



## Leader's Report

13 November 2019

### Report of the Leader of the Council

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the Leader's report to Council.

This report is public.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

To receive the report of the Leader of Council.

#### REPORT

##### 1.0 Cabinet

Information on Cabinet matters is provided in the minutes from the Cabinet meeting held on 1 October 2019. The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 5 November 2019 were not available at the time of publication of the agenda and will be tabled at the December Council meeting.

##### 2.0 Decisions required to be taken urgently

There are no decisions to report since the last Leader's Report on 25 September 2019.

##### 3.0 Leader's Comments

###### Pennine Lancashire Unitary

Correspondence has now been sent to the Secretary of State from councils in Pennine Lancashire seeking an invitation to present a proposal for a unitary Pennine Lancashire Council. The leader of Lancashire County Council has also written to the Secretary of State asking that they consider other possible arrangements for unitary councils in Lancashire.

###### Boundary Commission

The Boundary Commission came to meet with the Chief Executive, staff from Democratic Services, and myself, for the surprising reason that we are going to have our boundaries reviewed again. Usually reviews happen about every 10 years, but although we had new boundaries in 2015, more than a third of our wards are more than 10% over or above target, and two are more than 30% over or under, which are two of the grounds for early review.

The Boundary Commission would like to come and brief both group leaders, and all councillors in the Spring. The first part of the review looks at numbers both in terms of projected numbers of voters, and how many councillors we believe our council should have. The second part will be the process of redistricting.

### Advisory Groups

Most of our Advisory Groups have now begun meeting, with a wide variety of participants from across our communities and partner organisations. Due to pre-election period requirements, the groups are currently on hiatus until after the election, but conversations will be resuming shortly afterwards. The first steps for these groups are to agree their Terms of Reference and establish a focused work plan. The discussions are in part shaped by the people in the room, so if one of the topics is of particular interest to you, please contact [chiefexecutive@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:chiefexecutive@lancaster.gov.uk) and the team will ensure you are kept informed. Thank you to those councillors who have already participated.

### Eden

As many will be aware Eden ran consultations in Morecambe in late October which had involved more than 1200 people when I attended. I have asked Eden to come back to brief councillors on the outcomes of their consultation once they have had a chance to analyse the information received.

## **4.0 Key Decisions**

The following Key Decisions were taken by Cabinet on 1 October 2019:

- (1) Reserves Policy
- (2) Digital Strategy
- (3) Eden Project North
- (4) Sale of Wood Street Car Park

## **Background Papers**

Cabinet agenda and minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2019.