



# SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

BURNLEY TOWN HALL

Monday, 15th August, 2022 at 6.30 pm

## PRESENT

## MEMBERS

Councillors H Baker (Chair), Barton, A Royle (Vice-Chair), G Birtwistle, S Hall, M Hurt, L Khan, Launer, Lewis, S Lone and J McGowan

## OFFICERS

Lukman Patel	– Chief Operating Officer
Howard Hamilton-Smith	– Head of Finance and Property
Catherine Swift	– Children's Trust Co-ordinator
Carol Eddleston	– Democracy Officer

## IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Anwar - Leader of the Council

### 35. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hosker, Ishtiaq, G Lishman and Sollis.

### 36. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### 37. Additional Items of Business

The Chairman sought clarification on the process for making representations as to why any meeting or part of a meeting proposed to be held in private should be open to the public. He was also keen to know how long items were deemed to be private. He recalled that on occasions there had been public and private versions of a report.

Lukman Patel, Monitoring Officer, confirmed that he had no objections to public and private versions of a report but, on this occasion, the public and private elements were very much intertwined and not easily separated out.

The Notice of Key Decisions and Private Meetings informed well in advance of items coming forward to the Executive and whether the items included on it were intended to be taken in public or in private. If any member wanted to know more about why it was intended to take an item in private, or to make representations as to why they thought it should be taken in public, they could contact them or the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

When an item was no longer deemed to be private was quite complex and depended on a number of factors. Consequently there was no one size fits all answer.

The Notice of Key Decisions and Private Meetings was included on the agenda for ordinary Scrutiny Committee meetings and members could perhaps discuss it in greater depth at future meetings.

### **38. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in any of the items on the agenda.

### **39. Exclusion of the Public**

Members determined to exclude the public from the meeting before discussion took place on the following item of business on the grounds that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted if the public were present there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information within the meaning of part 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

### **40. Youth Investment Fund Application**

Lukman Patel presented a report which was due to be presented to the Executive on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and which asked the Executive to consider supporting an application by OnSide to the Youth Investment Fund (YIF) for an Open Access Youth Zone in Burnley.

Members discussed the report in detail and asked a number of questions and made a number of observations to which officers responded. The discussion focused on:

- Relatively limited opportunity to consult directly with schools due to the timescales involved and imminent school holidays at the time;
- Wide and considerable partner support for the YIF application;
- Lancashire County Council's statutory duties in relation to provision of targeted youth services rather than open access;
- State of the art, non-traditional young person-led model of OnSide Youth Zones;
- Importance of ease of access to Youth Zones, including via public transport.

Councillor Anwar, Leader of the Council, welcomed the comprehensive discussion and assured members that members of the Executive would be informed of the committee's questions and observations ahead of their meeting later in the week.

**IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT:**

- 1) The report to the Executive and the annexes be noted, and
- 2) The Scrutiny Committee fully support and endorse the recommendations contained in the report.