



AGENDA ITEM: 8(b)

**EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW &
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:
30 September 2010**

Report of: Council Secretary and Solicitor

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor A Owens

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**SUBJECT: CALL IN ITEM – MID LANCASHIRE MULTI AREA AGREEMENT/LOCAL
INVESTMENT PLANS/LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS**

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To advise the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the reason for the call in of the decision on the above item, as set out in Minute No. 64 of the meeting of Cabinet held on 14 September 2010.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Committee determines whether it wishes to ask for a different decision.

2.2 That if the Committee does wish to ask for a different decision, the Committee indicates which of the options set out at paragraph 5.1 below, it wishes to pursue.

3.0 DETAILS RELATING TO THE CALL IN

3.1 The report attached as an Appendix to this report was considered at Cabinet held on 14 September 2010.

3.2 The following decision of Cabinet is contained at Minute No. 64:

“64. MID LANCASHIRE MULTI AREA AGREEMENT/LOCAL INVESTMENT PLANS/LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS

Councillor Owens introduced the report of the Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates which detailed the current position with regard to the Mid Lancashire Multi Area Agreement (MAA) and emerging Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and advised on Local Investment Plans (LIPs) and the implications for attracting external funding.

Cabinet was advised that the position regarding these issues was continually changing and in this respect the Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates provided a verbal update on the following matters:

- National Affordable Housing funding
- The LIP process
- Lancashire Wide LEP
- Regional Growth Fund

In reaching the decision below, Cabinet considered the update from the Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates and the details set out in the report before it and accepted the reasons contained therein.

- RESOLVED:
- A. That the current position on the Mid Lancashire MAA and emerging Local Enterprise Partnerships, the progress made to date in respect of the Local Investment Plan process and work programme and policy announcements in respect of future external funding, be noted.
 - B. That the Executive Manager Housing and Property Maintenance Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing agree the mechanism for determining funding applications under the National Affordable Housing Programme.
 - C. That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader continue discussions with regard to Local Enterprise Partnership proposals for Lancashire, proceed with discussions and determine which LEP is in the best interest for West Lancashire.
 - D. That delegated authority be given to the Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates, in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder Regeneration and Estates to agree the Local Investment Plan with regard to future external funding for economic development and regeneration purposes.”

3.3 The following reason for call was given in the requisition:

“The resolution (C) to delegate discussions on which LEP is in the best interests for West Lancashire is inappropriate, given the unsatisfactory process for discussions to date, the high importance of the future LEP boundary, and the

consequent need to engage adequately with partners on the best way forward for West Lancashire, both in the spirit of the 29 June letter from Eric Pickles and Vince Cable, and in the context of the emerging funding landscape.

The resolution (D) to delegate agreement on the Local Investment Plan is inappropriate, given the need for involvement in this planning process by all relevant partners, in the context of the emerging regeneration funding context.”

3.4 The requisition also provided an alternative decision which was:

“That recommendation C be replaced by the following:

C. That discussion on which LEP is in the best interests of West Lancashire be referred to the Executive of the Local Strategic Partnership with a view to ensuring optimum partner involvement in these discussions, and that the LSP Executive be asked to report back to Cabinet on its recommendations in due course.

That a cross-party working group be established to inform the Council’s involvement in LSP discussions and in any other engagement with prospective LEP partners.”

That recommendation D be replaced by the following:

D. That the development of the Local Investment Plan be referred to the Executive of the Local Strategic Partnership with a view to ensuring optimum partner involvement in the planning and subsequent implementation process of the Local Investment Plan, and that the LSP Executive be asked to report back to Cabinet on its recommendations in due course.”

3.5 The following Members of the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee signed the requisition for call-in in accordance with the provisions of Overview & Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rule 15:

Councillor C Mawdsley
Councillor N Furey
Councillor I Moran
Councillor R A Pendleton
Councillor S Hanlon

4.0 COMMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE MANAGER REGENERATION AND ESTATES

4.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members in light of three proposals being submitted in Lancashire. The delegations within the report allow us to continue the dialogue as we do not know what the response from Government will be and we need to be able to respond in a timely manner to ensure the best possible outcome for West Lancashire. The professional view of the Executive Manager is that the LSP should be informed and updated on the process to ensure optimum partner involvement, however at this stage does not believe that a

cross-party working group would be appropriate at the current time but as governance arrangements for any Local Enterprise Partnership and associated Local Investment Plan are developed, consideration would be given as to how other partnerships, such as the various LSP's may engage in the future.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Following consideration of the decision of Cabinet, the requisition for call in and the comments of the Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates, the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee can decide if it wishes to ask for a different decision. If the Committee does not wish to ask for a different decision then the decision of Cabinet takes immediate effect. If the Committee does wish to ask for a different decision, it may:
- a. refer the decision back to Cabinet (as the decision making body) for reconsideration, setting out the different decision; or
 - b. refer the matter to Council. If the matter is referred to Council and Council does not object, then the decision of Cabinet will take effect immediately from that Council meeting date. If the Council does object, then the decision and the objection will be referred back to Cabinet (as the decision making body) for reconsideration.
- 5.2 The Secretary of State in his Guidance recommends that Overview & Scrutiny Committees should only use the power to refer matters to the full Council if they consider that the decision is contrary to the policy framework or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the budget.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is no evidence from an initial assessment of an adverse impact on equality in relation to the equality target groups.

Appendices

Report of the Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates.