

MEETING OF THE  
**SPECIAL BUDGET  
COUNCIL**

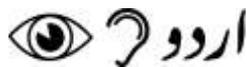
TO BE HELD ON  
**THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021**  
AT 7.00 p.m.

**The meeting is being held remotely and will be live  
streamed on the Council's [YouTube Channel](#)**

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**PHILIP MOUSDALE, CORPORATE DIRECTOR**

If you would like this information in a way which is better for you, please telephone us.



اگر آپ ہمیں بطور آسانی کی اطلاع میں جانتے ہیں، تو ہم  
آپ کے لئے زیادہ طریقہ ہوتو اس کے سرکاری ویب سائٹ پر کریں۔

Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies 2014, people attending open meetings can film, audio record, take photographs or use social media. Oral commentary is not allowed during meetings as it would be disruptive. If you are attending a meeting you need to be aware that you may be filmed by others attending. This is not within our control.



## AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

A Member must declare a disclosable pecuniary interest which he/she has in any item on the agenda. A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest in any item may not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting and must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

In addition the Council's Standing Orders require a Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest to leave the room where the meeting is held while any discussion or voting takes place.

3. Recorded Votes

Members are reminded that in accordance with Rule 17 of the Procedure at Full Council all votes on budget issues will be recorded. This includes all motions and amendments.

4. Standing Orders

In accordance with normal practice the Council is invited to suspend Standing Order 14.3 to allow Group Leaders to speak on items 6 and 7 for longer than 5 minutes.

5. Robustness of Budget Estimates 2021/22 and Adequacy of Reserves

**Enc.** To consider the attached report from the Chief Executive.

6. Capital Programme 2021/24

**Enc.** To consider the attached report from Management Team.

7. General Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22

**Enc.** To consider the attached report from Management Team.

8. Council Tax Resolution

To consider the attached report from the Chief Executive. **TO FOLLOW**

9. Notices of Motion

**(a) Vaccinations**

To be moved by Councillor D. Whipp and seconded by Councillor D. Lord –

Council welcomes the vaccination of thousands of Pendle people in high priority groups in recent weeks and thanks all the doctors, nurses, health care workers and volunteers who have helped make vaccines available through the local Primary Care Network centres at Colne Health Centre and Yarnspinners Wharf in Nelson.

Council notes the successful programme is being delivered through local public sector systems and staff working effectively with other local public sector organisations. Council further notes that this success is in stark contrast to the inadequate response of the national Test and Trace system that uses remote private sector companies providing ineffective tracing and consequent ineffective isolation of Covid 19 cases.

Council believes effective tracing of positive cases is critical to reducing infections to zero and that implementing an efficient find, test, trace and isolation system, in combination with continued vaccinations, is crucial in the coming months.

Accordingly, Council resolves to:

- 1) Formally place on record its thanks to all the staff and volunteers involved with the local Primary Care Network vaccination programme, together with other NHS, Public Health, Council staff and others involved with the fight against Covid 19.
- 2) Support the continued vaccination programme in whatever way it can in order that vulnerable people, including those who are homeless, receive vaccines at the earliest opportunity.
- 3) Reiterate this Council's request for locally based and properly resourced systems and staffing to allow full local case and contact tracing to be carried out using established public sector structures.
- 4) Request the Chief Executive to convey the Council's resolution to appropriate agencies, organisations and Government Ministers etc.

## **(b) Broadband**

To be moved by Cllr Tom Whipp and Seconded by Cllr Brian Newman

Council notes the poor broadband service available to Pendle residents in rural parts of Pendle, with over half the borough's population beyond the full fibre available within the urban core.

Council recognises that with increased reliance on home working and home schooling, adequate bandwidth is essential for many households and that good broadband is critical for businesses and jobs.

Council welcomes consideration of this issue at Policy and Resources Committee and consequent meetings with Lancashire County Council and Openreach and particularly welcomes the installation of full fibre broadband (Fibre To The Property, FTTP) to the Barnoldswick exchange through commercial Openreach activity.

Council notes that there are no plans to extend FTTP broadband to the Earby exchange and that the rural fringe of Pendle, including large communities, continue to be on the wrong side of the digital divide.

Council resolves to:

- 1) Request relevant Government ministers to prioritise full fibre provision to exchanges such as Earby's and the rural communities of Pendle;
- 2) Request Pendle MP Andrew Stephenson to lobby Government colleagues for Fibre To The Premises to be available across the borough;
- 3) Request Policy and Resources Committee to consider how Pendle Council can assist further with provision of broadband to rural communities in Pendle.

### **(c) Road Repairs**

To be moved by Cllr D. Clegg and seconded by Cllr J. Mills -

Council notes:

- The promises four years ago by county council candidates, who subsequently became part of the ruling group at County Hall, that there would be fair funding for road repairs in Pendle, an audit of conditions and pledges of millions extra for road repairs in the borough.
- That since then, the promised funding for road repairs hasn't materialised, our area has continued to suffer a shortfall in funding and roads continue to rot across Pendle.
- That highway improvement funds have been moved from Pendle to Burnley.

Council therefore resolves that Lancashire County Council be requested to ensure fair funding for road repairs in Pendle and an end to rotten roads in the borough.

### **(d) A56 Colne Bypass**

To be moved by Cllr D. Whipp and seconded by Cllr A. Mann -

Council notes the announcement in October 2019 of a £300,000 study by Highways England into addressing the problems of traffic from the end of the M65 which should have been reported in the first quarter of 2020.

Council notes that this report appears not to have been published, but that there are reports that the Highway England study looked solely at extending the M65 through Colne and over The Moss into Yorkshire, rather than options to bypass Colne and provide relief from traffic to communities along the A56.

Council calls for the publication of this study and resolves that regional transport authorities, Government agencies, the Secretary of State for Transport and Pendle's MP are pressed to identify and implement solutions to the problem of traffic in Colne and communities along the A56 without further delay.

### **(e) Elections**

To be moved by Cllr A. R. Greaves and seconded by -

Pendle Council notes that the Government is requiring the Police Commissioner and Council elections to go ahead on 6 May, and that the Electoral Commission is issuing requirements and advice to enable them to take place in a safe and effective manner.

Council further notes

- (1) That the Lancashire Electoral Returning Officers wrote to the Government requesting that the elections should either take place on the basis of all electors being sent a postal vote, or

that the elections should be deferred until the autumn, but that the Government rejected this advice;

- (2) That the extra work involved in running Covid-secure elections on 6 May is putting a very great strain on the resources of the Council, and diverting effort from the provision of its services and efforts to combat the Covid pandemic in Pendle;
- (3) Expresses its sincere gratitude to the Council staff who are undertaking this work in the current difficult circumstances, and to Council staff and others who are able and willing to volunteer to participate in the operation of the elections including on polling day and counting the votes.

#### Council calls on the Government

- (1) To ensure that the Council is fully recompensed for the costs of running these elections including all the extra costs due to measures to make them as Covid secure as possible;
- (2) To ensure that all candidates and local political parties are able to operate effective election campaigns on a full, fair and equitable basis in order to provide electors with full information and a proper choice, and that the current restrictions on campaigning must be lifted as soon as it is possible to do so.