



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL

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**PORTFOLIO:** **LEADER**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** **COUNCILLOR MARK TOWNSEND**

**DATE OF REPORT:** **27/09/2017**

### Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p><b>PE1-</b> We will work with partners to make the borough a place of aspiration, including supporting efforts to increase education attainment and skills development, and improve residents' health.</p>	<p>Improving education attainment and skills is a priority for Burnley and I am therefore pleased to report that the provisional results suggest that the gap between the Burnley district average attainment at GCSE, and the average across the county, has continued to narrow.</p> <p>I am delighted for Shuttleworth College and Sir John Thursby who announced their best ever results, but would like to congratulate all the schools and the pupils for their hard work.</p> <p>Similarly Burnley College had another year of exceptional results with a 99.1% pass rate for A Levels and the College achieved their highest number of A* grades.</p> <p>Looking to the future, I am also pleased to report that £5.4million is to be invested in a new alternative provision school in Burnley. The Heights is set to be built on the former Ridgewood School site. The school will provide education for pupils aged five to 16 who have found it difficult to achieve in a mainstream setting. The school will enable these young people to achieve the best possible educational outcomes whilst providing them with the skills,</p>

	<p>experience and knowledge needed to achieve a successful transition into further education, employment and training.</p> <p>The school will be run by the Education Partnership Trust and is planned to open around Easter 2018.</p>
<p><b>PR1-</b> We will contribute to the strategic direction of local, sub-regional and regional partnerships, and will position the borough for economic development investment.</p>	<p>Members will have read in the press that Ribble Valley no longer want to be part of any planned Combined Authority.</p> <p>Following this, Lancashire Leaders will be shortly discussing options for how Lancashire authorities can work together to achieve the best possible outcomes for Lancashire.</p> <p>Burnley and other authorities in Pennine Lancashire are clear about their vision and priorities for the sub region as detailed in the recently approved Pennine Lancashire Growth and Prosperity Plan. This Plan is a key document that we will use to secure investment in the area irrespective of the final structure that is agreed for Lancashire.</p>