

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr. Peter Gibson, Leader of the Council	Council	20 July 2017	8(a)

Executive Report: Leader of the Council
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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on a number of issues, as set out below.

2. Economic Prosperity Board (EPB)

- 2.1 In June I informed Members that I would be bringing to this meeting a report that would propose the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company be dissolved and that an EPB be formed for the Fylde Coast. The creation of an EPB will provide for a stronger and robust governance framework for the economic development and growth agenda across the Fylde Coast, bringing in greater political accountability and enhanced collaborative working. Unfortunately the draft Governance for the EPB has yet to be finalised and thus I intend to bring a report to full Council for Members' consideration at the earliest opportunity.

3. Combined Authority and collaborative working

- 3.1 I am aware that other Council Leaders and Chief Executives within Lancashire are continuing to meet under the heading of Shadow Combined Authority but there appears to be little appetite from Government to hold discussions on devolution with areas that have not been formally recognised, including Lancashire. I have stated on numerous occasions that I would support collaboration where the benefits are clear and I will be writing to all Leaders in Lancashire suggesting a return to the previous collaborative forum of Lancashire Leaders and Chief Executives meetings (which were informative and productive).

4. Galas/events/festivals

- 4.1 Thank you to all staff who have helped (and continue to do so over the summer) at festivals and galas across Wyre. From making sure the borough looks it's best beforehand, to cleaning up afterwards, their contribution to community events is appreciated by Members and the public alike. Also a special thank you to everyone who helped to successfully arrange the BBC Music Day event at Marine Hall on 15 June at very short notice. Singer Alfie Boe was honoured with a Blue Plaque which is now in situ at the venue, where he made his first appearance

aged 14. The plaque was unveiled by Alfie's friend and collaborator Michael Ball. The duo then performed a number of songs to an invited audience of friends and family. The event was broadcast live on BBC Radio Lancashire and featured on BBC North West Tonight, BBC Radio 2 and many other media outlets.

5. Heatwave advice

- 5.1** Most of us welcome hot weather, but when it's too hot for too long there are health risks. The main risks posed by a heatwave are dehydration, overheating (which can make symptoms worse for people who already have problems with their heart or breathing), heat exhaustion and heatstroke. Many of our residents are aged over 65 and vulnerability increases during periods of hot weather so please promote awareness of the risks during the summer.

6. Social media checklist for Councillors

- 6.1** As the use of social media grows so does Member involvement and if you have not already done so I would urge you to read and follow the Social media checklist for councillors which can be accessed via our Social Media Page on our Intranet. Alternatively, you may wish to speak with Rosie Green (Policy and Engagement Manager) who will be able to provide you with further help and assistance.

7. Comments and questions

- 7.1** In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.5.