significant number of 20 mph zones created within Lancaster, however A roads have previously been excluded.
- 8. A consistent level of support for 20mph limits has been shown by the British Social Attitudes Survey, who further point to evidence that support for 20mph limits increases after they have been implemented.
- 9. Evidence of the impact of 20mph Speed Limits produced for the Scottish Government shows that (i) on urban streets in the UK, a 1mph reduction in vehicle speeds typically produces a 5% reduction in collisions (ii) that the profile of car speeds on roads with a 20mph speed limit and roads with a 30mph limit are quite different, e.g. 49% of cars using roads with a 20mph speed limit in free flow conditions travel at 24mph or less, compared with 12% of cars using roads with a 30mph limit; (iii) that City-wide 20mph speed limits generally reduce road collision casualties, although some smaller schemes have not reduced casualty numbers, (iv) that the imposition of 20mph speed limits on roads previously subject to a 30mph limit can produce small increases in modal share for walking and cycling and (v) that 20mph speed limits generally have no significant impact on journey times.
- 10. According to the National Travel Survey, in 2017-18 over 40% of urban journeys were under 2 miles perfectly suited to walking and cycling, which corresponds with the occurrence of severe congestion in Lancaster being in the city centre and the key radial approaches of up to 2 miles in both peak periods, as reported in the Local Plan Transport Assessment December 2018.
- 11. This latest government advice follows immediately after Decarbonising Transport: Setting the Challenge in March 2020, which calls for bold and ambitious policies and plans to achieve net zero emissions across every single mode of transport by 2050. Accelerating modal shift to public and active transport and local management of transport solutions to reduce vehicle emissions are key parts of this strategy.
- 12. An Air Quality Management Area was declared in central Lancaster in 2007, due primarily to exhaust emissions from road traffic, with pollution levels well above air quality objective levels at certain positions around the gyratory system. Reduced speeds in the city centre could help traffic to flow smoothly at peak times, reducing acceleration, deceleration, and braking, all of which have been shown to increase air pollution.
- 13. A potential scope for an area wide 20mph speed limit in Lancaster has been already been provided to Lancashire County Council. This defines limits which include all of the gyratory and the key radial approaches of up to 2 miles. In consideration of implementation, the area minimises the number of points of entry to just 12, using the natural boundaries of canal and railway crossings and the motorway, and was designed to avoid opportunity for rat runs outside of its boundaries.

Full Council Believes that:

1. There is clear evidence that reducing speeds where vulnerable road users and vehicles mix is vital to reduce road traffic deaths and injuries, as well as having a

beneficial impact on air quality and climate change.

- 2. The A6 through Lancaster consistently records a high level of killed or seriously injured cyclists and therefore the focus on reducing speeds must be on a 20mph default which includes these A roads.
- 3. The adoption of an area wide 20mph speed limit, together with giving more space to cyclists and pedestrians, will help to enable social distancing, prevent the overwhelming of public transport in Lancaster and make for a safer and more pleasant environment for pedestrians and cyclists.
- 4. A 20mph speed limit in Lancaster City will also discourage drivers from simply passing through the City to somewhere else, will show local car drivers that cycling is as quick and will encourage more people to walk and cycle around the City. An area wide speed limit also presents a significant opportunity for marketing Lancaster as a destination that is a safe place for walking and cycling across the city.
- 5. Consideration should also be given to how the urban centres of Heysham, Morecambe and Carnforth, as well as rural locations, could also benefit from reduced speed limits. This resolution does not preclude schemes also being requested in these areas.
- 6. Lancashire County Council has previously shown leadership as an early adapter of the 20mph road safety strategy on residential streets. It should now respond positively to the challenges and opportunities of the current Covid-19 situation.

Full Council Resolves that:

- 1. Lancaster City Council calls on Lancashire County Council, through its Leader and Officers, to introduce an area wide 20mph speed limit in Lancaster which includes the A roads through the centre of our city.
- 2. The CEO write to the Leader of Lancashire County Council and Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to urge them to act swiftly and to offer them any support that is needed.
- 3. City Council officer time is made available to give the necessary technical support to County officers in identifying the details of the scope and boundaries of the 20 mph area, to include the gyratory system and the A roads through the centre of our city.

An officer briefing note is enclosed.

OTHER BUSINESS

10. **APPOINTMENT TO THE LANCASHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL** (Pages 18 - 19)

Report of the Democratic Services Manager.

11. **EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS** (Pages 20 - 25)

Report of the Director of Corporate Services.

12. APPOINTMENT TO PATROL (PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS OUTSIDE LONDON) ADJUDICATION JOINT COMMITTEE (Pages 26 - 35)

Report of the Democratic Services Manager.

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 36 - 57)

To receive the Minutes of Meetings of Cabinet held on 11 February and 30 April 2020.

.

WT. Vene

Chief Executive

Town Hall, Dalton Square, LANCASTER, LA1 1PJ

Published on Tuesday 16 June, 2020.