

# **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 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2017**

- **The Borough of Pendle (Lomeshaye Industrial Estate – Phase 1) Compulsory Purchase Order 2017**

We agreed the Compulsory Purchase Order to acquire all interests in land and premises identified on the site plan in order to deliver the first phase of the extension of the Lomeshaye Industrial Estate; we approved the draft Statement of Reasons; authorised officers to take any necessary steps to prepare the documentation required as well as taking any steps required to promote, with a view to securing the confirmation and subsequent implementation of the Order.

- **Colne Business Improvement District (BID)**

The report and timetable for the implementation of a Colne BID was noted.

- **Waste Collection, Recycling and Street Cleansing**

At this meeting we recommended Council approve changes to the household refuse collection service from a fortnightly residual refuse collection with four weekly recyclable waste, along with savings proposals from staffing restructure (£30,000) changes to sickness procedures (£15,000) reduction in non-contractual vehicle repairs (£15,000) and additional trade waste income (£40,000). We also recommended that the Environmental Services Manager be granted delegated authority to procure for the lease of 20,000 new wheelie bins; replace 7.5t vehicles and source new 18t vehicles as appropriate, along with the necessary changes to the Council's Capital Programme.

- **Revenue Budget 2018/19**

The Executive asked that the Council's forecast financial position be shared with all Councillors so that they were fully aware of the position. We agreed the Revised Budget for 2017/18 including the additional in-year contributions to reserves; granted delegated authority to the Financial Services Manager, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance, to prepare and submit the Council's response to the consultation on the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2018/18; noted the draft Base Budget for 2018/19, the forecast Medium Term Financial Plan and the assumptions underpinning both; noted the £190,000 proposed savings within the Waste Management Service and referred all other savings listed to the Budget meeting in February, 2018; noted the Leisure Trust's savings proposals (with the exception of the redevelopment of Colne Leisure Services); noted the outline savings proposals for 2019/20 and 2020/21 and that they form the basis of the further work necessary to achieve a balanced budget in these years; agreed that the Budget Working Group be maintained and continue as currently constituted (2:2:2); we authorised the conclusion of the transfer of Colne Municipal Hall to Colne Town Council; noted the timetable for the remainder of the budget process and requested that a cross party meeting be held with the Citizens Advice Bureau to discuss future provision of the service within Pendle.

- **Developing the Medium Term Capital Programme 2018/21**

The Executive noted the projected position of the Capital Programme for 2017/18; noted that the capital bids submitted for 2018/19 exceeded the projected resources available by £0.57m and were therefore unaffordable; acknowledged the draft Capital Programme for 2018/19 which would be considered further in February 2018 and noted the intention to submit an updated strategy for the flexible use of capital receipts in the February cycle of meetings.

- **Business Rates Relief Updated Policy**

We approved the updated policy for the granting of Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Relief. We supported the intention to review the current level of relief awarded to identify if any savings could be made from 2019/20 and authorised officers to put current recipients of relief on notice that their award would come to an end on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 pending the outcome of this review.

- **Local Scheme of Council Tax Support for 2018/19**

The Executive agreed to recommend the local scheme of Council Tax Support to Council for approval with an implementation date of 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2018. We also asked that delegated authority be granted to the Financial Services Manager, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance, so as to make any amendments to the scheme resulting from the annual updating of the detailed regulations which underpin the primary legislation.

- **Council Tax Base 2018/19**

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012 we agreed that the amount calculated by the Borough of Pendle as its council tax base for the year 2018/19 be 23,661.5. The following tax base for the parished areas was also agreed:

Parish Area	Tax Base at 96.0% Collection
Barley	131.4
Barnoldswick	2,984.5
Barrowford	2,117.7
Blacko	300.9
Bracewell & Brogden	117.9
Brierfield	2,002.2
Colne	4,533.3
Earby	1,230.2
Foulridge	569.5
Goldshaw Booth	113.3
Higham	352.6
Kelbrook & Sough	341.6
Laneshawbridge	311.7
Nelson	5,884.3
Old Laund Booth	637.2
Reedley Hallows	697.9
Roughlee	156.7
Salterforth	286.2
Trawden Forest	892.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,661.5</b>

- **Recommended Write Offs**

The Executive agreed to that the sums of £1,683.29 in respect of Sundry Debtors, £57,016.30 in respect of the overpayment of Housing Benefit, £138,166.35 in respect of Council Tax and £52,101.51 in respect of National Non Domestic Rate, be written off as irrecoverable.

- **Tenders**

The highest offer of £20,500 for the sale of 32 Every Street, Brierfield was accepted by the Executive.

- **Empty Homes Plan**

We noted the work already completed towards achieving the targets in the Empty Homes Plan and agreed to adopt the Empty Homes Action Plan for 2017/19.

- **Sites in Colne – Disposal for Affordable Housing**

The Executive agreed to dispose of land at Bold Street/Colne Lane and Hawley Street/Knotts Lane, Colne to Together Housing for the development of affordable housing. The Chief Executive was granted authority to approve the negotiated terms for the disposal of these sites.

- **Disposal of Housing Sites**

With the exception of land at Red Lion Street, Earby the land at Aspen Grove and Bailey Street, Earby were declared surplus to requirements and we agreed to dispose of them.

*This decision was subsequently called-in and referred back to the Executive for consideration at the February meeting.*

- **Funding Supported Housing: Policy Statement and Consultation**

We noted the policy statement issued by Government in relation to funding for supported housing and agreed the consultation response.

- **Draft Homelessness Code of Guidance Opportunity to Respond to the Consultation**

The Executive approved the response to the consultation and agreed that this be forwarded on as the Council's response.

- **Transport for the North (Road and Rail Proposals)**

We asked for a meeting to be sought between the Executive and the new Chief Executive of Transport for the North. A meeting with the County Councillor for Highways and Transport was also requested along with a wider meeting to also include Burnley, Hyndburn and Craven district councils to discuss issues around transport for the north.

- **Earby Flood Defence and Resilience**

We noted progress made and granted approval for the flood resilience schemes to proceed, subject to confirmation of funding from the Department of Communities and Local Government.

- **Planning Authority's Monitoring Report 2016/17 – was approved.**

## **SPECIAL BUDGET EXECUTIVE 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2018**

- **Capital Programme and Strategy 2018/21**

The forecast outturn position on the Council's Capital Programme for 2017/18 was noted; as was the draft corporate capital strategy which included the flexible use of capital receipts strategy. We also noted the proposed change of approach with regard to the funding of Area Committee capital programme allocations – a report on the implications for this for 2018/19 would be sent to each Area Committee. We noted the proposed 2018/19 Capital Programme and referred it to Council for consideration. Delegated authority was granted to the Financial Services Manager to determine the most appropriate method of financing the Capital Programme for 2018/19 to ensure the use of resources was optimised by the Council. The indicative programmes for 2019/20 and 2020/21 were noted and it was acknowledged that these would be subject to further review as part of the development of future years Capital programmes. We approved the Prudential Indicators.

- **General Fund Revenue Budget 2018/19**

The Executive noted the proposal to maintain the General Fund Minimum Working Balance of £1.0m; the details of the final Local Government Finance Settlement for 2018/19; and the projected outturn position in the current financial year. A grant to Pendle Leisure Trust of £1,276,200 for 2018/19 was noted and referred to Council for consideration along with the General Fund Budget Requirement for 2018/19. Management Team were requested to develop and bring forward an updated 3-year strategy comprising a package of savings options for consideration by the Budget Working Group early in the new financial year as part of the development of future years. A further report on the Financial Strategy and Medium Term Financial Plan for 2019/22 is to be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee. In view of the Fair Funding Review we acknowledged the current assumptions and financial modelling for 2020/21 and we granted delegated authority to the Financial Services Manager, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and the Leader of the Council to conclude and submit the Council's response to this Review.

- **Pendle Leisure Trust**

After considering the results of the consultation on the proposed redevelopment of Pendle Leisure Centre it was agreed not to agree the loan of £500,000 from the Public Works Board at this stage and we asked that these proposals be considered along with all other proposals for that facility and others as part of the overall survey and review of leisure and sports facilities in Pendle.

- **Digital Strategy**

We recommended Council adopt the Digital Strategy.

- **Industrial Strategy**

The Executive noted the Government's White Paper entitled 'Industrial Strategy: Building a Britain Fit for the Future' and the implications for Pendle. Further reports would be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee as appropriate as the policies and programmes identified in the Strategy are developed.

- **Colne Business Improvement District (BID) Update**

The Executive noted progress and the timetable for the implementation of the BID and, subject to the Colne BID Steering Group finalising the proposal document, the final version would be submitted to the Executive in March, 2018.

- **Land at Carr Road, Nelson**

We granted the Chief Executive delegated authority to negotiate terms with Lancashire Constabulary who were exploring a potential opportunity to invest in this site to build a new briefing base.

- **Call In – Disposal of Housing Sites in Earby**

Following consideration of the Call-In Notice we re-affirmed the Executive's decision to declare land at Aspen Grove and Bailey Street, Earby surplus to requirements and disposed of.

- **Establishment of a Housing Joint Venture Company**

The Executive agreed to the setting up of a new Joint Venture Company between Pendle Council, Barnfield Investment Properties and Harewood Housing Society Ltd., along with the draft Heads of Terms. The Corporate Director, in consultation with the Deputy Leader, was granted delegated authority to agree the final details of the Joint Venture and establish the Company.

*This item was subsequently called in and will be considered further at the next Executive meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.*

- **Bradley Community Land Trust Proposal for Council Owned Land off Beech Street, Nelson and the Former Kingdom Hall Site, Nelson**

The Executive noted the proposals for the site from the Bradley Community Land Trust (CLT) and agreed that land off Beech Street, Nelson be declared surplus to requirements. We also agreed that the Council enter into a conditional contract of sale with the CLT for the site with a number of conditions but we asked that the CLT come back to the Council regarding the former Kingdom Hall site once they had some more definitive proposals regarding its future use.

- **Syrian Resettlement Programme**

We noted the developments in relation to the implementation of the Syrian Resettlement Programme. We also asked for a needs assessment with the refugee families be undertaken and that the remaining Local Integration funding be used to commission services to meet unmet needs once these had been established.

- **Proposals for the Creation of a Major Road Network**

We supported the indicative major road network; requested that the Department for Transport be urged to consider implementation of the Colne and A56 bypass schemes at the earliest opportunity; agreed that Lancashire County Council be requested to endorse the above and respond to the Department for Transport accordingly. The Chief Executive was also authorised to formulate a detailed consultation response to the Department for Transport in conjunction with the Leader of the Council and the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services.

- **Matters Referred from Area Committees**

- (a) **Land at Churchill Way, Brierfield**

We agreed to declare land adjacent to Perry's Peugeot, Churchill Way, Lomeshaye Industrial Estate surplus to requirements.

Councillor Mohammed Iqbal,  
Leader, Pendle Borough Council.