

Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor David Henderson, Leader of the Council	Council	11 July, 2019

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 and Lancashire Leaders and Chief Executives Meetings 5 June 2019

- 2.1** Since my last Executive report local elections have been held across Lancashire resulting in changes in the political control of some Lancashire District Councils and as a consequence new Leaders have been elected and in June we came together to meet as District Leaders followed by Lancashire Leaders (Districts, Unitaries and County) .
- 2.2** At the Lancashire District Leaders meeting Cllr Stephen Atkins (Leader Ribble Valley) and Cllr Alyson Barnes (Leader Rossendale) were appointed as the Lancashire District Council representatives on the Lancashire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).
- 2.3** In my Executive report presented in April I made reference to a proposal by East Lancashire Authorities (namely Blackburn (Unitary Council) and Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale (District Councils)) to form one Unitary Authority. At that time neither Ribble Valley nor Hyndburn had made a commitment to be part of an East Lancashire Unitary Authority. Interestingly, following the local election results, Pendle have announced that they no longer wish to take part in discussions on a proposal to form a Unitary Authority for East Lancashire. In my opinion the formation of an East Lancashire Unitary Authority would have implications for the County Council and I will keep Members up to date on this matter.
- 2.4** At Lancashire Leaders we received a series of briefings including:

Air Quality: Air Pollution and Health
- 2.5** Each year in the UK approximately 28,000 to 36,000 deaths are attributable to poor air quality. Short term effects include coughing, wheezing and exacerbations of asthma and chronic bronchitis. Long term effects include an increased risk of cardiovascular disease, respiratory conditions and lung cancer and emerging links to dementia.

Children, the elderly and those suffering with a pre-existing chronic condition are more likely to be effected.

- 2.6** In Lancashire at 4.2% Hyndburn has the highest percentage of adult mortality attributable to poor air quality. Fylde along with ourselves at 3.3% have the lowest percentage mortality rate in Lancashire. The County Council, is however, taking action including embedding air quality objectives in plans and policies such as the Local Transport Plan and Local Cycling and Walking infrastructure plans. In addition 150 electric vehicle charging points are being installed on the highway across the county and installation has started in Wyre with points installed on Blackpool Old Road, Poulton, Cleveleys and Fleetwood.
- 2.7** In our Business Plan, under the heading Place we have committed to collaborate with our Partners to respond to climate change issues, including reducing flood risk across Wyre and we are currently developing a Climate Change Action Plan that will cover a wide range of issues and the Plan will be brought before a future meeting of full Council.
- 2.8** We received a very detailed presentation on the Lancashire Urgent Mental Health Pathway Review from Caroline Donovan Chief Executive Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust and Andrew Bennett Director of Commissioning Healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria. A copy of the report can be downloaded at www.healthierlsc.co.uk/MentalHealth but the summary of findings in the report are as follows:
- Investment levels on mental health services vary across the different localities of Lancashire.
 - Commissioners express concerns about the value for money returned from previous investments in mental health services.
 - Demand has risen in recent years – a lack of comprehensive community-based services is leading to many people accessing care via A&E departments.
 - People are experiencing long waits for care in inappropriate circumstances in Lancashire.
 - Models of care and care pathways need to be reviewed urgently.
 - Poor relationships between statutory organisations have inhibited improvement across the system and need to be reset.
- 2.9** The Foundation Trust has developed an Action Plan with a series of urgent changes with a significant number of actions to be implemented by the Autumn 2019.
- 2.10** We also received a presentation on a proposal to develop a Greater Lancashire Plan the purpose being to re-position Lancashire by creating a single coherent narrative and foundation for continuous engagement with Government and communities providing a strategic and integrated approach, driven by independent analysis and challenge. A collaborative Officer working group has been established and Marianne Hesketh, Service Director Performance and Innovation is our representative on the Group. The Group has a clear remit:

- To sense-check the proposition and overall programme.
- To agree scope of work, help shape the brief (s) for commissions, help shape the Independent Panel and help advise CEOs and Leaders.
- To advise on any early steers on the deep dive independent policy commissions.

2.11 There will be a cost to develop a Greater Lancashire Plan and Leaders will consider a detailed business case when Lancashire Leaders next meet and I will in due course bring the matter back to full Council.

3. Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board 4th June 2019

3.1 At the meeting of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board I was appointed Chairman with Cllr Sue Fazackerley (Fylde) appointed Vice Chairman.

3.2 At the meeting updates were presented on the progress of both the Blackpool and Hillhouse Enterprise Zones both of which are generating jobs and growth.

3.3 The main topic of discussion was the Government requirement for Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to develop a Local Industrial Strategy (LIS). The first LIS's were agreed with Government by March 2019. These are the so called 3 "Trailblazer" areas which include the Greater Manchester and West Midlands Combined Authorities and Oxford-Milton Keynes-Cambridge Growth Corridor area.

3.4 The Lancashire LEP has been formally approached by Government and are now required to have a LIS in place by early 2020.

3.5 Lancashire LEP have commissioned Steer economic development who have produced a working draft evidence base for the LIS and our officers will be providing feedback. As development on the LIS progresses either I or Cllr Michael Vincent, Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development, will provide detailed updates.

4. Activities

4.1 On the 10 June I accompanied a number of Members on a tour of the Borough and on the 13 June my views and support for the Love Lancashire Campaign Launch were aired on BBC Radio Lancashire. On the 24 June I accompanied Madam Mayor at the armed Forces Day Flag Raising Ceremony here at the Civic Centre.

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.