



## Portfolio Holder Report

The portfolio holder will make a decision on 31 March 2017 under the General Exception Rule as set out at [Part 4.02 of the Council's Constitution](#).

Report of:	Portfolio Holder	Date of publication
Mark Billington, Service Director People and Places	Councillor Alan Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder	30 March 2017

### Fleetwood to Knott End Ferry Service

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek approval to enter into a two month contract for the running of the Fleetwood to Knott End Ferry Service.

#### 2. Outcomes

- 2.1 The ferry service will continue to operate until a decision on the future running of the service is made by Cabinet.

#### 3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That a contract is entered into between Wyre Marine Services, Wyre Council and Lancashire County Council.
- 3.2 That approval is given by the Resources Portfolio Holder to allow for the appointment of an operator under the exemptions to Contract Procedures contained within the Financial Regulations and Financial Procedure Rules on the grounds that the goods, works or services are required urgently.

#### 4. Background

- 4.1 At the Cabinet meeting held 22 March 2017 the decision was made to "Defer the decision and negotiate to continue to provide the service in the short term."
- 4.2 Wyre Marine Services have been approached and have agreed to continue to run the ferry service initially for a period of two months extendable month by month thereafter in order that the service can continue to operate until a final decision is reached.

- 4.3 Lancashire County Council are the owners of the ferry boat and have agreed to continue the loan of the ferry to the operator until the Cabinet decision is made.

## 5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1 In order to continue the operation of the ferry service until a formal Cabinet decision is made it is proposed to enter into an agreement with Lancashire County Council and Wyre Marine Services for a period of two months (extendable on a month by month basis).
- 5.2 Exemption from the Council's standing orders is therefore sought due to the current contract expiring on 31 March 2017 and the urgency this presents to continue an uninterrupted ferry service until a formal Cabinet decision is made.

## 6. Delegated functions

- 6.1 The matters referred to in this report are considered under the following executive function delegated to the Resources Portfolio Holder (as set out in Part 3 of the council's constitution): "To consider departures from Rules relating to financial and contractual matters if appropriate".

<b>Financial and legal implications</b>	
Finance	The current operator has agreed to continue the running of the ferry service for a short period and Wyre Council will subsidise the service at a cost of £6,380 per month. This is currently accounted for within the council's budgets.
Legal	A contract will be entered into with Lancashire County Council and Wyre Marine Services for a contract period of 2 months extendable on a month by month basis until a decision is made by Cabinet.

### **Other risks/implications: checklist**

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with an x.

<b>risks/implications</b>	<b>✓ / x</b>
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

<b>risks/implications</b>	<b>✓ / x</b>
asset management	✓
climate change	x
data protection	x

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<b>List of background papers:</b>		
name of document	date	where available for inspection

**List of appendices**

comm/ph/re/300317/rp01cg