

Report to Council



DATE	16th December 2010
PORTFOLIO	Leader
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Three Tier Forums

PURPOSE

1. To agree to establish Three Tier Forums as part of Locality working with Lancashire County Council (LCC)

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Council be recommended to appoint six Members to the Burnley Three Tier Forum

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. To develop integrated Locality working with Lancashire County Council

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

4. Burnley has already agreed to act as one of three pilots working with the County Council on the development and implementation of a Public Realm integration project relating to streetscene type activities of both councils such as:
 - o verge cutting, weed control, and shrub & tree maintenance outside the urban core
 - o Enforcements, permits and licenses
 - o Traffic management
 - o On street parking
 - o Residents Parking
 - o Sponsorship and advertising in the public realm
 - o Countryside access beyond Burnley's boundaries
5. The County Council have now invited Burnley to pilot a Three Tier Forum comprising the six local County Councillors, six Borough Councillors and a Parish representative. The intention is for the Forum to be established in November/December to discuss and agree the full range of front line services to be delivered by the County's Environment Directorate on an annual basis. This includes highways, the public realm, public transport, road safety, environmental and community projects, trading standards, waste management,

countryside and analyst's services

6. Local County Councillors, District Councillors and the parish representative will review service provision in the context of local priorities to ensure that the Directorate's services respond effectively to local needs. This will involve resource allocation and prioritisation within the context of available resources and the policies and statutory obligations of the County Council and the District Council if District Council services were under discussion as part of an integrated approach.

The Forums will review progress against agreed priorities on a quarterly basis and agree in-year adjustments where necessary.

Whilst the emphasis is on flexibility and not on "one size fits all", the following criteria are proposed by LCC in terms of the "mechanics" of the Forums:

In the pilot phase they will focus on the delivery of all Environment Directorate services on the district footprint:

- The Forums will be joint meetings of County/District/Parish Councillors
- The membership of each Forum will be all local County Councillors and an equal number of District Councillors appointed by the District Council, and one Parish/Town Council representative nominated from the Parish Councils within the District area.
- In respect of the service areas and joint working arrangements referred for consideration, the Forum will reach agreement by consensus, failing which the issue will be referred to the Leaders of the County Council and District Council to be resolved.
- "Decisions" taken by Forums will be reported annually to Joint Leaders Meetings.
- The Forums are not formal committees of County, District or Parish Councils, therefore Access to Information provisions do not apply.
- The Chair and Deputy Chair will be appointed by each Forum and will rotate annually between the County Council and District Council.
- The Forums will meet on a quarterly basis to review progress against agreed priorities and agree in-year adjustments where necessary.

Subject to the successful development of the pilots, similar arrangements would then be introduced across all 12 districts during 2011. The intention is to introduce the roll out as soon as practicable on a district by district basis, reflecting the pace of development of integrated joint working arrangements in each district.

7. No guidance has been received from LCC on how each District should select their six representatives. The Council can therefore chose the members most appropriate to the functions of the Forum.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

- 8. None directly arising out of this report

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 9. A more integrated approach to service delivery with appropriate governance arrangements should help to ensure citizens and service users receive efficient, economical and effective services

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

- 10. Member Structures Working Group

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11. Reports to LCC Cabinet and related background papers

FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

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ALSO: