

## PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held remotely as a Teams Live Event at 5.00 p.m. on Thursday, 5 November 2020, when the following Members were present:-

Malcolm Thomas (Mayor)

Tony Anderson

Mandy Bannon

Phillip Black

Victoria Boyd-Power

Abbott Bryning

Darren Clifford

Roger Dennison

Adrian Duggan

Kevin Frea

Jake Goodwin

June Greenwell

Tim Hamilton-Cox

Colin Hartley

Caroline Jackson

Mandy King

Sarah Knight

Cary Matthews

Jack O'Dwyer-Henry

Faye Penny

Robert Redfern

Oliver Robinson

Alistair Sinclair

Katie Whearty

Anne Whitehead

John Wild

Peter Yates

Joan Jackson (Deputy Mayor)

Paul Anderton

Stephie Barber

Alan Biddulph

Dave Brookes

Roger Cleet

Tim Dant

Gina Dowding

Merv Evans

Andrew Gardiner

Mike Greenall

Mel Guilding

Janice Hanson

Tricia Heath

Debbie Jenkins

Geoff Knight

Erica Lewis

Abi Mills

Jean Parr

Joyce Pritchard

John Reynolds

Stewart Scothern

Sandra Thornberry

David Whitaker

David Whitworth

Jason Wood

Joanna Young

**61 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Whitworth.  
*(It was noted that Councillor Carrington was on parental leave.)*

**62 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Lewis, Gardiner, Parr and Dowding each declared an interest in Local Government Reform Developments, as Members of Lancashire County Council.

**63 PUBLIC SPEAKING**

The Mayor advised that no requests to speak had been received from the public.

**64 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM DEVELOPMENTS**

Councillor Lewis introduced the report of the Chief Executive. The report explained that, since the last Council meeting in September, the Government had requested outline unitary proposals from Cumbria to be submitted on or before 9 November and full business case proposals by 9 December. Given these new deadlines, the report asked Council to authorise the submission of an outline case for a unitary authority for The Bay. Cllr Lewis noted that the timing of the invitation from government was far from ideal, given the pressures of COVID, and confirmed that the three councils would continue to ask government to reconsider the timing of this process.

Councillor Lewis responded to a number of questions from Councillors before proposing that the recommendations, as set out in the report, be approved. Councillor Frea seconded the proposition.

There was a lengthy debate before the Mayor called for a vote. With 43 Members voting 'for', 4 Members voting 'against' and 5 abstentions, the proposition was clearly carried.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That Council approves the outline proposal, attached at Appendix 1 of the report, and authorises submission to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government by 9 November 2020;
- (2) That the Chief Executive and Leader be delegated to approve any minor amendments that may arise following consideration by South Lakeland and Barrow Councils prior to submission and to continue with the work on the final proposal; and
- (3) That Council agrees that a final proposal can be submitted to a future meeting of Cabinet and Council prior to the requested deadline from Government of 9 December 2020, noting that a date of 8 December has been scheduled for this purpose.

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Mayor

(The meeting finished at 6.20 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these minutes,**

**please contact Debbie Chambers, Democratic Services - email [dchambers@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:dchambers@lancaster.gov.uk)**