



FYLDE BOROUGH COUNCIL



## Meeting Agenda

**Policy & Service Review Community  
Forum**

**Council Offices, Derby Road,  
Wesham**

**15 September 2005, 7:00pm**

# **POLICY & SERVICE REVIEW COMMUNITY FORUM MEMBERSHIP**

CHAIRMAN – Councillor Simon Renwick  
VICE-CHAIRMAN – Councillor John Prestwich

## **Councillors**

Stephen Carpenter	Martin Taylor
Peter Collins	Keith Wright
Raymond Norsworthy	

Contact: Peter Welsh, St. Annes (01253) 658502  
Email: [peterw@fylde.gov.uk](mailto:peterw@fylde.gov.uk)



## **CORPORATE OBJECTIVES**

The Council's investment and activities are focused on achieving our five key objectives which aim to :

- Conserve, protect and enhance the quality of the Fylde natural and built environment
- Work with partners to help maintain safe communities in which individuals and businesses can thrive
- Stimulate strong economic prosperity and regeneration within a diverse and vibrant economic environment
- Improve access to good quality local housing and promote the health and wellbeing and equality of opportunity of all people in the Borough
- Ensure we are an efficient and effective council.

## **CORE VALUES**

In striving to achieve these objectives we have adopted a number of key values which underpin everything we do :

- Provide equal access to services whether you live in town, village or countryside,
- Provide effective leadership for the community,
- Value our staff and create a 'can do' culture,
- Work effectively through partnerships,
- Strive to achieve 'more with less'.



## A G E N D A

ITEM	PAGE
<b>1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:</b> <i>In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, members are reminded that any personal/prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct adopted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000.</i>	4
<b>2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:</b> <i>To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Forum held on 24 August 2005.</i>	4
<b>3. SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS:</b> <i>Details of any substitute members notified in accordance with council procedure rule 26.3</i>	4
<b>4. THE COUNCIL'S POLITICAL STRUCTURE – FINAL REVIEW MEETING</b>	5 - 7

# REPORT



REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY UNIT	POLICY AND SERVICE REVIEW COMMUNITY FORUM	15 SEPT 2005	4

## THE COUNCIL'S POLITICAL STRUCTURE – FINAL REVIEW MEETING

### Public/Exempt item

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

### Summary

This report details what is now required from the Policy and Service Review Community Forum after conducting a range of consultation exercises on the possibility of making changes to the Council structure for the benefit of the public.

### Recommendation/s

1. That members of the Forum agree the content of a report to the Full Council regarding recommendations for any possible changes to the Council structure.

### Executive brief

The item falls within the following executive brief[s]: Quality Services (Councillor John Coombes).

### Report

1. On the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2005 a Notice of Motion was reported to the Full Council meeting which was lodged by Councillor Kevin Eastham and Councillor John Longstaff.
2. The motion recommended that consideration be given to reverting to the committee system based upon that, which operated from May 2003 until August 2004. A copy of the Notice of Motion was circulated with the agenda.

3. At the meeting the Mayor was minded to apply Council procedure rule 9.1.4.1. and allow the motion to stand referred to the Executive Committee for consideration. The Mayor invited the council to endorse his proposed action and the Council resolved to do so.
4. The Notice of Motion went before the Executive Committee on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2005 where it was resolved to refer the motion contained in the notice to the Policy and Service Review Community Forum for further consideration at a special meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2005.
5. The Policy and Service Review Community Forum met on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July to hear a diverse range of opinions on possible structures that were open to the Council thereby providing a sound platform on which to base any future recommendations on.
6. At the meeting on the on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July Members heard from a range of sources including;
  - Ian Curtis (FBC Monitoring Officer)
  - Councillor J Coombes (Leader of FBC)
  - George Buckley IDeA Member Peer (Conservative)
  - Keith Whaley IDeA Member Peer (Independent)
  - (Deputy) Chief Exec (evidence on officer support)
  - Chair of Fylde LSP (Michael Wren-Hilton who provided Stakeholder views)
  - Mike Greenwood Director of Local Government Practice ODPM – (Views and comments of ODPM / GONW)
  - Mrs J Hunter Chief Executive South Ribble BC (Experiences from a council rated as ‘good’ under the CPA process).
7. It was agreed at the meeting that further information was required before members could form a balanced and informed view on any possible structure changes to the Council. To aid them in their understanding the following information and actions were requested;
  - Arrange a visit to South Ribble – this was arranged to take place on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September in order for members of the Forum to witness South Ribble’s Cabinet in action.
  - Second meeting with broader evidence including opposition councillors from a Council operating a Cabinet system (Wyre B C) and the Leader and Chief Executive of a council operating the multi-policy committees under the “fourth option (Ribble Valley) This meeting was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August.
  - A paper exercise consisting of about a dozen different political structures – this was completed and circulated to relevant Councillors as part of the paperwork for the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> August.

## **Conclusions**

Information has now been taken from a wide range of sources to help inform Members' decisions on the best way forward for Fylde BC.

Members of the Forum now need to draw together and condense this information into proposals and recommendations to put to the Special Council meeting planned for the 26<sup>th</sup> September.

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>	
Finance	Possible changes to the Council's political structure may have implications for the overall Member's Allowances budget.
Legal	Possible changes to the Council's political structure would have to follow a prescribed legal process.
Community Safety	No further implications arising from the report
Human Rights and Equalities	No further implications arising from the report
Sustainability	No further implications arising from the report
Health & Safety and Risk Management	No further implications arising from the report

REPORT AUTHOR	TEL	DATE	DOC ID
Oliver Shimell	(01253) 658423	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2005	Final Governance Report

<b>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>		
NAME OF DOCUMENT	DATE	WHERE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION
Minutes of the Policy and Service Review Community Forum	26 <sup>th</sup> July 2005	Legal and Democratic Services Business Unit
Minutes of the Policy and Service Review Community Forum	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2005	Legal and Democratic Services Business Unit
Research Document on Fylde Borough Council's statistical neighbours	15 <sup>th</sup> August 2005	Overview and Scrutiny Business Unit

## **Attached documents**

None