

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr. Peter Gibson, Leader of the Council	Council	8 September 2016	8(a)

Executive Report: Leader of the Council
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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. Review of Parliamentary Constituencies (North West Region)

- 2.1 In February 2016, the Boundary Commission for England (BCE) announced the start of their review of the Parliamentary constituencies in England. The BCE is required to report to Parliament in September 2018. The BCE has now published the Guide for this review, which you can find on their website at the below link:

<http://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/guide-to-the-2018-review-published/>

The Guide aims to explain:

- the policies that the Commission will work to in conducting the review within the statutory framework;
 - the changes that were most recently made to the law governing Parliamentary constituency reviews by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). The 2011 Act has a major impact on the way a review operates, and particularly the first review to be completed following that legislation is likely to result in some degree of change to a large number of existing constituencies; and
 - the details of the process that the 2018 Review will follow, including the number of public hearings that will be conducted around the country.
- 2.2 The BCE intend to publish their Initial Proposals for new boundaries in September 2016.

2.3 When the District Ward Boundaries were recently reviewed we established a Member Review Group, led by Cllr Alan Vincent, which proved to be a very effective and efficient way of providing a formal response and I suggest that a similar approach be taken in the case of the review of the Parliamentary constituencies, but we will consider this matter formally later on in the agenda.

3. Congratulations to our three local MPs

3.1 I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our three local MPs who have secured important positions within their respective Groups.

3.2 Firstly my congratulations go to Ben Wallace MP who has been appointed to the post of Minister for Security, secondly to Paul Maynard MP who has been appointed to the position of Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Department of Transport and thirdly to Cat Smith MP who has been appointed a Shadow Minister.

3.3 I look forward to continuing to work with our three local MPs for the benefit of our residents, businesses and visitors.

4. Lancashire County Council Property Review

4.1 Members will recall that in my last executive report I commented that the County Council are currently consulting on proposals that will result in a significant reduction in the level of services provided for our residents. On the 8 August 2016 Garry Payne, Chief Executive, Marianne Hesketh, Service Director Performance and Innovation and I met with County Councillor David Borrow and Jo Turton, Chief Executive LCC.

4.2 We discussed various matters and subject to agreement on terms/rental levels I stated that in principle we would make our assets available so as to enable LCC to deliver services on a Neighbourhood Footprint. The deadline to provide comments to LCC was the 12 August and, as a result, the Chief Executive has responded to LCC with the following comments:

“We welcome the concept of ‘Neighbourhood Centres’ and feel this will be a positive step forward. Co-location of public services is very beneficial as we have proved here at the Civic Centre in Poulton-le-Fylde. We now share part of our building with Lockwood GP Surgery and are exploring opportunities for our customers to benefit from a central point of service delivery to cover a range of health and wellbeing services such as debt advice. We are also in discussions to let some space to the Police which would include a public enquiry counter. Wyre is keen to explore with LCC other opportunities for co-location and sharing of our assets.

There are many other community assets in Wyre not owned by us but that would provide LCC with an opportunity to consolidate, co-locate or provide outreach services such as village halls and community centres. We do not have a current list of all community assets in Wyre but would be happy to explore this further if it was felt useful.

Another good example of co-location opportunities is in Fleetwood, where there is currently significant space available to let at Fleetwood Health and Wellbeing Centre on Dock Street. It is understood that there are outline plans for NHS use but it may be worth exploring further with Fylde and Wyre CCG to see if there are opportunities for LCC to co-locate in this space. It would be an ideal location for a Neighbourhood Centre in Fleetwood.”

The response to LCC also referred to a scrutiny task group established during the consultation period which focused on proposals for library closures in Wyre and which proposed the establishment of a Community Interest Company (CIC). I hope this is something LCC will be keen to explore. This matter will be considered further by the Cabinet at its meeting on 7 September.

5. Comments and Questions

- 5.1** 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.

arm/ex/cou/cr/16/0809 8(a) Leader