

REPORT BY THE LEADER ON THE WORK OF THE EXECUTIVE

The attention of Members is drawn to the following items which have been discussed by the Executive since the last ordinary meeting of the Council:-

EXECUTIVE 10th DECEMBER, 2015

- **Tour of Britain Cycle Race**

Following the successful Stage 2 of the Tour of Britain cycle Race on 7th September, 2015 we noted and welcomed the media coverage and economic impact along with the final cost of hosting the Stage. The Executive formally thanked Ribble Valley Borough Council, Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Constabulary, all sponsors, Pennine Events, Pendle Council staff and volunteers as well as businesses in Colne for their support in making the event such a success. Pendle's Cycling Legacy Strategy 2016-2021 can be found elsewhere on the agenda.

- **Public Spaces Protection Orders for Cemeteries, Play Areas and Multi-Use Games Areas**

We agreed the commencement of a consultation process and asked for regular reports to be submitted back to us to enable us to monitor progress.

- **General Revenue Budget 2016/17**

The Executive noted the key points arising from the Spending Review 2015 and the potential implications these would have on the Council. We granted delegated authority to the Financial Services Manager, in consultation with the Leader and the Executive Member for Finance and Devolution to prepare and submit the Council's response to the consultation on the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2016/17. The Revised Budget for 2015/16 was approved including a contribution of £150,000 to a Business Rates Volatility Reserve. We noted the draft Base Budget for 2016/17, the forecast Medium Term Financial Plan and the assumptions underpinning both. Management Team's initial proposals to achieve a balanced budget for 2016/17 were noted. We asked for a review of the draft Base Budget for 2016/17 to be undertaken to identify any other areas where further savings proposals should be brought forward for consideration as part of the budget process. The financial planning assumption of a Council Tax increase of 1.99% for 2016/17 was also noted.

- **Developing the Medium Term Capital Programme 2016/19**

We considered the proposed Capital Programme for 2016/19. The Executive agreed a virement of £76,000 within the capital programme for the current financial year for the Council's contribution to the Lancashire Growth Deal project for junction improvements (J12 and J13) to the M65 motorway. We also noted the expenditure of £93,500 to fund the purchase of wheeled bins upon expiry of the current leasing agreement in December, 2015. We agreed to consider the Capital Programme for 2016/17 further at the Budget Executive meeting in February 2016.

- **Localised Scheme of Support for Council Tax 2016/17**

We recommended Council approve the proposed scheme of Local Council Tax Support with an implementation date of 1st April, 2016.

- **Council Tax Base 2016/17**

The Executive approved the Council Tax Base for 2016/17 of 23,171.3. We also asked the Financial Services Manager to assess and report on the feasibility and implications of reintroducing a short term (maximum 8 weeks) Class C discount for vacant properties and how this could be funded.

- **Transfer of Services and Facilities to Town and Parish Councils**

We agreed the transfer of play areas and MUGAs to Town and Parish Councils.

With regard to CCTV the Executive approved the placing of contracts for the radio Ethernet work with Technology Solutions and Thorne Access and Security Limited. We asked officers to undertake further work on the process for transferring equipment to the Town Councils; that we be provided with progress reports and that a meeting be held with representatives of the Town Councils in early January, 2016.

- **Tenders**

We accepted an offer of £5,000 for land at Branch Street, Nelson for use as business expansion. We also noted the exemption granted from the Contract Procedure Rules for project management consultancy in relation to the reinstatement of the Spa at Pendle Wavelengths.

- **White Grove Garage Site, Harrison Drive, Colne – Disposal for Affordable Housing**

We agreed to dispose of this site and for it to be sold to Cawder Construction, subject to a back-to-back agreement being in place with Housing Pendle. The Strategic Director was granted delegated authority to approve the negotiated terms for the disposal.

- **Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR) 2014/15**

The Executive approved this report.

- **Land at Tyseley Grove, Earby**

This land was declared surplus to the Council's requirements and we agreed that it be marketed for sale.

SPECIAL BUDGET EXECUTIVE 9th FEBRUARY, 2016

- **Capital Programme 2016/19 and General Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17**

Both reports were referred to the Special Budget Council meeting on 18th February, 2016 for consideration.

- **Performance Indicators Quarter 3 2015/16**

Our attention was drawn to the delegation levels for planning application determinations and appeals. We noted the current position regarding the thresholds and requested a further report to be submitted to the Executive should performance deteriorate further.

- **Matters Requiring Financial Approval**

The Executive agreed to commission further work and advisory support services from the Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service at a cost of £10,000 for the period 1st December, 2015 to 30th November, 2016. We also agreed to commission Building Bridges to provide cohesion activity to March 2017 at a cost to the Council of £10,000.

- **Transfer of Services and Facilities to Town and Parish Councils**

There was agreement for the whole of Birley Playing Fields in Earby to be transferred to Earby Town Council.

- **Tenders**

We accepted a revised offer of £53,600 for land at Rakeshouse Road, Nelson

- **Brownfield Sites Fund**

We asked for a letter to be sent to the Housing Minister, Brandon Lewis MP and the MP for Pendle Andrew Stephenson, asking them to provide details of how the £1.2bn Starter Home Fund was to operate.

- **The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015**

We agreed that the Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager be authorised to exercise the Council's full enforcement powers under the "Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015" which came into force on 1st October, 2015. We also approved the statement of principles which the Local Authority would follow in determining the amount of penalty charge related to a breach of these regulations.

- **Land at Algar Street, Nelson**

The Executive agreed to declare this site surplus to requirements and for it to be marketed for sale.

**Councillor Mohammed Iqbal,
Leader, Pendle Borough Council.**