

**REPORT FROM:** CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
**TO:** POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
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**LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICE CHALLENGE SAVINGS- CONSULTATIONS**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform Members of the LCC Service Challenge Savings consultation process and to seek feedback on the suggested corporate response for two of these consultations.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) That the Committee consider and approve the corporate response for the Household Waste and Recycling Centres consultation (Appendix 1) and the Lancashire Wellbeing Service consultation (Appendix 2).
- (2) That the Committee agree to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to respond to the Health Improvement Service and the Home Improvement Service consultations, in conjunction with the Leader.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

To minimise any impact of LCC service changes in Pendle.

**1.0 ISSUE**

LCC's Medium Term Financial Strategy includes £77.171m of savings proposals and management actions, identified through a service challenge process. £26.841m of these relate to management actions rather than policy decisions and include the continuation and extension of other existing savings programmes, staffing efficiencies, changes to working practices and processes etc and do not require public consultation.

£50.330m of the £77.171m savings (over the next 4 years) relate to policy decisions and will lead to changes in certain LCC services. Those services affected are:

- **Household Waste Recycling Centres**
- School Transport
- Street Lighting- Part night lighting
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Service
- Traveller Sites

- Older People Day Care services
- Welfare Rights Service
- Health Improvement Service
- **Lancashire Wellbeing Service**
- Home Improvement Service

Each of the above will be party to a public consultation with the findings reported back to LCC's Cabinet in due course. The consultations will be staggered; the ones in the first round that are pertinent to Pendle Council are Household Waste Recycling Centres and the Lancashire Wellbeing Service. The deadline for both these consultations is 25<sup>th</sup> March.

The second round, which includes the Health Improvement Service and the Home Improvement Service, has recently opened and we intend to submit a corporate response. The deadline is 15 April. We request delegated authority for the Chief Executive to produce a response to these 2 services, in consultation with the Leader.

## 2.0 Household Waste Recycling Centres

LCC is proposing a change to the opening hours for all their 15 HWRC and reducing the service from 7 days to 5 days a week for 7 of their 15 sites.

All LCC household waste recycling centres currently have different opening hours during the summer (1 April to 30 September) and during the winter (1 October to 31 March). The summer opening hours are 8am to 7pm and the winter opening hours are 8am to 5pm. LCC is proposing to change the opening hours for all 15 household waste recycling centres to 9am-5pm for the entire year (2 January to 31 December).

During the summer, staff currently work 11-hour shifts, four days a week. During the winter, they work nine-hour shifts, four days a week. Managing these working arrangements is more costly than managing staff working a traditional set working week. LCC is proposing that their staff therefore work eight-hour shifts, five days a week all year round.

All 15 of Lancashire County Council's household waste recycling centres are currently open seven days a week (excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day). LCC is proposing that centres that handle less than 5,000 tonnes a year open five days a week rather than seven.

<i>0 to 5,000 tonnes</i>		<i>5,000 to 9,000 tonnes</i>		<i>9,000 tonnes to 14,000</i>	
	Annual tonnage		Annual tonnage		Annual tonnage
Longridge	2,859	Altham	6,491	Preston	9,697
Barnoldswick	2,995	Skelmersdale	6,678	Chorley	10,579
Clitheroe	3,440	Lytham	8,242	Burnley	11,148
Burscough	4,507	Fleetwood	8,369	Lancaster	11,768
Carnforth	4,527			Farington	13,116
Haslingden	4,536				

The affected sites are:

- Barnoldswick
- Burscough
- Carnforth
- Clitheroe
- Haslingden

- Longridge
- \*Skelmersdale

(\*LCC is proposing that the centre in Skelmersdale opens five days a week, because there are two household waste recycling centres in West Lancashire district).

All these centres will be open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The two days they close will either be Monday and Tuesday or Wednesday and Thursday. The days the centres close will be based on usage data and the availability of alternative facilities.

The majority of Lancashire's districts have only one centre. Three districts each have two: West Lancashire (Burscough and Skelmersdale); Ribble Valley (Longridge and Clitheroe); and Lancaster (Lancaster and Carnforth). By staggering the days that each centre is open in both West Lancashire and Ribble Valley, a seven days a week household waste recycling centre service will still be maintained in each of these districts.

Pendle and Rossendale will be the only districts without a seven day service. In Pendle many residents already use the Burnley household waste recycling centre due to the location of Barnoldswick. However, Barnoldswick's opening days would also be staggered with Clitheroe's opening days to provide a second alternative.

## **2.1 Timescales**

3 December 2018 - Cabinet agreed to consult on proposals

28 January to 25 March 2019 - consultation with the public and partner organisations

16 May 2019 - report the consultation outcomes to Cabinet

20 May 2019 - consultation with employees

From October 2019 - new opening times proposed to begin

## **2.2 PBC Consultation response summary**

Pendle Council opposes any changes to the opening times and to the reduction of opening days from 7 to 5 days a week for the Barnoldswick site. We are concerned that this will result in increased fly tipping and an increase in cost to PBC for the resulting clean up.

## **3.0 Lancashire Wellbeing Service**

LWS supports those adults most at risk of a health or social care crisis to remain healthy and well. The service assists with:

- Emotional health - low mood, anxiety, stress, feeling overwhelmed and mild depression
- Social isolation - loneliness, few or poor social skills
- Difficult circumstances - family finance, employment, education
- Lifestyle and healthy living - by supporting behaviour change

The service supports about 11,000 people each year. Depending on their needs, people receive support directly from the service, or the service refers them to other types of support. For example, the service helps people to use support provided by the voluntary, community and faith sector (VCFS). People generally receive support for up to eight sessions, over 12 weeks, where help is provided to make a plan to address their needs.

LCC is proposing to cease this service. Where similar services exist, it is expected that these will continue to support people in those areas.

Those with eligible social care needs will continue to receive support in line with their assessed needs

### **3.1 Timescales**

3 December 2018 - Cabinet agreed to consult on proposals

28 January to 25 March 2019 - consultation with the public and partner organisations

16 May 2019 - likely date of reporting the consultation outcomes to Cabinet

31 December 2019 - LWS is proposed to cease

### **3.2 PBC Consultation response summary**

We are reliant on the LWS for implementation of our Early Help & Safeguarding policies. LWS is one of 3 main providers for low level support needs for our vulnerable customers, particularly our vulnerable debtors. (The other 2 main providers, CAB and Community Connectors are already operating to full capacity and have little scope to plug the gap). Last year, Pendle council directly referred 42 cases to LWS. This does not include the indirect referrals that come from the integrated working arrangements that we support.

Whilst accepting that savings need to be made, it seems that a complete cut to the LWS is unlikely to generate the desired savings longer term. We suggest that more is done to re-design commissioning processes to better align all social prescribing related services such as the LWS, including all those commissioned by the 6 CCGs.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

**Policy:** LWS is currently integral to the roll out of our Early Help & Safeguarding policies. Cessation of this service could have an impact on our vulnerable customers.

**Financial:** None arising directly from this report

**Legal:** None arising directly from this report

**Risk Management:** None arising directly from this report

**Health and Safety:** None arising directly from this report

**Sustainability:** None arising directly from this report

**Community Safety:** None arising directly from this report

**Equality and Diversity:** None arising directly from this report

### **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1- PBC consultation response- Household Waste & Recycling Centres

Appendix 2- PBC consultation response- Lancashire Wellbeing Service

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**