

SOUTH RIBBLE COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING – 19 JULY 2017
REPORT OF CABINET

The Cabinet met on the evening of Wednesday 21 June 2017.

On that occasion the Cabinet considered the matters set out below. There are no decisions subject to Council confirmation; the reports considered by the Cabinet were available to all members in advance of the Cabinet meeting.

1. Introduction of a Garden Waste Collection Subscription Scheme

The Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods and Streetscene presented a report that sought approval of the Terms and Conditions for the implementation of a chargeable service for the collection of garden waste. From 1 April 2018, residents would be charged £30 per bin on an annual basis.

It was AGREED:

That the Terms and Conditions of the chargeable garden waste subscription be approved.

2. CHARGING POLICY FOR REPLACEMENT HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CONTAINERS

The Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods and Streetscene presented a report that sought approval of a charging policy for the replacement of lost, stolen and damaged waste and recycling containers. A charge will apply to all lost and stolen containers and those damaged beyond repair, except where the container has been damaged during collection by our waste partner FCC. A charge of £30 per wheeled bin and £10 per box was proposed that also covered administration costs, processing of the order and delivery costs.

It was AGREED:

That the Charging Policy for Replacement Household Waste and Recycling Containers be approved.

3. CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Leader presented a report informing of the recent LGA Corporate Peer Challenge and sought approval of a new Corporate Improvement Plan. The report had been received by the Council in April 2017 and had already been shared with Members, staff and those partners who were involved. The new Plan contained a number of recommendations that would be delivered over the next 6 months.

The Leader of the Opposition expressed his concern that the decision on the review of leisure had been deferred and sought assurance from the Leader that a report would be submitted to Cabinet in July. The Leader explained that the decision was one of the biggest strategic decisions that this Council would make, it was important that all Members understood the current situation that the authority faced and options available. A Member Learning Session had been delivered to provide some context to the issue and that there was the opportunity to consider a cross-party work group meeting in the future.

It was AGREED:

That the new Corporate Improvement Plan, subject to comments of the Scrutiny Committee, with any changes agreed in consultation by the Leader be approved.

4. HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY

The Cabinet member for Corporate Support and Assets presented a report that provided details of a review of homelessness in the borough following a recent review that the Council had undertaken as part of its statutory duty under the Homeless Act 2002. The report asked Members to consider the findings of the 2017 - 2020 Review and sought approval of a new Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan.

Special thanks were given to Suzanne Ravenscroft and her team for all their hard work.

It was AGREED:

1. That the Review, Strategy and Action Plan for publication and action be approved.
2. That the use of those budgets identified for the purpose of fulfilling the actions outlined in the report be approved.

5. STANDING OREDR 38 DECISION – PLANNING APPLICATIONS FEES INCREASE OF 20%

The Cabinet member for Strategic Planning and Housing presented a report informing Cabinet of the making of a Standing Order 38 decision by the Interim Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council regarding opting in to the increase in Planning Fees.

It was AGREED:

That the report be noted.

6. BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION: PEST CONTROL FEES AND CHARGES

The Cabinet member for Public Health, Safety and Wellbeing presented a report seeking approval to implement a chargeable pest control service for the treatment of rats and mice. The introduction of the charge will support the delivery of the £150,000 Business Transformation target contained in the approved 2017/18 budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy which is allocated against the Neighbourhoods, Environmental Health and Assets directorate. Any spare capacity created within the team caused by residents not taking up the service would be used to expand pest control contracts for local businesses.

It was AGREED:

That the introduction of domestic pest control charges for rats and mice treatments be approved.

7. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND DRAFT 208/19 BUDGET SETTING AND MTFS UPDATE TIMETABLE

The Cabinet member for Finance presented a report setting out the key events and methodology to record, monitor and manage the delivery of the 207/18 Budget and MTFS. The report also presented a draft summary timetable for the 2018/19 Budget and MTFS.

The Council set the budget required to deliver the current Corporate Plan whilst facing acute financial risk with a resulting forecasted budget deficit of £3.3m to 2019/20. It was noted that the forecasted budget shortfall is based on a set of assumptions that are subject to change

and also excludes unquantifiable known factors that may have an adverse impact, for example the impact of 100% Business Rates Retention Scheme, Performance of the Pension Fund Deficit Recovery Plan and Brexit.

The Leader explained that the report of Shared Services had been deferred to the next meeting of Cabinet in September. This was to allow the newly appointed Chief Executive time to engage with the process. This had been agreed with the Leader of Chorley Council.

It was noted that a review of car parking charges was being considered.

It was AGREED

1. That the 2017/18 MTFS Implementation Plan be approved.
2. That the draft 2018/19 Budget Setting and MTFS Update Timetable be approved.

8. CITY DEAL: COMPLETION OF ST. CATHERINE'S PARK

The Cabinet member for Regeneration and Leisure presented a report for the allocation of a capital budget of £92,000 to complete St. Catherine's Park. The report also sought to authorise procurement according to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and spend of budget that would allow commencement of the work.

Many aspects of the project had been completed and photographs were on display at the meeting. This was a partnership arrangement with both the Council and St. Catherine's Hospice contributing to the project. The Leader commented that the work that had already been undertaken had been well received by the public.

It was AGREED:

1. That the capital budget of £92,000 for the completion of St' Catherine's Park be approved.
2. That authorisation be granted for the budget spend to allow the works to commence.

9. MOSS SIDE PLAYING FIELD CAR PARK

The Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods and Streetscene presented a report requesting approval to commit capital expenditure for the proposed reinforced grass overflow car park at Moss Side Playing Field, known as Malt Kin Fold. The Moss Side playing fields is a multi-use leisure facility in Leyland. For many years' sports pitches have been used on the site, they were established by the Council and are now run by Leyland Warriors ARLFC via a community lease. Once developed, the maintenance and policing of the car park when in use will be the responsibility of the Leyland Warriors Club, which will be a condition of the club's lease on the land. Any surplus money will be spent on improving the drainage to ensure that the new surface is maintained.

Special thanks was given to Councillor Moon and council staff for all their support and help with the project.

The Cabinet agreed to suspend Standing Order 31 to allow the meeting to continue.

It was AGREED:

1. That the acceptance of Tender 8 as tabled in the report for the construction of the overflow car park at Miln Kiln Fold be approved.
2. That authorisation be granted under section 3.4 of the Financial Regulations to secure capital expenditure of up to £103,110 for the above works.

10. STRATEGIC REVIEW OF PROPERTY AND ASSETS – INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

The Cabinet member for Corporate and Support Assets presented a report that sought approval of a Property and Asset Investment Framework that would be kept separate from the Treasury Management Strategy. The report also sought approval to establish a Sub Committee for Property and Assets Investments which would have delegated authority to commit expenditure in line with the Investment Framework.

The Council's Section 151 Officer will have the responsibility to sign off any such expenditure with due diligence, in line with the investment framework and a cross party group will continue to be consulted upon on any proposed acquisitions.

It was AGREED:

1. That the Investment Framework be approved.
2. That the establishment of a Cabinet Sub Group for Property and Assets Investment (4 Cabinet Members) be approved.
3. That the draft Terms of Reference for the Cabinet Sub Committee for Property and Assets Investment be approved.
4. That delegated authority be granted for the Sub Committee to authorise expenditure on acquisitions of up to £10 million, to be committed in line with the guidelines in the Investment Framework
5. That the operation of the Sub Committee be reviewed after six months.

11. CABINET FORWARD PLAN

It was AGREED that:

The Forward Plan submitted under Section 22 of the Local Government Act 2000 be approved.

12. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was AGRRED that:

The press and public be excluded for the following item of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclose of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government act 1972.

13. LAND AT LOSTOCK HALL – SHERDLEY ROAD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

The Cabinet member Corporate Support and Assets presented a confidential report relating to land at Lostock Hall in relation to the Sherdley Road Industrial Estate.

It was AGREED:

That the sale of the freehold reversionary interest at Sherdley Road Industrial Estate to Lunar Holding Ltd at a figure of £158,000 be approved.

I hereby commend the report of the Cabinet to the Council.

COUNCILLOR PETER MULLINEAUX
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL