

Report of	To	Date
Councillor Michael Vincent, Leader of the Council	Council	26 January 2023

## Executive Report: Leader of the Council

### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1** To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on a number of issues, as set out below.

### 2. Lancashire District Leaders and Lancashire Leaders

- 2.1** Lancashire District Leaders and Lancashire Leaders met on 17 November 2022 and discussions continued on Lancashire 2050.
- 2.2** As I reported in my previous report to full Council Lancashire 2050 has now been launched.
- 2.3** I will continue to work with Lancashire Leaders to ensure the Lancashire 2050 strategic framework is developed in a meaningful and positive way that benefits not just Wyre but the whole of Lancashire and when the framework is at the detailed stage I will bring a report to full Council for your consideration.

### 3. Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board

- 3.1** The meeting of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board was held on 8 December 2022 and Cllr Henderson attended on my behalf. Wendy Dodds, Stakeholder Engagement Advisor at BP gave a presentation on behalf of the Offshore Windfarm Consortium.
- 3.2** Tony Doyle, Head of IT - Blackpool Council gave an update on the Innovation Catalyst and the vision to deliver a new kind of digital eco system that is sustainable leading to significant economic growth and social prosperity to the area.
- 3.3** An overview of progress made of developing digital infrastructure along the Fylde Coast and the associated international fibre connectivity was given. In brief, the report highlighted work undertaken by a team of researchers from Lancaster University and a sustainability consultancy; the impact of current Data Centres/Net Zero Data Centres on carbon footprint; digital growth and trends in ICT; details of the Innovation Catalyst (funded by Community Renewal Fund) and links to the Symposium session held on 15 September.

In addition, an overview of existing investments in the area was highlighted.

#### **4. Comments and Questions**

- 4.1** In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.5.