

## **Report of Cabinet**

1. Any Cabinet recommendations on the reports that require a decision by full Council appear as separate items on the agenda.
2. Please note that the report may not reflect the wording used in the minutes, as they have yet to be formally agreed.
3. All decisions taken by Cabinet on 18 January can be found on the published Decision Notice.

## **Meeting held on 18 January 2023**

### **Lancashire 2050 Framework**

4. The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member (Strategy and Reform) presented a report that sought to present to Cabinet the work undertaken towards the development of strengthened joint working across Lancashire.
5. Councillor Foster had worked closely with other Lancashire leaders to develop the framework. Lancashire was missing out on funding due to not being in a combined authority, as a couple of authorities did not want to enter into such an agreement, it was agreed that all Lancashire authorities would continue to work closely together.

### **Mental Health Action Plan**

6. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member (Health and Wellbeing) Councillor Mick Titherington presented a report of the Director of Communities that sought to provide Cabinet with an update on the work that has been carried out to improve mental health across South Ribble. The report also sought to present Cabinet with proposed plans to be delivered over the next two years, starting from the 2023/2024 financial year.
7. Councillor Titherington stated that although the authority did not have a statutory duty to provide any services they had a moral duty and were filling a gap that had been left by other services. Whilst the authority could not solve the problem, they were doing their best to mitigate the impact that mental health has on individuals and residents. Councillor Titherington explained the results of the pandemic and the cost of living crisis had contributed to individuals deteriorating mental health.
8. Members of the Cabinet also thanked the Lead Member for Youth, Councillor Sharples and the Lead Member for Mental Health Awareness, Councillor Ian Watkinson for the work they had both done on the project.

### **Select Move allocations policy**

9. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member (Health and Wellbeing) Councillor Mick Titherington presented a report of the Director of Communities that informed members of the reviewed Select Move allocations policy and sought permission to consult on the new draft policy.
10. Councillor Titherington explained that the policy was presented against rising demand for housing against a diminishing supply. The housing team were currently dealing with a multitude of different and complex cases and should be commended for their work. The policy presented was not designed to solve current issues but it is required to be reviewed on a timely basis.
11. The Select Move Steering Group had tried to rectify issues when revising the policy, the amended policy had made a number of proposals such as strengthening the local connection and simplifying the banding systems which should help in some way.

### **Customer Access Charter**

12. The Cabinet Member (Communities, Social Justice and Wealth Building) Councillor Aniela Bylinski Gelder presented a report of the Director of Customer and Digital that asked Cabinet to consider the Customer Access Charter and Feedback Policy.
13. Councillor Bylinski Gelder explained the report was welcome as members wanted to ensure the delivery of an excellent standard of customer care. The Charter would be looking to the future and encouraging more access from home for residents. The abandoned call rate had now been removed as a local indicator as it was not an accurate performance indicator.

### **Fees and Charges 2023-24**

14. The Cabinet Member (Finance, Property and Assets), Councillor Matthew Tomlinson presented a report that set out the current position around fees and charges and proposals for 2023/24.
15. Councillor Tomlinson advised the next year would be financially challenging with inflation pressures and staff pay rises with no increase in government funding. Members of the administration had made commitment that they would be freezing council tax so the other way income could be generated is through fees and charges. Some fees are set nationally and cannot be changed, however it was proposed to freeze the fees that were under the control of the local authority.

## **Leyland Town Deal – Land Acquisitions**

16. The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member (Strategy and Reform), Councillor Paul Foster presented a report of the Director of Commercial that provided an update in relation to the land acquisitions associated with the Leyland Town Deal Project.

## **Shared Services Review – Property and Assets**

17. The Cabinet Member (Finance, Property and Assets), Councillor Matthew Tomlinson presented a report of the Director of Change and Delivery that requested Cabinet to consider the shared services review for Property and Assets and to approve the structure.

I would like to recommend that Council note the report.

Councillor Paul Foster  
Leader of the Council