



COUNCIL: 27 January 2022

Report of: Chief Operating Officer

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ian Moran

Contact for further information: Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey (Extn. 5200)

(E-mail: Jacqui.Sinnott-Lacey@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: OUR NEW DEAL FOR A GREATER LANCASHIRE

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update on work undertaken towards development of strengthened joint working, a long term strategic plan and a County Deal for the Lancashire area and seek agreement to progress this work.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the outline "Our New Deal for a Greater Lancashire" at Appendix 1, be supported, as the initial draft basis for further discussion and development of a possible County Deal for the Lancashire area.
- 2.2 That the principles of governance as set out in Appendix 2 for any future deal be agreed.
- 2.3 That the Leader of the Council continues to work with Lancashire Leaders in line with the principles agreed in recommendations 2.1 & 2.2 above, and note that any formal proposals will require approval by Full Council at the appropriate time.
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3.0 BACKGROUND / SUMMARY

- 3.1 The attached report is being considered by the Full Council of each of the fifteen local authorities in Lancashire, that is, the county council, two unitary authorities and each of the 12 district councils.
- 3.2 The intention is that this report sets out the general principles and high level priorities of a long term strategic plan and County Deal. As progress is made, more details about specific asks will be developed, and there will be opportunities

for all of the partner authorities to contribute to and influence that, including identifying specific schemes and activities.

3.3 Council is asked to consider the report and the recommendations set out above.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The attached document sets out an initial scope and is a first phase of work that could begin to frame a set of devolution asks as part of Our New Deal for a Greater Lancashire – through which potential powers and responsibilities would be devolved to Lancashire from Government – in order to support delivery of Lancashire's overarching strategic plan (Lancashire 2050). The initial scope of the deal is focused on the key priorities agreed by Leaders, having considered the available evidence, on four key themes which require devolution from Government:

- economic growth and investment
- transport, connectivity, and infrastructure
- early years, education, adult skills, and employment; and
- environment, climate change and housing quality.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 As progress is made, consideration will need to be given by Leaders and councils to support and resource options to manage and deliver any agreed plan and Deal. Local Authorities will need consider a fair way for each partner authority to contribute. It is also the intention to seek capacity funding from Government as part of the negotiation process for a new Deal.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 In order for Lancashire to move forward with a strong collective voice, the engagement and support of all councils will be extremely important. This will give Leaders a mandate to collectively move forward on the issues set out in the attached report, and to engage with government to develop and deliver a great deal for Lancashire, for presentation back to each Full Council in Lancashire to consider and decide.

7.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Tackling priorities that are currently included in the devolution scope around early years, housing quality, employment and skills, will also address some of the wider determinants of poor health as part of a longer term ambition for Lancashire. As set out in the attached report, in addition to the four themes identified within Our New Deal for a Greater Lancashire, additional policy areas within the Lancashire 2050 strategic plan could include themes such as health (including inequalities, improvement and wellbeing).

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

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders at this stage. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

Our New Deal for a Greater Lancashire – Report of Lancashire Leaders

Appendix 1 - Initial Scope of Our New Deal for a Greater Lancashire

Appendix 2 - Governance