

EXECUTIVE CABINET

Day: Wednesday
Date: 21 October 2015
Time: 2.00 pm
Place: Lesser Hall - Dukinfield Town Hall

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive any apologies for the meeting from Members of the Executive Cabinet.	
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest from Members of Executive Cabinet.	
3.	MINUTES	
a)	EXECUTIVE CABINET To receive the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 August 2015.	1 - 10
b)	STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 21 September 2015.	11 - 18
c)	ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES/GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY To consider the minutes of the meetings of the AGMA Executive Board and Greater Manchester Combined Authority held on 31 July and 28 August 2015 and to consider the Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions of the GMCA and AGMA Executive.	19 - 44
4.	TAMESIDE TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE To consider the attached report of the Executive Member (Transport and Land Use)/Assistant Executive Director (Development, Growth and Investment).	45 - 52

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Robert Landon on robert.landon@tameside.gov.uk or 0161 342 2146, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
5.	VISION TAMESIDE To consider the attached report of the First Deputy (Performance and Finance)/Assistant Executive Director (Asset Management and Investment Partnership)/Assistant Executive Director (Development, Growth and Investment).	53 - 70
6.	URGENT ITEMS To consider any additional items the Chair is of the opinion shall be dealt with as a matter of urgency.	

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Robert Landon on robert.landon@tameside.gov.uk or 0161 342 2146, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

ITEM NO: 3a

EXECUTIVE CABINET

26 August 2015

Commenced: 2.00pm

Terminated: 2.30pm

Present: Councillor K. Quinn (Chair)
Councillors J. Fitzpatrick, Robinson, Taylor, Travis and Warrington.

Apology for Absence: Councillors Cooney, Kitchen and Gwynne.

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest to report at this meeting.

12. MINUTES

(a) Executive Cabinet

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 24 June 2015.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 24 June 2015 be taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

(b) Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 13 July 2015.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 13 July 2015 be received and the following recommendations be approved:

Asset Management Update

- (1) That the list of disposals identified in the appendix to the report be approved.
- (2) That the allocation of £2,967,875 to invest in school buildings be approved as detailed in the report.
- (3) That approval be given to the issue of formal variation to the Facilities Management Agreement with the TIP and the rebasing of the contract with effect from 1 July 2015.

Education Capital Update

- (4) That the amendment of the Education Capital Programme as detailed in the report to reflect the outcome of the review of commitments at 31 March 2015 be approved.
- (5) That the allocation of £3,769,818 to undertake works detailed in the report for various building refurbishment / fabric repairs be approved.
- (6) That the procurement of the identified work through the Tameside Investment Partnership, with the achievement of local spend and other value added outcomes being reported within future reports to Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel, Executive Board and Executive Cabinet be approved.

- (7) That all academies and maintained schools to seek the Council's consent for work to be carried out prior to commissioning the work to ensure that building regulations, planning requirements and all health and safety issues as well as any impact on capacity are complied with before work on site commenced.

Transport Fleet Replacement

- (8) That approval be given for the procurement of 58 vehicles identified in the report via a competitive EU tendering process to be funded by Prudential Borrowing and relevant service areas to be recharged an annual rental to cover purchase, borrowing and maintenance costs covering the relevant borrowing period.
- (9) That approval be given to a review being undertaken of the whole fleet to determine the Council's service needs over the next 3 to 5 years to support the delivery of those identified services in the most effective manner.
- (10) That approval be given to a cost benefit analysis being undertaken for the remaining fleet (maximum 94 vehicles) in conjunction with the above review to determine the most appropriate vehicle strategy going forward for the next 3 to 5 years.

Engineering Capital Programme 2015/16 and Beyond

- (11) That the Engineering Capital Programme for 2015/16 as detailed in the Appendix to the report be approved.
- (12) That approval be given to the temporary Corporate Funding of £0.167m towards the Denton Link Road scheme until the approval to vire the monies from the ITB Minor Works Budget had been granted by Transport for Greater Manchester.

Tameside Interchange Land Assembly Governance Arrangements

- (13) That Option 1 as detailed in the report be approved as the most appropriate way forward.

Land Transferred for Affordable Housing – Early Repayment of Capital Receipt from New Charter Housing Trust

- (14) That the valuation of the early repayment of the capital receipt of £549,689 in respect of the sites at Kynder Street, Katherine House and Cavendish Street be approved, to release the restrictive covenant in favour of the Council and give New Charter House Limited an unencumbered title.

(c) Enforcement Co-ordination Panel

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Enforcement Co-ordination Panel held on 29 July 2015.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Enforcement Co-ordination Panel held on 29 July 2015 be approved.

(d) Association of Greater Manchester Authorities/Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader and Chief Executive, which informed Members of the issues considered at the AGMA Executive Board meetings and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority held on 29 May 2015 and 26 June 2015.

RESOLVED

That the minutes be noted.

(e) Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions for the GMCA and AGMA Executive

Consideration was given to the Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions for the GMCA and AGMA Executive held on 31 July 2015.

RESOLVED

That the Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions for the GMCA and AGMA Executive held on 31 July 2015 be noted.

13. FINANCIAL MONITORING

(a) Revenue Monitoring

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Performance and Finance) and the Assistant Executive Director (Finance) detailing the overall net projected outturn revenue position for 2015/16 which was £12.7m over budget and recovery plans were included in the report to address the position. This forecast was set in the context of challenging savings targets of £24m for 2015/16 and a further £14.1m and £15.4m planned for 2016/17 and 2017/18 respectively. Strong budget management was required across the Council to ensure the Council achieved its financial plans and higher than budgeted spending would need to be addressed.

In particular, the position for Children's Services would need to be tackled through a combination of efficiency improvements and a review of the base budget and plans for improved efficiency had been approved by Council in February 2015. The position for Adults Services would require remedial action to be taken by the service within the year and ongoing budget deficits unaddressed at year end would be carried forward to be resolved in future years.

With regard to the Business Rates and Council Tax, Executive Cabinet was advised that income was slightly under targeted collection rates. Both areas would be monitored during the financial year and it was anticipated that all target income could be collected within 2015/16.

In conclusion, it was stated that the summary of the annual accounts during the last financial year, as detailed at **Appendix 5**, would be published with the Council's annual Statement of Accounts for 2014/15.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the projected budget outturn position be noted.**
- (ii) That the detail for each service area be noted.**
- (iii) That the changes to the revenue budgets as outlined be approved.**
- (iv) That the Summary Annual Accounts 2014/15 as detailed in Appendix 5 be noted.**

(b) Capital Monitoring Report

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Performance and Finance) and the Assistant Executive Director (Finance) summarising the capital monitoring position as at 30 June 2015, which showed that, at present, £53.991m of investment was £15.992m less than the current budget. It was proposed therefore, that the capital investment programme be re-profiled to reflect current information and the re-phasing of £15.390m into the next financial year would reduce this variation to £0.602m.

Details of the projected outturn capital expenditure at June 2015 by service area was detailed in the report and explanations provided for capital projects with a projected variation of £0.100m or above over the life of the project. Schemes with an in-year variation in excess of £0.100m were highlighted and approval was being sought to re-profile the capital expenditure of these projects.

The report also incorporated an update on Compulsory Purchase Orders, indemnities and potential liabilities.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the current capital budget monitoring position be noted.**
- (ii) That the resources currently available to fund the capital programme be noted.**
- (iii) That the re-phasing to reflect up-to-date investment profiles be approved.**
- (iv) That the current position for Compulsory Purchase Orders and Indemnities be noted.**
- (v) That the capital receipts position be noted.**
- (vi) That the Prudential Indicator position be noted.**

13. CABINET OUTCOMES

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Performance and Finance) and the Executive Director (Governance and Resources) which presented the Tameside Council Cabinet Outcomes document for approval. Tameside Council Cabinet Outcomes 2015 was a key part of the Council's framework for delivering key projects and programmes and set out publically, by Cabinet Deputy portfolio, achievements to date, ongoing challenges and future projects.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Tameside Council Cabinet Outcomes 2015 document be approved.**
- (ii) That the document be published on the Council's website from September 2015.**

14. CUSTOMER SERVICES EXCELLENCE – OUTCOME OF ASSESSMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader, First Deputy (Performance and Finance), the Chief Executive and the Executive Director (Governance and Resources) advising Members on the outcomes of the recent Customer Service Excellence Assessment and the recommendations submitted and ratified by the Centre for Assessment – Accredited Body for the Cabinet Office.

Executive Cabinet was advised of the process for the 2015 accreditation, which commenced some months ago, including an initial pre assessment allowing assessors to check evidence against the Standard's criteria. This was followed by a 5 day onsite visit where assessors met with elected members, staff, partners and customers.

The informal recommendation by the lead assessor was that the Council should be awarded the standard with 100% compliance against all criteria. In addition, the lead assessor also recommended that the Council be awarded eight new areas of compliance plus, which was a tremendous achievement.

The recommendations as a whole had been ratified by the Customer Service Excellence Panel and a copy of the full assessment was appended to the report. As well as the excellent overall impression, the assessors also highlighted particular areas of strength, for example, the Council's record of communicating with customers particularly those who were considered to be hard to reach. Communications with employees, elected member and communities was planned to publicise the outcome of the assessment.

RESOLVED

That the award of the Customer Service Excellence standard achieved for the whole of the Council be noted.

15. NEXT STEPS FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Health) and the Head of Stronger Communities explaining that the way in which people accessed Council Services was changing and it was necessary to consider the future face to face Customer Service offer to ensure it continued to meet demand whilst being affordable and cost effective to deliver. Following an Executive Decision on 14 May 2015, a public consultation exercise had been undertaken via the Council's Big Conversation on 3 potential options for future service provision detailed in the report and summarised as follows:

- Option 1 – providing level 2 customer services at all Libraries and retention of Ashton Customer Services on current opening hours at its new location of Clarence Arcade;
- Option 2 – providing level 2 customer services at all Libraries and reduction in opening hours at Hyde, Stalybridge and Stalybridge customer service provision;
- Option 3 – as Option 2, however, provision at Hyde would be further reduced.

Attention was drawn to the current provision, the reasons for reduction in demand, the cost to provide the service, the results of the public consultation and addressing the concerns of the survey responders set out in the report.

Taking all relevant factors into consideration it was proposed that Option 1 would provide an offer suitable to meet the majority of residents' needs whilst also being affordable to the Council. This would provide Level 2 customer service at all Libraries and general enquiries including verification of housing benefit documents. Ashton was the most used Customer Service Centre, which had only seen a very small reduction in visits during the last 12 months. Ashton Customer Services would be retained in its current format and the opening hours remain as currently provided.

Whilst some customers would be affected, if Option 1 was implemented, the majority of the survey respondents could still access the service they required in their local town at a library. As three quarters of respondents indicated that they would access services by alternative methods it was not felt that Option 1 would cause a significant detrimental impact on residents.

RESOLVED

- (i) That Option 1 be approved and implemented as the future face to face Customer Service model.**
- (ii) That the service be kept under review to ensure it continued to meet demand whilst being affordable and cost effective.**

16. CORPORATE EQUALITY SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Wellbeing) and Executive Director (Governance and Resources), which explained that Tameside's Corporate Equality Scheme 2015-19 was the second scheme since the introduction of the Equality Act 2010.

It detailed how the Council would fulfil its legal obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty and building on the achievements and developments made since the introduction of the first Corporate Equality Scheme 2011-15 which was produced following the Equality Act 2010 becoming law.

The Corporate Equality Scheme consisted of three parts, detailed in the appendix to the report as follows:

- Part 1 outlined the Council's approach to the equality and diversity agenda, achievements to date and introduced the overarching themes of the forward looking equality objectives for 2015-19;
- Part 2 contained the Council's objectives and explained the five high level themes; and

- Part 3 summarised the legislative context of the Scheme and provided further more detailed information on the Equality Act 2010 and the public sector equality duty.

RESOLVED

That the Corporate Equality Scheme 2015-19 be approved.

17. SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Learning, Skills and Economic Growth) and the Assistant Executive Director (Education) explaining that on 24 June 2015, Executive Cabinet had approved a consultation on amending the determined admission arrangements for community high schools for entry in September 2016 to replace the current criterion 4 with specified feeder schools linked to each community secondary school. In addition, any viable alternative put forward would be considered to ensure the Council had fair admission arrangements compliant with the School Admissions Code, whilst managing the statutory duty to ensure the local authority was able to provide a place for every Tameside resident of school age.

Having carefully considered a number of options to ensure compliance with the Code, it was reported that the best option for Tameside community high schools was to implement partner schools and three models were described as follows:

- All Tameside community, voluntary controlled and Church of England voluntary aided primary schools as partner schools for all six community high schools;
- To mirror the school place planning areas and name partner schools on a wider geographical area; and
- To have a number of partner primary schools for high schools so that each primary school was a partner school for a set number of high schools.

There were advantages and disadvantages with each of these three approaches but the responsibility of the Council in setting its oversubscription criteria was to be reasonable, clear, objective, procedurally fair and compliant with all relevant legislation including equalities legislation.

The consultation on a proposal to implement a system of named partner schools for the six community high schools ran from 25 June to 6 August 2015 and details of the eight responses to the consultation were provided together with the proposed recommended changes following the consultation.

The School Admissions Code required admission authorities to consult on changes to their admission arrangements on an annual basis. It was proposed that the whole admission arrangements should be the subject of public consultation for admission in September 2017 so that parents and other interested parties had an opportunity to comment further on partner primary schools as an oversubscription criterion for community secondary schools.

RESOLVED

- (i) That criterion 4 of the secondary school admission arrangements for September 2016 be amended to:**

Children attending the named partner primary school at the time of application. Preference will be given to pupils living nearest to the school.

When a parent has moved from further than ½ mile to an address within ½ mile of a named partner school, whilst their child is in Year 5 or 6 and they have chosen to keep their child at their current primary school, this will be considered as an exceptional circumstance under criterion 4, provided details are given on the special circumstances form together with satisfactory evidence of the house move.

- (ii) **That the named partner primary schools detailed in Appendix 2 were partner (feeder) schools for the purposes of the school admission arrangements for September 2016.**

18. MARKETS POLICY

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader and the Assistant Executive Director (Environmental Services) outlining a proposed Market Policy covering:

- Provisions available to the Local Authority for the creation of a lawful market;
- Powers available for maintaining operational control, order and public safety on markets that take place within the borough;
- Procedures for monitoring trader compliance and detailing non-compliance; and
- Definitions of Market Franchise Rights, what constituted a rival market and the disturbance of Market Rights.

Tameside had a rich heritage of markets and their economic, cultural and social benefits could not be underestimated and they contributed to a mix of retail opportunities offering an alternative to mainstream shopping options. A recent report commissioned by the Association of British Market Authorities included survey data and research from visits to Ashton Market and 5 others from around the country. This independent research along with the knowledge of the value of Tameside's markets reinforced the need to ensure there was a quality market offer across the borough.

It was reported that there had been an increase in commercial interest in the use of markets as ways to generate income from all sectors of the community and it was important that the Council could clearly demonstrate a fair, consistent and transparent policy when dealing with such interest. Maintaining public protection and shoppers' confidence was a priority within the borough. One of the main benefits of the proposed policy was to consolidate information, rules, regulations and elements of law which Tameside Markets Service already adhered to and implemented into one document that was transparent and clearly setting out what was required.

The Council had undertaken a range of consultation activities in relation to the Market Policy including how other authorities approached the control / licensing of commercial and non-commercial events / markets with their areas. In addition, a survey had been sent out to the Tameside Citizens Panel and the questions and responses were detailed.

It was explained that the introduction of the Market Policy would enable charity / community groups to receive regulatory guidance from the Authority as well as establishing a line of communication with the Markets Service. The Service was also looking to extend its offer of specialist markets and events at venues across the borough and following soft market testing to gauge potential interest from potential partners, the Service was moving towards a procurement exercise which it was hoped would be finalised by the end of the calendar year.

RESOLVED

That the Market Policy be approved for adoption by the Council.

19. DEFERRED PAYMENT AND CHARGING POLICY

The Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Wellbeing) and the Interim Assistant Executive Director (Adults Services) submitted a report which explained that the Care Act 2014 placed a number of duties and responsibilities on local councils when considering charging for adult social care services including residential and on-residential care (such as homecare, day care and respite care). The Act continued to allow the Council some discretion as to what services they could charge for and what income, savings and assets could be taken into account when calculating a person's ability to pay for their care.

Executive Cabinet was informed that the Council had a charging policy and deferred payments policy that had been in place for many years. This report followed an extensive review of the previous policies together with two consultation exercises engaging with the general Tameside population and with the current users of adult social care services to ensure they remained fair and equitable.

Particular reference was made to the key areas for discretion the Council had when determining a charging policy, an explanation as to why the changes were required and responses to consultation on the following:

- Charging for temporary or short term care up to the first 8 weeks as if the person was living in permanent residential care;
- Income that was disregarded from a financial assessment;
- Upper and lower capital limits;
- Charging for care and support outside of a care home setting;
- Disability related expenses – standard disregard;
- Maximum percentage of disposable income;
- Personal Independence Payments; and
- Severe Disability Premium.

In respect of deferred payments, a key element within the Care Act was to allow people to make a choice as to when they decided to pay their care costs. A person could postpone making the payment to such a time as they felt able to pay or on their death where their estate would be used to pay off any outstanding debt the person might have accrued. A number of discretionary elements had been consulted on separately and had been the subject of a key decision earlier in the year. However, there remained a few discretionary elements that had been consulted upon and these together with the responses were highlighted as follows:

- Deferring third party top-ups;
- Extending deferred payments to Supported Living Scheme; and
- Renting out a property that was subject to Deferred Payments Agreement.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the proposed discretionary elements of the Charging for Adult Social Care Police and Deferred Payment Policy be approved.**
- (ii) That the Charging for Adult Services Policy be approved.**
- (iii) That the Deferred Payments Policy be approved.**
- (iv) That the policies be kept under review by the Executive Director (People) and Executive Director (Governance and Resources) and updated accordingly to ensure legal compliance should the legislation and guidance require their amendment.**

20. COMMUNITY RESPONSE SERVICES CHARGING AND BANDING CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Wellbeing) and the Interim Assistant Executive Director (Adult Services), which explained that as the Council faced significant budgetary challenges over the coming years new and innovative approaches to delivering services whilst reducing the cost of provision significantly were being considered. The Community Response Service currently generated income from charges of £528,000. The Council supplemented this income with core funding of £373,000, which was being reduced by £175,000 during 2015/16 and £420,000 during 2016/17.

The Community Response Service supported some of the most vulnerable citizens across the borough with a monitoring and response service through the use of a community alarm and telecare devices. There were currently 4072 clients using the service, within 3776 properties. The current charge of £5.90 per week for a 24 hour service included a wide range of telecare devices

installed to individual needs and monitored and maintained. The Service generated an income from 1,716 properties as private clients paid £5.90 per week per household.

Attention was drawn to an options appraisal that had been undertaken and, based on the current financial situation, the recommended model would be that of income generation and to introduce charges for those individuals who currently did not pay for the service. This option made the most financial sense in terms of retaining a Community Response Service locally and coupled with other efficiencies, would offer a degree of security for the sustainability of the service.

Approval was being sought from the Executive Cabinet to commence consultation using written correspondence explaining the proposed changes, a questionnaire seeking feedback on the proposed changes and meetings with key stakeholders affected by the proposals. A similar letter and questionnaire had also been drafted for Key Safe proposals. The staff in the Community Response Service and Control Centre would be fully briefed and support would be provided to individuals who might have difficulties communicating their views including those people with sensory disabilities.

Consultation would take place with New Charter Housing Trust, tenants, private and owner occupiers and registered social landlords to cease funding the Community Response Service through the Adult Services budget and charge all customers using the service offering a two tier / band service offer.

The report was also seeking approval to consult with New Charter Housing Trust regarding a charge to monitor door entries to their sheltered schemes.

In conclusion, although there appeared to be a strong justification for the change it was important that consultation take place on the proposals and for customers to be involved in the design of the service if it was to meet customer needs in the future.

RESOLVED

- (i) That approval be given to commence consultation with the 2060 customers currently receiving Community Response Services free of charge with a view to introducing the standard charge of £5.90 per week for services provided.**
- (ii) That approval be given for consultation to commence with customers and the wider public on the exploration of different service options offering different levels of provision at different levels of cost providing a greater range and choice of service options.**
- (iii) That approval be given for consultation to commence on changes to key storage arrangements whereby the customer would purchase a key safe for storage of house keys.**
- (iv) That approval be given to New Charter Housing Trust being approached to discuss charges for monitoring the door entry systems at their sheltered housing schemes across the borough.**

21. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

CHAIR

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ITEM NO: 3(b)

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

21 September 2015

Commenced: 2.00pm

Terminated: 2.30pm

Present: Councillor J Taylor (In the Chair)
Councillors Dickinson, Fairfoull, J Fitzpatrick, McNally and Reynolds.

Monitoring Officer Sandra Stewart

Section 151 Officer: Ben Jay

Also in attendance Damien Bourke, Ian Saxon, Elaine Todd, Tim Rainey, Paul Moore and Beverley Stephens.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor K Quinn, Cooney and B Holland

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported at this meeting.

13. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 13 July 2015 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

14. CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Performance and Finance) / Assistant Executive Director (Finance) detailing the capital monitoring position at 30 June 2015. The report showed projected capital investment of £53.991 million by March 2016. This was £15,992 million less than the current budget. Re-phasing of £15,390 million into the next financial year was therefore proposed, which would reduce the variation to £0.602 million.

Details of the projected outturn capital expenditure at June 2015 were shown by service area and Section 3 of the report referred to the most significant scheme variations.

Particular reference was also made to the changes to the approved 3 year capital programme, capital receipts and prudential indicators and it was -

RESOLVED

- (i) That the current capital monitoring position be noted;
- (ii) That the resources currently available to fund the capital programme be noted;
- (iii) That the re-phasing to reflect up-to-date investment profiles be approved;
- (iv) That the current position with regard to Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO's) and Indemnities be noted;
- (v) That the changes to the capital programme be noted;
- (vi) That the capital receipts position be noted; and

(vii) That the changes to the Prudential Indicators be approved.

15. VISION TAMESIDE PHASE 2

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Executive Director (Asset Management and Investment Partnership) detailing the progress to deliver the Vision Tameside Phase 2 Programme.

It was reported that significant progress had been made since the last meeting of the Panel in July 2015, including:

- The surrender of the lease with the Co-operative Bank plc had been completed and the bank had moved into a new retail unit in the town centre;
- The decant work at all locations had now been completed and final costs were being received from remaining works;
- Decant of services out of TAC was completed 17 July 2015, with the building being cleared of furniture, equipment etc., by 16 August 2015;
- The contract for the demolition of the Tac building was signed on 10 August 2015 and the building formally handed over to the LEP and demolition contractors on 17 August 2015,
- 360 scanning boxes had been removed from TAC and were being processed by the TIP's nominated sub-contractor;
- The planning application for the new building was submitted in June 2015 and approved at Speakers' Panel on 2 September 2015;
- Discussions were progressing with the College, Job Centre Plus and the Clinical Commissioning Group about their proposed space, which were very close to being finalised;
- The purchase of James Howe Mill, Turner Lane, Ashton had been completed, with progress by Vodafone in respect of their relocation of the mast on TAC being closely monitored to ensure that they vacated the building in early October 2015,
- The BSF servers had been relocated to a new data centre for most schools and a temporary solution put in place for remaining schools, to allow the servers and power supply to be disconnected at the end of September 2015; and
- The Clarendon College building Phase 1 Vision Tameside was nearing completion.

Details of the updated programme for Vision Tameside Phase 2 were given, which informed Members that the new building would be delivered for February 2018.

With regard to financial implications, no further changes to the budget were requested at this time, however, on-going work was being undertaken to finalise the decant, scanning and archive costs, assessing the impact of any additional demolition costs, the scope and cost of furniture, fittings and equipment and any design changes.

It was reported that the risk profile of the programme of activity was being reviewed through the Stage 2 process and details of risks going forward as the programme developed were explained.

In conclusion, it was reported that all elements of the programme would be closely monitored on a fortnightly basis to ensure that the programme was delivered within the approved budget. The outstanding agreements for lease and leases with partners and particularly the College must be resolved as soon as possible to confirm the occupation by the College of the new building and also enable capital and revenue budgets to be confirmed.

RESOLVED

That the progress of the Vision Tameside Phase 2 be noted.

16. ASSET MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Executive Director (Asset Management and Investment Partnership) detailing the progress on the disposal of the Council's surplus assets, anticipated capital receipts that would be realised and investment that was required to maintain those buildings being occupied and retained or dilapidated arising from the termination of leases.

Details were given of the disposal of assets and it was reported that all of the surplus leased properties had been vacated, and in most cases, dilapidations had been agreed and completed. The exact level of dilapidation in respect of Good Hope Mill was still being negotiated and would be subject to further reports to the Strategic Capital Panel and formal governance.

It was also reported that the Council still had a number of long leases in respect of Plantation Estates and Portland Basin and in addition, leases the former St Ann's RC Primary School in Ashton as a training centre.

With regard to investment in civic and corporate buildings, it was reported that there was no reactive maintenance budget included within the corporate landlord budgets and any repairs or upgrading of buildings required a request for additional investment to be made to the Panel for approval by Cabinet. In the past few months a number of requests had been received for repairs for civic and operational buildings for which there was no revenue or capital budget allocation. An analysis of repairs was detailed totalling £154,100.

As previously reported, the capital receipts that were anticipated to be received over the next three years were as follows:

Estimated Receipt Required to Balance Capital Programme	2015/16 Est	2015/16 Actual to Date	2016/17 Est	Post 2016/17 Est	Total
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
16,333	15,000	1,243	15,000	15,000	45,000

The above summary of estimated capital receipts was based on land and property already identified for disposal and reflected either firm offers received or the best estimate of the capital receipt that was likely to be received. A target of £15 million per annum receipts had been set for the next three years. A list of properties was being considered for future reporting to the Panel. Information in respect of properties that had been identified for disposal or where tenants had sought to acquire the freehold of the properties being leased were detailed in **Appendix 1**.

RESOLVED

That the following recommendations be made to Executive Cabinet:

- (i) That the list of disposals identified in Appendix 1 to the report be approved; and**
- (ii) That the allocation of £154,100 to undertake building condition replacement/repair projects be approved;**

17. EDUCATION CAPITAL UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Executive Director (Asset Management and Investment Partnership) advising the Panel of work required to address condition needs in a number of primary school and plans for increased capacity in schools identified for expansion.

It was explained that the Council had a statutory duty under the Education Act 2011 to secure sufficient and suitable places for pupils in its area in primary and secondary schools across the

borough. It also has the responsibility for the maintenance of community and voluntary aided school buildings, even though it does not own voluntary aided school buildings.

It was reported that a significant number of capital projects were recommended for approval at previous meetings and delivered over the summer of 2015. Including:

- Completion of the new 2FE school for Holden Clough, which had been delivered through the Priority Schools Building Programme;
- Completion of the new 2FE Inspire Academy in Ashton;
- Completion of the 60 place extension for Samuel Laycock school;
- The new kitchens planned as a result of the additional Universal Infant Free School Meals grant had been progressed at St Anne's and St James, Hattersley; and
- The condition work programme had also been progressed over the summer.

Work had also commenced on site for the new Broadoak 2FE primary school building in July 2015, with the new school being completed in February 2018.

The work to relocate the BSF servers to a new data centre had been completed, with individual schools migrating across to the new servers. In some cases the new broadband provider had not completed all the connections required. Due to the needs to increase the resilience of the schools ICT systems and remove the current servers from TAC, a temporary solution was being installed on three sites and funding for £40,000 was being requested for this work.

With regard to education investment, the Council received notification from the DfE on 10 February 2015 that Condition Funding of £1,920,166 would be allocated for maintained schools in respect of the financial year 2015/2016. In addition, £768,060 was allocated to Voluntary Aided schools. The funding for Voluntary Aided Schools was prioritised and agreed by the four dioceses in Tameside and did not appear on the capital programme. Allocations for 2016/17 and 2017/18 were expected to be at similar levels but would be reduced to take account of any additional schools that converted to Academy Trusts.

Members were advised that the Council had already been notified of Basic Need Funding for 2015/16 of £5,663,234 and £5,946,396 for 2016/17 was confirmed last financial year. Basic Need funding of £6,542,566 for the financial year 2017/2018 was confirmed on 12 February 2015.

It was further reported that the majority of primary basic need schemes required had already been approved. There was one remaining scheme, the provision of an additional classroom at St James, Hattersley, that required approval, the cost of the scheme was estimated at £220,000 including VAT, which would not be reclaimable as the school was a voluntary aided school.

With regard to Condition and Maintenance Schemes, the Council had undertaken additional condition surveys of a number of schools whose condition was known to be deteriorating and details were given of schemes that needed to be progressed over the next two financial years.

In respect of risk management, it was reported that the risk of managing the condition and suitability of community and voluntary aided school buildings had been mitigated by successful bidding for additional capital resources over the last fifteen years, from Exceptional Basic Need, Targeted Capital, Building Schools for the Future, Primary Capital Strategy for Change, Priority School Building and Targeted Basic Need Programmes. Recent condition surveys of a number of schools have indicated that urgent work was required to be carried out in order to address health and safety issues and prevent further deterioration. The most urgent investment schemes were proposed to address this.

Plans needed to be developed over the next few months to consider options for the increase in capacity required in high schools to accommodate the additional pupils moving through into the secondary sector.

In conclusion, it was reported that there had been significant capital investment in schools over the last 15 years which would support the Council's delivery of its statutory responsibilities connected with the provision of sufficient and suitable places. The delivery of the core strategy would further increase the demand for places within the next 5 to 20 years as the impact of new homes increased the number of school age children in the Borough which would need to be planned for carefully.

RESOLVED

That the following recommendations be made to Executive Cabinet:

- (i) Approve, in principle, the allocation of funding within the Education Capital programme 2016/2017 and 2017/2018, subject to sufficient condition funding being made available by the DfE as follows:

Proposed Condition Schemes in 2016/2017 and 2017/2018			Estimated Cost
School	Type of Work	Detail of Scheme	£
Oakfield	Boilers	Replace boilers, and fan convectors	45,000
Gorse hall	Electrics	Small power, upgrade	100,000
Arlies	Heating	Replace heat emitters and upgrade controls	130,000
Broadbent Fold	Heating	Replace fan convectors boilers and pumps	100,000
Dowson	Heating	Replace fan convectors boilers and pumps	60,000
Livingstone	Heating	Replace radiators and pipework.	139,000
Waterloo	Heating	Replace air handling unit and fan convectors. Replace boilers	100,000
Corrie	Boilers and heating	Replace boilers upgrade controls replace radiators.	95,000
Greenside	Boilers	Replace single boiler 40 years old and fan convectors.	165,000
Greenside	Electrics	upgrade of systems	200,000
Stalyhill Infants	Boilers	Replace boilers and fan convectors	45,000
Yew Tree	Heating	Plant, pumps and fan convector replacement.	180,000
Hurst Knoll	Heating	Replace nursery boiler and fan convectors and Y5&6 air con.	23,000
The Heys	Flooring	Defective floors	50,000
Oakdale	Boilers	Upgrade boiler plant and additional radiators	83,000
Contingency for asbestos removal, survey fees and inflation			200,000
Total Projected Cost			1,715,000

- (ii) The allocation of £220,000 basic need funding, in respect of the proposed additional classroom at St James, Hattersley be approved; and
- (iii) The allocation of £40,000 Capital maintenance funding in respect of the temporary ICT solution at 3 BSF schools be approved.

18. DEVELOPER AGREEMENTS CONTRIBUTIONS AND SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director (Place), summarising the current position with regard to receipts received from Section 106 Agreements and Developer Contributions.

It was reported that the summary position as at 1 September 2015 for Section 106 Agreements totalled £178,000, with Developer Contributions totalling £232,000. The balance of unallocated section 106 funds and developer contributions were as follows:-

- Services for Children and Young People - £124,000 (s106) and £12,000 developer contributions;
- Community Services (Operations) - £44,000 (s106) and £208,000 developer contributions; and
- Engineering Services - £10,000 (s106) and £10,000 developer contributions.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the current position with regard to receipts received from Section 106 Agreements and Developer Contributions be noted.**
- (ii) That a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Panel explaining the revised legal framework for developer infrastructure costs.**

19. DATA CENTRE AND DISASTER RECOVERY SITE

A report of the Assistant Executive Director (Digital Services) was submitted informing Member that in September 2014 a report detailing the approach and costs associated with decanting the Council's data centre temporarily to Rochdale was approved by the Panel, and work to migrate all the councils systems to Rochdale had now been completed and in total, around 120 front and back office systems were now hosted there.

The report also explained the need for a Disaster Recovery site for a number of business critical systems and it was proposed that instead of waiting until a new permanent data centre facility for the Council was found, and then using the interim facility in Rochdale as the disaster recovery site, for the duration of the councils tenure on the site, the existing data centre at Patterson and Rothwell be used as the Disaster Recovery site.

Costs required to commission the facility were also detailed within the report.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Date Centre facility within the Patterson & Rothwell building should be used as the Council's Disaster Recovery site; and**
- (ii) That work be progressed to report further on the options for a medium to long term position on the data centre location and options for a disaster recovery site, which need to be considered, together and in advance of occupation of the new public service centre and departure from Patterson & Rothwell premises.**

20. HIGHWAYS CHALLENGE FUND BID – BRIDGES AND STRUCTURES 2015/16

The Assistant Executive Director (Environmental Services) submitted a report setting out details of the announcement in the Summer Budget Statement in July 2015 of £3 million funding for Tameside following a review of the Challenge Fund Bids.

The approval for the funding was for the schemes identified in the Council's Challenge Fund Bid submitted in February 2015. A list of the scheme submitted was included in **Appendix 2** of the report.

RESOLVED

That the content of the report be noted.

21. RICHMOND STREET RAIL BRIDGE, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Executive Director (Environmental Services), which sought approval for the Council to contribute £657,425 towards the reconstruction of a three span bridge on Richmond Street, over the railway. The funding would be obtained from the Bridges Capital maintenance grant and the costs shared over three financial years up to 2017/18.

Details were given of the project proposal and benefits and the options available with regard to funding the project.

The report concluded that the delivery of the replacement bridge over the railway line involving replacement of all three spans, could be undertaken in one contract arranged through Network Rail's framework contractor. The costs of these works to Tameside Council would be £657,425 at present day estimates. These costs could be spread over the three financial years to the period 2017/18 using the Council's Bridges and Structures Maintenance funding. The Council would have to enter in to an agreement with network Rail to fund this approach or instead pay for the works via prudential borrowing.

The alternative approach was to pay Network Rail £183,425 over the same period but then arrange to undertake the design and rebuilding works to span 3 using its own contractor, which would be more expensive and delay the time when the Richmond Street bridge could be reopened to unrestricted highway loading, which was currently limited at 7.5 tonnes.

RESOLVED

That the following recommendations be made to Executive Cabinet:

- (i) That approval be given for the total sum of £657,425 to be paid to Network Rail as its contribution to the cost of the works to fully reconstruct the bridge and that the Section 151 officer be authorised to proceed with the most advantageous option in the Council's best interest in respect of financing this contribution;**
- (ii) That the Executive Director (Place), in consultation with the Executive Director (Governance & Resources), be authorised to negotiate the final terms, which doesn't increase risk or cost;**
- (iii) That the Council's Environmental Services (Design and Delivery) team be responsible for making all arrangements for the delivery of the Richmond Street Bridge Span 3; and**
- (iv) That the Executive Director (Place) be authorised to take any additional actions which may be expedient to give effect to this decision within the funding available for the project.**

22. URGENT ITEMS



There were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

CHAIR

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ITEM NO: 3(c)

Report To:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date:	21 October 2015
Executive Member/Reporting Officer:	Councillor Kieran Quinn, Executive Leader Steven Pleasant, Chief Executive
Subject:	AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS / GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
Report Summary:	<p>To inform Members of the issues considered at the July and August meetings of the AGMA Executive Board and Greater Manchester Combined Authority meeting. Under the AGMA Constitution there are provisions to ensure that AGMA Executive deliberations and decisions are reported to the ten Greater Manchester Councils. In order to meet this requirement the minutes of AGMA Executive Board/Greater Manchester Combined Authority meetings are reported to Executive Cabinet on a regular basis. The minutes of the following meetings of the AGMA Executive Board and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority are appended for Members information:</p> <p>GM Combined Authority: 31 July 2015 Joint Meeting of GM Combined Authority and AGMA Executive Board: 31 July 2015 GM Combined Authority: 28 August 2015</p> <p>Also appended to the report is a copy of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and AGMA Executive Board Forward Plan of strategic decisions.</p>
Recommendations:	That Members note and comment on the appended minutes and forward plan.
Links to Community Strategy:	The Constitution and democratic framework provides an effective framework for implementing the Community Strategy.
Policy Implications:	In line with council policies.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the Section 151 Officer)	There are no budgetary implications other than any specific references made in the AGMA Executive Board/Greater Manchester Combined Authority minutes.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	Consideration of the AGMA Executive Board/Greater Manchester Combined Authority minutes helps meet the requirements of the AGMA Constitution and helps to keep Members informed on sub-regional issues and enables effective scrutiny. The matter relating to the airport is picked up as a separate report for consideration by members.
Risk Management:	There are no specific risks associated with consideration of the minutes.
Access to Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Robert Landon, Head of Democratic Services by:

 phone: 0161 342 2146
 e-mail: robert.landon@tameside.gov.uk

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 31 JULY 2015 AT ROCHDALE COUNCIL OFFICES**

GM INTERIM MAYOR	Tony Lloyd (in the Chair)
BOLTON COUNCIL	Councillor Ebrahim Adia
BURY COUNCIL	Councillor Mike Connolly
MANCHESTER CC	Councillor Richard Leese
OLDHAM COUNCIL	Councillor Jim McMahon
ROCHDALE MBC	Councillor Richard Farnell
SALFORD CC	Ian Stewart
STOCKPORT MBC	Councillor Sue Derbyshire
TAMESIDE MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
TRAFFORD COUNCIL	Councillor Sean Anstee
WIGAN COUNCIL	Councillor Peter Smith

JOINT BOARDS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

GMFRS	Councillor David Acton
GMFRS	Councillor John Bell
TfGMC	Councillor Guy Harkin

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Liz Treacy	GMCA Monitoring Officer
Richard Paver	GMCA Treasurer
Margaret Asquith	Bolton Council
Mike Owen	Bury Council
Geoff Little	Manchester CC
Carolyn Wilkins	Oldham Council
Steve Rumbelow	Rochdale MBC
Ben Dolan	Salford CC
Laureen Donnan	Stockport MBC
Steven Pleasant	Tameside MBC
Theresa Grant	Trafford Council
Paul McKeivitt	Wigan Council
Bill Enevoldson	GMCA Chief Investment Officer
Peter O'Reilly	GMFRS
Peter Fahy	GMP
Mark Hughes	Manchester Growth Company
Simon Nokes	New Economy

John Holden
Adam Allen
Clare Regan
Steve Warrener
Amanda White
Julie Connor
Sylvia Welsh
Kerry Bond

New Economy
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
TfGM
TfGM
) Greater Manchester
) Integrated Support Team
)

95/15 APOLOGIES

Councillor Cliff Morris, Sir Howard Bernstein, Paul Najsarek, Jim Taylor, Eamonn Boylan and Donna Hall.

96/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None received.

97/15 MINUTES OF THE GMCA ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2015

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 26 June 2015 as a correct record, with the addition of Steve Rumbelow, Chief Executive, Rochdale MBC on the list of attendees.

98/15 MINUTES OF THE GMCA ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2015

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the GMCA ordinary meeting held on 26 June 2015 as a correct record, with the addition of Steve Rumbelow, Chief Executive, Rochdale MBC on the list of attendees.

99/15 MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT for GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 JULY 2015

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the minutes of the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee meeting held on 17 July 2015.
2. To endorse Transport for Greater Manchester Committee's decision to approve transport policy priorities for 2015/16 as per minute TfGMC15/29: 2015-16 Policy Priorities.

100/15 MINUTES OF THE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD HELD ON 2 JULY 2015

RESOLVED/-

To note the minutes of the Local Enterprise Partnership Board held on 2 July 2015.

101/15 FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS OF GMCA

RESOLVED/-

To note the Forward Plan.

102/15 FURTHER DEVOLUTION TO GREATER MANCHESTER

Simon Nokes, Managing Director, New Economy presented a report providing an overview of the additional freedoms and flexibilities awarded to Greater Manchester as part of the supplementary Devolution Agreement, announced in the Summer 2015 Budget on 8 July 2015 and seeking formal endorsement of the supplementary agreement by the GMCA.

Liz Treacy provided the meeting with an update on the progress of amendments to the Cities and Devolution Bill, which has now completed its progress through the House of Lords with an expectation to progress to the House of Commons in September for a first reading, with committee stage in October. The Select Committee leading the Bill has requested the GMCA to submit written evidence by 1st September 2015. The meeting was reminded that the delivery of Health Devolution in Greater Manchester is an opportunity to address the health needs of Greater Manchester residents in a radically different way rather than within the current national setting.

RESOLVED/-

1. To endorse the Greater Manchester Agreement: Further Devolution to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and directly-elected Mayor as attached at Annex A to the report.
2. To request officers to submit further reports to future meetings as detailed in the report.
3. That the draft select committee propositions in relation to evidence be circulated to members in advance of the 1st September submission date.

103/15 GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY CAPITAL EXPENDITURE UPDATE 2015/16

Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, presented an update in relation to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority 2015/16 capital expenditure programme.

RESOLVED:

1. To note and approve the revisions to the capital budget as set out in appendix A and detailed within the report.
2. To note the actual expenditure as at June 2015 and the current 2015/16 forecast compared to the revised 2015/16 capital budget.

104/15 GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2015/16

Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, presented a report informing members of the 2015/16 forecast revenue outturn position as at the end of June 2015.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the transport revenue outturn position for 2015/16 which is in line with budget after contributions to earmarked reserves of £0.759 million.
2. To note the Economic Development and Regeneration revenue outturn position for 2015/16 which shows a budgeted break-even position.
3. To approve the contribution of £0.759m to earmarked reserves as detailed in paragraph 2.4 of the report.
4. To note and approve the budget adjustments referred to in paragraphs 2.2-2.4 of the report for Transport budgets and paragraphs 3.2-3.8 of the report for Economic Development and Regeneration budgets.

105/15 GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2015/16

Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, presented a report informing members of the proposed changes to the Combined Authority's Treasury Management Strategy for 2015-16, specifically:

- to include the use of non-specified investments, specifically that the Authority can invest with Manchester City Council for the purpose of the Regional Growth Fund leverage scheme
- to revise the credit limits available to the Authority for 2015-16
- to update the prudential indicators

RESOLVED/-

To approve the revisions to the Combined Authority's Treasury Management Strategy for 2015-16.

106/15 GREATER MANCHESTER BUSINESS SURVEY

Simon Nokes, Managing Director, New Economy introduced a report, updating on the findings of the 2014/15 Greater Manchester Business Survey and the main implications of its results for Greater Manchester. Members were assured that discussions regarding the

Apprenticeship Levy process were being programmed as part of the CSR process. The Planning and Housing Commission are currently undertaking a review of land availability within local authorities, which will inform the Greater Manchester Strategy to facilitate the growth of local employers. The ESF programme has also been realigned to focus on low paid workers, to raise them above the benefits base.

Members expressed concerns in relation to ensure sufficient pace in getting the right skills in place and that efficient coordination and communication was happening quickly enough. In addition that land assembly could be done efficiently to help businesses grow, there were still significant challenges that we needed to respond to so as to ensure these issues do not impact on further growth.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the findings and implications of the 2014/15 GM Business Survey and the actions that are now on-going to ensure these are fed into GM policy development and programme delivery.
2. To receive a further report detailing levy proposals for skills training and implications of the new skills package.

107/15 TRANSPENNINE ELECTRIFICATION AND STRATEGIC RAIL ISSUES

Steve Warrener, TfGM, presented a report summarising the impact on Greater Manchester the delay of the implementation of Rail Electrification schemes announced by the Secretary of State for Transport on 24 June 2015. The meeting was advised that George Osborne had written to Sir Richard Leese, as the Chair of Transport for the North Partnership, regarding the working relationship with Government going forward and the multi-year settlement, which includes £30m of funding for Transport for the North. The letter also reiterates the commitment to progress the Transpennine Scheme, with the appointment of a new Network Rail Chairman, Sir Peter Hendy, who has been charged with a review of plans to upgrade rail links in the North and implement a plan by the Autumn to take forward the rail enhancements.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the contents of the report.
2. To note the actual and potential impacts on rail travel and economic growth of delays to the Rail Electrification programme.
3. That the letter received from the Chancellor of the Exchequer detailing the reasons for the delay to the Transpennine Electrification scheme and the remedies to be implemented going forward be circulated to members.

108/15 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED/-

That under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and Public should be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that

this involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in paragraph 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

109/15 GREATER MANCHESTER AND CHESHIRE LIFE SCIENCES FUND

Bill Enevoldson, GMCA Chief Investment Officer, presented a report seeking approval for the establishment of the Greater Manchester and Cheshire Life Sciences Fund.

RESOLVED/-

1. To agree that funding be made available for establishment of the fund, to be funded by the Local Growth Fund, as detailed in the report.
2. To approve the appointment of Catapult Venture Managers as fund manager.
3. To agree to delegate authority to the Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer and Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transaction, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan and fund manager agreements at 1) and 2) above.

110/15 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT FUND- INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION

Bill Enevoldson, GMCA Chief Investment Officer, presented a report seeking endorsement of the first proposed loan by the Greater Manchester Housing Fund.

RESOLVED/-

1. To agree that approval be given to the project application as detailed in the report.
2. To agree to recommend to Manchester City Council that it prepares and effects the necessary legal agreements in accordance within its approved internal processes.

111/15 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROJECT APPROVALS

Bill Enevoldson, GMCA Chief Investment Officer, presented a report seeking approval for a project funding application.

RESOLVED/-

1. To agree that the project funding application as detailed in the report be given conditional approval and progress to due diligence.
2. To agree to delegate authority to Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer and Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their

satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transaction, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan at 1) above.

Chair

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**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED
AUTHORITY AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 31 JULY
2015 AT ROCHDALE COUNCIL OFFICES**

GM INTERIM MAYOR	Tony Lloyd (in the Chair)
BOLTON COUNCIL	Councillor Ebrahim Adia
BURY COUNCIL	Councillor Mike Connolly
MANCHESTER CC	Councillor Richard Leese
OLDHAM COUNCIL	Councillor Jim McMahon
ROCHDALE MBC	Councillor Richard Farnell
SALFORD CC	Ian Stewart
STOCKPORT MBC	Councillor Sue Derbyshire
TAMESIDE MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
TRAFFORD COUNCIL	Councillor Sean Anstee
WIGAN COUNCIL	Councillor Peter Smith

JOINT BOARDS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

GMFRS	Councillor David Acton
GMFRS	Councillor John Bell
TfGMC	Councillor Guy Harkin

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Liz Treacy	GMCA Monitoring Officer
Richard Paver	GMCA Treasurer
Margaret Asquith	Bolton Council
Mike Owen	Bury Council
Geoff Little	Manchester CC
Carolyn Wilkins	Oldham Council
Steve Rumbelow	Rochdale MBC
Ben Dolan	Salford CC
Laureen Donnan	Stockport MBC
Steven Pleasant	Tameside MBC
Theresa Grant	Trafford Council
Paul McKevitt	Wigan Council
Bill Enevoldson	GMCA Chief Investment Officer
Peter O'Reilly	GMFRS
Peter Fahy	GMP
Mark Hughes	Manchester Growth Company

Simon Nokes	New Economy
John Holden	New Economy
Adam Allen	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Clare Regan	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Steve Warrener	TfGM
Amanda White	TfGM
Julie Connor) Greater Manchester
Sylvia Welsh) Integrated Support Team
Kerry Bond)

88/15 APOLOGIES

Councillor Cliff Morris, Sir Howard Bernstein, Paul Najsarek, Jim Taylor, Eamonn Boylan and Donna Hall.

89/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None received.

90/15 MINUTES OF THE JOINT GMCA AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2015

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board meeting held on 26 June 2015 as a correct record, with the addition of Steve Rumbelow, Chief Executive, Rochdale MBC on the list of attendees.

91/15 MINUTES OF THE AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2015

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the AGMA Executive Board Annual meeting held on 26 June 2015 as a correct record, with the addition of Steve Rumbelow, Chief Executive, Rochdale MBC on the list of attendees.

92/15 FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS OF THE JOINT GMCA AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED/-

To note the Forward Plan.

93/15 MINUTES OF THE GMCA AND AGMA AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24 JULY 2015

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

94/15 MINUTES OF THE JOINT GMCA AND AGMA SCRUTINY POOL HELD ON 10 JULY 2015

RESOLVED/-

To note the minutes of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Scrutiny Pool meeting held on 10 July 2015.

95/15 GREATER MANCHESTER APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS 2015/16

Julie Connor, Head of Greater Manchester Integrated Support Team, presented a report requesting members to consider the outstanding appointments and nominations that were not determined at the Annual meeting held on 26 June 2015.

The Chair requested that Labour members advise him following the meeting if they wished to be considered for the vacant position on the Standards Committee.

RESOLVED/-

1. To agree that Labour members be requested to contact the Chair if they or their substitute member wished to take the vacant position on the Standards Committee.
2. To agree to appoint Councillor Patrick Myers, Trafford Council and Councillor Peter Williams, Rochdale MBC to the Joint GMCA and AGMA Audit Committee.
3. To agree to appoint Councillor Kate Chappell, Manchester CC to the North West Flood and Coastal Committee.
4. To appoint Councillor Mike Connolly, Bury Council to the Halle Board.

96/15 RE-APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE GMCA & AGMA AUDIT COMMITTEE

Members were requested to re-appoint Stephen Downs as an Independent Member of the GMCA & AGMA Audit Committee for a further three year term of office, on the same terms as previously agreed by the GMCA at its meeting held on 25 May 2012.

RESOLVED/-

To agree to re-appoint Stephen Downs as an Independent Member of the GMCA & AGMA Audit Committee for a further three year term of office.

97/15 AGMA REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING UPDATE 2015/16

Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, presented a report informing members of the 2015/16 forecast revenue outturn position as at end June 2015.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the report and the current revenue outturn forecast for 2015/16 which is projecting an underspend of £64,000.
2. To note and approve the revisions to the revenue budget plan 2015/16 as identified in the report, as described in paragraph 2.1 to 2.9 of the report.
3. To note the position on reserves as highlighted in paragraph 3.

**98/15 GREATER MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN DEBT ADMINISTRATION
FUND TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY AND FINAL ACCOUNTS
2014/15**

Steven Pleasant, Chief Executive, Tameside MBC, presented a report summarising the Fund's Treasury Management Activities and presenting the Final Accounts for the Financial Year 2014/15.

RESOLVED/-

To note the 2014/15 activity and final accounts.

Chair.

**NOTICE OF THE DECISIONS AGREED AT THE GREATER MANCHESTER
COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 28 AUGUST 2015 AT AJ
BELL STADIUM, ECCLES, SALFORD**

GM INTERIM MAYOR	Tony Lloyd (in the Chair)
BOLTON COUNCIL	Councillor Cliff Morris
BURY COUNCIL	Councillor Mike Connolly
MANCHESTER CC	Councillor Richard Leese
OLDHAM COUNCIL	Councillor Jim McMahon
ROCHDALE MBC	Councillor Peter Williams
SALFORD CC	Ian Stewart
STOCKPORT MBC	Councillor Sue Derbyshire
TAMESIDE MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
TRAFFORD COUNCIL	Councillor Michael Young
WIGAN COUNCIL	Councillor Peter Smith

JOINT BOARDS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

GMFRS	Councillor John Bell
GMFRS	Councillor David Acton

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Liz Treacy	GMCA Monitoring Officer
Richard Paver	GMCA Treasurer
Paul Najsarek	Bolton Council
Mike Owen	Bury Council
Carolyn Wilkins	Oldham Council
Steve Rumbelow	Rochdale MBC
Jim Taylor	Salford CC
Eamonn Boylan	Stockport MBC
Steven Pleasant	Tameside MBC
Theresa Grant	Trafford Council
Donna Hall	Wigan Council
Peter Fahy	GMP
Simon Nokes	New Economy
Clare Regan	GM Interim Mayor's Office
Jon Lamonte	TfGM

Rebecca Heron) Greater Manchester
Sylvia Welsh) Integrated Support Team
Paul Harris)

112/15 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sean Anstee (Trafford) and Richard Farnell (Rochdale). It was noted that Councillors Michael Young (Trafford) and Peter Williams (Rochdale) were attending as their substitutes.

113/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made in respect of any item on the agenda.

114/15 URGENT BUSINESS

Public Right of Appeal – GM Housing Investment Fund

The Chair explained that, in accordance to procedure rule 23 of the GMCA constitution, an appeal had been received from a member of the press appealing the decision to consider Item 9, Greater Manchester Housing Investment Fund – Investment Approval Recommendation in the absence of the press and public.

The Monitoring Officer advised both Members and the appellant on the process involved in considering the appeal and that its consideration was to be conducted in the absence of the press and public.

Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED/-

That, under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that this involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in paragraph 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

A discussion took place during which the commercial sensitivity of this information contained in the report was explained. A Member suggested that where reports were to be presented in Part B of the agenda in future meetings, it would be helpful if a report for information was also presented in Part A, to ensure that the transparency of the decision making process is maintained.

Members of the press and public were invited to return to the meeting and the Chair explained the outcome of the appeal process.

RESOLVED/-

1. To thank the appellant for bringing this appeal.
2. To agree that in light of the commercially sensitive nature of the of the content of the report, the appeal be dismissed and for this reason, the consideration of the GM Housing Investment Fund item be conducted in the absence of the press and public.
3. To agree that where reports were to be presented in the absence of the press and public at future meetings of the GMCA, an accompanying report was also to be presented in the open section of the agenda where there was information that could be considered in the public domain.

115/15 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 31 JULY 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 July 2015 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 31 July 2015 as a correct record.

116/15 FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS OF GMCA

Consideration was given to a report of Julie Connor, Head of the Greater Manchester Integrated Support Team which set out a forward plan of those strategic decisions to be considered by GMCA over the next four months.

RESOLVED/-

To note the Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions as set out in the report.

117/15 GREATER MANCHESTER ROAD ACTIVITY PERMIT SCHEME (GMRAPS) LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

Jon Lamonte, Chief Executive, Transport for Greater Manchester, presented a report which updated the GMCA on the changes required to the Greater Manchester Road Activity Permit Scheme (GMRAPS) in order to accommodate the amendments to the national permit regulations and increased responsibilities regarding the Key Route Network (KRN).

It was noted that the amended version of the Permit Scheme Regulations came into force on 30 June 2015. The regulations stated that all existing permit schemes, including GMRAPS, are required to be compliant with the Amendment Regulations by 1 October 2015. A summary of the main amendments to the regulations that apply to GMRAPS were explained as :-

- The ability of Highways Authorities or Strategic highway companies to vary or revoke existing schemes without the requirement to ask the Secretary of State;
- The requirement that all schemes must adopt standard wording and numbering for permit conditions as set out in the Statutory Guidance.
- The requirement to evaluate a scheme after each of the first three years and then three-yearly after that. In carrying out the evaluation, an evaluation shall include consideration of costs and benefits, permit fees and KPIs.
- The requirement of an additional permit category that offers a discount for works taking place outside of traffic sensitive times on the main category 0-2 highways.

RESOLVED/-

1. To approve the legal changes necessary to amend the GMRAPS documentation, a Deed of Variation and the introduction of the Order as required.
2. To authorise the proposals to increase the Local Authority and TfGM reimbursement rate for additional tasks to be carried out on the KRN.

118/15 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING FUND – RECRUITMENT UPDATE

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive, Stockport MBC, presented a report seeking approval to the recruitment and appointment of 1 additional post within the GMCA's Core Investment Team and the increase in the approved salary of previously approved new posts required to support operation of the £300m GM Housing Fund.

RESOLVED/-

1. To approve the recruitment to the GMCA's Core Investment Team of the 1 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Transaction Manager post in line with the proposals detailed in this report.
2. To approve a salary range of previously approved Transaction Manager posts of £55,000 to £60,000.
3. To approve the delegation to the Lead Chief Executive for Investment, in consultation with the GMCA Portfolio Holders for Investment and Housing, and in conjunction with the Chief Investment Officer and with the support of the GM Integrated Support Team, to confirm appointments following the conduct of an appropriate recruitment process for the Transaction Manager post.
4. To note that the additional costs of these proposals in 2015/16 will be accommodated within the existing Core Investment Team budget for the year and income generated on investments made by the Fund. From 2016/17

onwards it is intended that all costs will be re-charged to Manchester City Council to be funded from income generated on investments made by the Fund

119/15 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED/-

That, under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that this involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in paragraph 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

PART B

120/15 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT FUND - INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive, Stockport MBC, presented a report seeking endorsement of five loans to be made by the Greater Manchester Housing Fund.

RESOLVED/-

1. To agree that approval be given to the five loans as detailed in the report.
2. To agree to delegate authority to Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer and Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transaction, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loans at 1) above.
3. To agree to recommend to Manchester City Council that it prepares and effects the necessary legal agreements in accordance within its approved internal processes.

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JOINT MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY & AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Date: 25 September 2015

Subject: Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board Meeting and AGMA Executive Board

Report of: Julie Connor, Head of Greater Manchester Integrated Support Team

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At their meeting on 24 June 2011, the GMCA agreed procedures for developing a Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions for the Authority, in line with the requirements of the GMCA's constitution. The latest such plan is attached as the Appendix to this report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 GMCA and AGMA Executive Board members are invited to note, comment and suggest any changes they would wish to make on the latest Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions for the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board; attached to this report.

3. CONSTITUTIONAL BACKGROUND AND ARRANGEMENTS AGREED BY EXECUTIVE BOARD ON 24 JUNE 2011

3.1 Under AGMA's constitution – as revised by the Operating Agreement which set up the GMCA – there is the following requirement:-

13. Forward Plan

13.1 The Board will produce a forward plan in accordance with the requirements of section 22 of the Local Government Act 2000.

3.2 The requirements of section 22 of the 2000 Act were set out in regulations made by the Secretary of State in 2001. In summary they require

- preparation of a plan covering 4 months, starting on the first day of the month
- a monthly revision of the plan
- publication of the plan fourteen days before it would come in to effect
- the plan to state
 - (i) the issue on which a major strategic decision is to be made;
 - (ii) the date on which, or the period within which, the major strategic decision will be taken;
 - (iii) arrangements for any consultation to be made before the decision is taken

- (iv) how anyone can make representations on the matter and the date by which any such representations must be made; and
- (v) a list of the documents to be submitted when the matter is considered

4 FORWARD PLAN: CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 In summary the Secretary of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board meeting is required to:-

- prepare a plan covering 4 months, starting on the first day of the month
- to refresh this plan monthly
- to publish the plan fourteen days before it would come in to effect
- state in the plan
 - (i) the issue on which a major strategic decision is to be made;
 - (ii) the date on which, or the period within which, the major strategic decision will be taken;
 - (iii) how anyone can make representations on the matter and the date by which any such representations must be made; and
 - (iv) a list of the documents to be submitted when the matter is considered

4.2 Key decisions are defined as being those which are likely:-

- a. to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- b. to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the local authority.

In further guidance issued by the Secretary of State local authorities are required to

"agree as a full council limits above which items are significant. The agreed limits should be published."

4.3 The constitution is also quite specific about the matters which would need to be included within the Forward Plan:-

- any matter likely to result in the GMCA and AGMA Executive Board incurring significant expenditure (over £1 million), or the making of significant savings; or
- any matter likely to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in the area of the Combined Authority.

plus the following more specific requirements:-

1. a sustainable community strategy;
2. a local transport plan;
3. approval of the capital programme of the GMCA and TfGM and approving new transport schemes to be funded by the Greater Manchester Transport Fund;

4. other plans and strategies that the GMCA may wish to develop;
 5. the preparation of a local economic assessment
 6. the development or revision of a multi-area agreement,
 7. the approval of the budget of the GMCA;
 8. the approval of borrowing limits, the treasury management strategy and the investment strategy;
 9. the setting of a transport levy;
 10. arrangements to delegate the functions or budgets of any person to the GMCA;
 11. the amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the GMCA;
 12. any proposals in relation to road user charging
- 4.3 All the matters at 1-12 above require 7 members of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board to vote in favour, except those on road user charging, which require a unanimous vote in favour
- 4.5 The attached plan therefore includes all those items currently proposed to be submitted to the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board over the next 4 months which fit in with these criteria. Members should be aware that:-
- Only those items considered to fit in with the above criteria are included. It is not a complete list of all items which will be included on the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board agendas
 - Items listed may move dependent on the amount of preparatory work recorded and external factors such as where matters are dependent on Government decisions; and

CONTACT OFFICER:

Julie Connor 0161 234 3124
Sylvia Welsh 0161 234 3383

j.connor@agma.gov.uk
sylvia.welsh@agma.gov.uk

**JOINT GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
& AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS
1 October 2015 – 31 January 2016**

The Plan contains details of Key Decisions currently planned to be taken by the Joint Meeting of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and AGMA Executive Board; or Chief Officers (as defined in the GMCA and AGMA constitution) in the period between 1 October 2015 and 31 January 2016.

Please note: Dates shown are the earliest anticipated and decisions may be later if circumstances change.

If you wish to make representations in connection with any decisions please contact the contact officer shown; or the offices of the Greater Manchester Integrated Support Team (at Manchester City Council, P.O. Box 532, Town Hall, Manchester, M60 2LA, 0161-234 3124; info@agma.gov.uk) before the date of the decision.

JOINT GMCA AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD

KEY DECISION /CONTACT OFFICER/CONSULTATION DETAILS	ANTICIPATED DATE OF DECISION & DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED	DECISION TAKER
GMCA Membership of AGMA Wider Leadership Team Officer – Liz Treacy Contact officer: Julie Connor	30 October 2015	GMCA & AGMA Executive
Implementation of the Scrutiny Pool Review – Progress Wider Leadership Team Lead Officer – Liz Treacy Contact Officer: Susan Ford	29 January 2016	GMCA & AGMA Executive
Business Rates Retention – Contribution to Support the Promotion of Greater Manchester’s Growth and Reform Strategies Wider Leadership Team Lead Officer – Richard Paver Contact Officer: Carol Culley	To be confirmed	GMCA & AGMA Executive Board

AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD

KEY DECISION /CONTACT OFFICER/CONSULTATION DETAILS	ANTICIPATED DATE OF DECISION & DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED	DECISION TAKER
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Greater Manchester Spatial Framework - Options Wider Leadership Team Lead Officer – Eamonn Boylan Contact Officer: Chris Findley	30 October 2015	AGMA Executive Board
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ITEM NO: 4

Report To:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date:	21 October 2015
Executive Member/Reporting Officer:	Councillor Peter Robinson, Executive Member: Transport and Land Use Damien Bourke, Assistant Executive Director: Development, Growth and Investment
Subject:	TAMESIDE INTERCHANGE UPDATE
Report Summary:	The report summarises progress in the redevelopment of the new Tameside Interchange
Recommendations:	That Executive Cabinet note the contents of the report and confirm that it is the Council's position that it is known as the Tameside Interchange to reflect the economic benefit it will bring to the whole Borough.
Links to Community Strategy:	Transport Infrastructure Schemes are linked to promoting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Prosperous Society,• A Safe Environment, and• An Attractive Borough.
Policy Implications:	Town Centres are critical to the Tameside economic strategy, and fundamental to the GM Strategy. Improvements to Ashton Town Centre and its surrounding environs are linked to developing a more attractive retail and commercial environment which will provide the catalyst for wider investment. An efficient transport system is key to achieving this goal
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the Section 151 Officer)	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	It is intended that regular updates on progress are reported at Strategic Capital Panel where any additional governance of the project can also be managed.
Risk Management:	There is a risk register in place for this project to ensure that any requirements that the Council are required to do are delivered on time and on budget.
Access to Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer, Nigel Gilmore by:  Telephone: 0161 342 3920  e-mail: nigel.gilmore@tameside.gov.uk

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The current Ashton bus station and adjacent Metrolink terminus are located to the north west of Ashton town centre adjacent to the A6043 Wellington Road and the Arcades Shopping Centre. Both facilities are linked to the nearby Ashton Rail Station 150m to the east across Wellington Road. Both sites are wholly owned by Transport for Greater Manchester.
- 1.2 Plans have been in place for a number of years to modernise the bus station. These were initially dependent on the Arcades Shopping Centre's proposed expansion, although following the global downturn and the loss of a potential high profile retailer the centre's plans were put into abeyance.
- 1.3 In March 2014, the Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership and Greater Manchester Combined Authority submitted a Growth and Reform Plan to Government setting out its aim to become "a financially self-sustaining city region. The plan sought a £400m share of the Local Growth Fund to support the region's transport and infrastructure requirements and within this £32.7m for a new Interchange in Ashton Town Centre. In July 2014 funding was awarded for three new interchanges across the conurbation at Ashton, Stockport and Wigan.

2.0 PROGRESS TO DATE

- 2.1 Following the July 2014 funding award, a comprehensive tendering exercise was undertaken by Transport for Greater Manchester, as the delivery agents for the project. The project will see a new interchange constructed primarily on the existing site, but with the footprint shifted slightly to the west to better tie in with the new Metrolink stop in Ashton town centre. The appointed design team has progressed the design to RIBA Stage 2 (Concept Design) and will be continuing with the development of RIBA Stage 3 (Developed Design) in the coming weeks.
- 2.2 One of the key drivers of the project is better integration with the tram stop at Ashton allowing for multi modal journeys to take place in a seamless manner and enable more passengers to make sustainable choices with regard to transport across Greater Manchester. The new interchange will provide a more pleasant waiting environment along with a range of amenities such as toilets and baby changing facilities. The majority of stands will operate from a single concourse building although there will be several stands located immediately adjacent to the tram stop. These latter stands will all feature Real Time Passenger Information displays and architecturally designed shelters.
- 2.3 The interchange will incorporate a number of environmentally sustainable initiatives such as rain water harvesting and solar power generation. It also intended that the scheme will feature a green 'sedum' roof, which will bring forward a range of environmental benefits such as absorbing rain water, capturing pollutants and atmospheric deposits and providing a natural habitat for local wildlife. It will also provide an attractive feature when viewed from surrounding tall buildings.
- 2.4 Tameside has worked closely with the project team throughout the design development process. This has allowed for a local perspective to be placed on the design and ensured that the Interchange aligns to the other regeneration initiatives that are currently taking place within Ashton town centre.
- 2.5 A full pre-planning consultation exercise commenced in mid-August with the intention of raising awareness of the proposals and inviting public feedback in advance of a planning submission later in the year.

- 2.6 A range of media and consultation methods were employed to undertake the consultation. Presentations and meetings have been held with Members to discuss the benefits of the scheme and any possible impact which may result as a consequence of the development.
- 2.7 As part of the process five public events were held at various locations in the area and a range of stakeholder meetings were held. Some 7,600 leaflets were distributed; including 1,000 handed out face to face at public events. A number of responses were received; 95 online forms were completed and 110 hard copies were returned.
- 2.8 Consultation closed on 15 September. In summary a number of comments were made by members of the public in relation to the design proposals, and whilst largely supportive, there were a number of issues raised that will be addressed by the project team prior to the submission of a planning application. These include:
- The need for a complete covered area including links between the main concourse and the stands immediately adjacent the Metrolink station itself
 - Linked bus, Metrolink and rail information screens and
 - Improved security.
- 2.9 Other general comments on the design included:
- “Much needed investment” and “about time.”
 - “Why are you investing when services are being cut”
 - Issues around disruption during construction
 - Use of name “Tameside Interchange”
- 2.10 The consensus was particularly positive around the proposals for a fully covered waiting area and the provision of Real Time Passenger Information.
- 2.11 **Appendix 1** contains a selection of the images used in the consultation material.
- 2.12 The analysed results from the exercise will be fed into the design team and inform the completion of the scheme design prior to the planning submission.
- 2.13 Following the completion of the public consultation exercise, it is intended that submission of a planning application will take place in late 2015 / early 2016 and the commencement of works on site in late 2016 / early 2017.
- 2.14 In conjunction with other investment opportunities through the Vision Tameside initiative, funding for improved pedestrian links with the heavy rail facility at Ashton Rail will be sought.

3.0 OTHER MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND COMMENT

- 3.1 Land assembly for the initiative is being undertaken by Tameside on behalf of Transport for Greater Manchester. Negotiations progress with two third-party land owners to secure areas of land not in Tameside Council or Transport for Greater Manchester ownership. In both instances negotiations are being undertaken by Tameside MBC on behalf of Transport for Greater Manchester. Governance on land acquisition issues was approved through the July 2015 Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.
- 3.2 Further to the main planning submission, Transport for Greater Manchester is considering a number of enhancements to the existing Ashton Metrolink stop to

complement the new Interchange. A number of options are being considered and will be subject to a separate planning application.

- 3.3 In conjunction with the current work which is being undertaken to develop the design for the scheme, a parallel initiative is being progressed to explore potential mixed-use and other development opportunities which might be appropriate for construction on the site beside the core transport infrastructure.

4.0 CONCLUSION

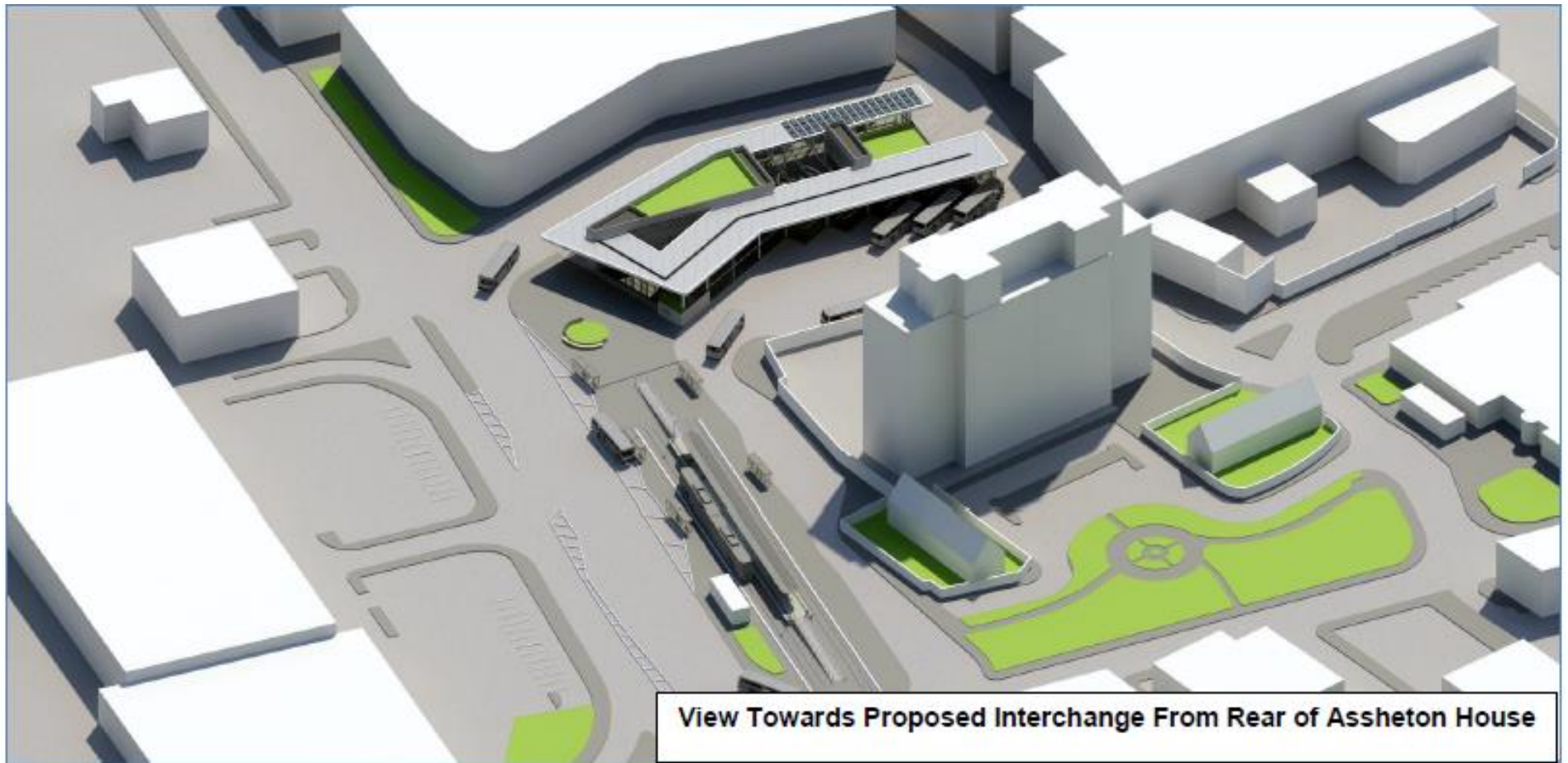
- 4.1 The new Tameside Interchange forms part of a multi-million investment package of measures for the whole of the Ashton town centre area. Together with the new sixth form college, the proposed shared Administration Centre, the St Petersfield development area and investments to the strategic highway network, Tameside continues to see a major reinvention of the borough's main administrative and retail centre within the borough.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 As set out on the front of the report.

APPENDIX ONE: CONSULATION MATERIAL USED FOR THE PROPOSED TAMESIDE INTERCHANGE INDICATING





View Towards Proposed Interchange From Rear of Assheton House



Elevation Looking Towards Main Concourse From Eastern End of Metrolink Platform



Internal View of Main Concourse

ITEM NO: 5

Report To:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date :	21 October 2015
Executive Member/ Reporting Officers:	Councillor Jim Fitzpatrick – First Deputy (Performance and Finance) Elaine Todd, Assistant Executive Director, Asset and Investment Partnership Management Damien Bourke – Assistant Executive Director (Development, Growth and Investment)
Subject:	VISION TAMESIDE PHASE 2 PROGRESS UPDATE
Report Summary:	<p>A Key Decision was made on 4 February 2015, to progress the Vision Tameside Phase 2 programme. This report is intended to update members of the Executive Board with progress in respect of the Vision Tameside Phase 2 programme and any potential financial implications.</p> <p>This report also seeks approval for the making of a future key decision to approve a comprehensive programme of public realm and infrastructure improvements in Ashton Town Centre.</p>
Recommendations:	<p>That approval be given to the following approach to the delivery of the ATCPR project as outlined in the report.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) To approve the outline proposals for the 10 zones in the ATCPR project as outlined in the report.2) To note the governance arrangements whereby the Assistant Executive Member (Performance and Finance) will take a political lead in respect of oversight of the project particularly in relation to ensuring delivered within budget reporting to the First Deputy and the Executive Board for direction with any governance decisions being made through Strategic Capital Panel and Cabinet subject to Key Decisions where required.3) To receive a future report on the outcome of further detailed project development and consultation with key stakeholders including some clear understanding of the costs outlined at 5.34 as to what they are and how they will be funded.
Links To Community Strategy:	Prosperous Tameside
Policy Implications	In line with approved policy
Financial Implications: (Authorised By The Section 151 Officer)	The overall costs of the Vision Tameside programme must be contained within the overall net budget of £48,673,794, which was approved in February 2015. Contingency provisions were made for construction and overall programme related cost pressures as part of this budget allocation. As the programme progresses and firm costs are determined, there will be variations which will require approval. Key elements of the programme, including decant, demolition and lease terminations

now have firm costs and the scanning and IT costs have been re-scoped.

There are still significant risks to construction costs related to further design development, the exposed Ashton Town hall façade, any issues which arise during demolition of TAC and the cost of the college element of the new building, particularly related to the level of fitted furniture required. Any additional costs will need to be delivered from the remaining contingency to ensure that the project remains within the overall approved budget. The current approved budget is as follows:

Expenditure	Current Approved Budget October 2015
	£
Construction	36,849,251
TMBC contingency 5%	941,316
Contingency for inflation at 7.73%	2,642,327
Gross construction costs	40,432,894
Less SFA grant	-4,000,000
Net construction costs	36,432,894
Additional costs	
Re fit / Fit out costs re early lease termination – Wilkos	1,709,900
Decant / condition works	2,824,452
Public Realm	2,631,000
Document scanning	500,000
Co-op bank termination of lease	100,000
Potential loss of profits Wilkos	550,000
Legal costs of construction works	50,000
IT enablement	2,194,000
Programme management	100,000
Programme contingency	1,581,548
Total	48,673,794

In addition to the Vision Tameside Phase 2 programme. Capital funding has already been approved for improvements to the public realm.

Expenditure	Current Approved Budget October 2015
	£
Market Square and Civic Square	4,500,000

The total therefore currently approved for the Pubic Realm is £7,131,000 this is less than the estimated spend of £9,793,433 as outlined in paragraph 5.34. The shortfall of £2,662,433 needs to be identified from either third parties such as Northern Rail and TfGM or a decision needs to be taken to reduce the scope of works.

It is important that regular monitoring of all expenditure budgets, value for money and inflation projections are maintained throughout the programme. It is also important that the agreement for lease and lease with the college, CCG and JCP

are completed as soon as possible so that the capital and revenue implications of the programme can be confirmed.

**Legal Implications:
(Authorised By The Borough
Solicitor)**

It is important with a project of this size that there are clear governance and lines of reporting and accountability in place to ensure that the project stays within budget. There needs to be some clear understanding of the costs outlined at 5.34 as to what they are and how they will be funded.


Governance also needs to be put in place for the replacement CCTV provision and business operating arrangements going forward. These will be subject to inspection and regulation by the Office of Surveillance Commissioners – the regulatory framework put in place by government.

Risk Management:

The key risks, impact and mitigation proposed are included in the report at Section 5. The highest risks are reviewed by the internal working group on a fortnightly basis.

Access To Information:


The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writers Elaine Todd, Assistant Executive Director, Asset and Investment Partnership Management by:

 Telephone: 0161 342 3238

 e-mail: elaine.todd@tameside.gov.uk

and

Ade Alao, Head of Investment and Development, by:

 Telephone: 0161 342 2795

 e-mail: ade.alao@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report is intended to update members of the Executive Board with progress with the Vision Tameside Phase 2 Programme. A further update will be provided to the November 2015 Executive Board, once the Stage 2 submission has been received.
- 1.2 This report also seeks approval for the making of a future Key Decision to approve the outline proposals for a comprehensive programme of public realm and infrastructure improvements in Ashton Town Centre. The report sets out the latest position with regards to the scope of the project, costs and funding. It also provides details of the implementation plan and makes recommendations for securing project delivery.

2. VISION TAMESIDE PHASE 2 PROGRESS UPDATE

- 2.1 Significant progress has been made since the last update to the Executive Board in June 2015.
- 2.2 The surrender of the lease with the Co-operative Bank plc has been completed and the bank has moved into a new retail unit in the town centre.
- 2.3 Pre demolition works to vacated areas in TAC commenced on 13 July 2015 and hoardings have been erected around the building.
- 2.4 The decant work at all locations has now been completed and final costs are being received for the works. At the moment it appears that the costs will be contained within the budget available.
- 2.5 Decant of services out of TAC was completed by 17 July 2015, with the building being cleared of all furniture, equipment and so on by 16 August 2015. The original date for vacating TAC was the end of June 2015 and the slight delay was caused by the developers work at Clarence Arcade not being completed on time.
- 2.6 The contract for the demolition of the TAC building was signed on 10 August 2015 and the building formally handed over to the Tameside Investment Partnership and demolition contractors on 17 August 2015.
- 2.7 The pre demolition surveys have now been completed and the results have been analysed. It is anticipated that as with a building of its age and type of construction, there will be some additional costs relating to the removal of asbestos, however, this has not been fully confirmed yet. Any additional costs relating to the removal of asbestos will put further pressure on the overall Vision Tameside Phase 2 programme. There is also a potential delay of three weeks as a result of the additional asbestos being identified.
- 2.8 360 scanning boxes have been removed from TAC and are being processed by Iron Mountain, the TIPs nominated sub-contractor. The volume of boxes which were required to be scanned was significantly lower than originally projected due to the identification of on site storage in decant buildings. There are still some boxes to be processed in decant locations, once these are completed and priced, a final review will be made of the budget required for this element of the programme. It is likely that the costs will be significantly less than the £500,000 budget allocated.
- 2.9 Extensive public consultation was undertaken in respect of the proposed plans for the Vision Tameside Phase 2 building in June and July 2015. The planning application was for the new building was submitted in June and approved at Speakers Panel on 2 September 2015.

- 2.10 Discussions are progressing with the College, Job Centre Plus (JCP) and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) about their proposed space and these are very near to being finalised.
- 2.11 The purchase of James Howe Mill, Turner Lane, Ashton has been completed, with progress by Vodafone in respect of their relocation of the mast on TAC being closely monitored. At the moment it appears that the temporary relocation of a mast on Union Street car park will still be required. Vodafone have recently reported that due to structural issues with the parapet on which the permanent mast will be located, their programme to erect the mast has been delayed.
- 2.12 The BSF servers have been relocated to a new data centre for all schools the servers and power supply to be disconnected were disconnected at the end of September 2015.
- 2.13 The scope of the building hasn't changed and remains as approved.
- 2.14 The analysis of furniture, fittings and equipment for all elements of the new scheme are being finalised as part of the Stage 2 submission that will be received mid October 2015. The fixed furniture element for the college has been estimated initially at £1.065 million, however, this is still subject to further analysis and value engineering.
- 2.15 The Clarendon College building (Phase 1 Vision Tameside) opened on 5 October 2015.
- 2.16 The Stage 2 submission for the scheme will be submitted to the Council for approval late in October 2015. Once it is received a full commercial will be undertaken in respect of the programme and a further report will be brought to the next meeting of the Executive Board.

3. PROGRAMME

- 3.1 The programme for Vision Tameside Phase 2 has been updated as follows:

Phase	Milestone	Target Date at October 2015
Design Stage	Stage 1 Design	Achieved
Design Stage	Stage 2 Design Submission for Planning	Achieved
Stage 2	Approval	November 2015
Contract Negotiation	Financial Close	TBC
Decant phase	TAC vacated	Achieved
Decant Phase	Retail decant	Achieved
Demolition and Enabling Phase	Separation works from Ashton Town Hall start	Commenced July 2015
Demolition Phase	Demolition Starts	17 August 2015
Planning Approval for Vision Tameside Phase 2	Planning approval achieved	2 September 2015
Construction Phase	Construction Phase Starts	May 2016
Construction Phase	Completion	January 2018
Recant phase	Recant commences	February - April 2018

- 3.2 As a result of the delay in decant from TAC and the discovery of additional asbestos in TAC, following the intrusive pre demolition surveys, the programme for the completion of the new building at the moment is delayed by approximately three weeks. However, the LEP and building contractor are looking at options for mitigating the delay, during demolition and construction of the new building, in order to bring the occupation of the college element

of the new building back in programme.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The projected costs of the Vision Tameside Phase 2 building, decant work, public realm and potential costs of the early termination of the Wilkinsons lease have been reported throughout the project.
- 4.2 No further changes to the budget are requested at this time, however, on-going work is being undertaken to finalise the decant, scanning and archive costs, assessing the impact of any additional demolition costs due to the identification of additional asbestos, the scope and cost of furniture, fittings and equipment and any design changes.
- 4.3 The Stage 2 work is progressing and the packages of work are currently being tendered, which will give a more up to date view of the relative costs of inflation provided for in the programme budget in time for a further report to the Executive Board in November 2015.
- 4.4 The demolition cost is now fixed apart from any additional asbestos identified as a result of the intrusive surveys.
- 4.5 The budget therefore remains as previously approved:

Expenditure	Projected Expenditure May 2015 £
Construction	36,849,251
TMBC contingency 5%	941,316
Contingency for inflation at 7.73%	2,642,327
Gross construction costs	40,432,894
Less SFA grant	-4,000,000
Net construction costs	36,432,894
Additional Costs	
Re fit / Fit out costs re Early Lease termination – Wilkos	1,709,900
Decant / condition works	2,824,452
Public Realm	2,631,000
Document Scanning	500,000
Co op bank termination of lease	100,000
Potential loss of profits Wilkos	550,000
Legal costs of construction works	50,000
IT Enablement	2,194,000
Programme Management	100,000
Programme Contingency	581,548
Total	48,673,794

5. ASHTON TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC REALM (ATCPR)

- 5.1 Ashton Town Centre is currently undergoing a once in a generation period of transformation and significant investment is taking place with the ongoing delivery of the Vision Tameside Programme. This presents a unique opportunity to project a positive image of Ashton and Tameside, attract investment and promote growth and job creation in the local economy.
- 5.2 Ashton Town Centre Public Realm (ATCPR) is the working title of a project that will significantly improve the appearance and safety on the main routes around the major new

developments in Ashton Town Centre.

5.3 The Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Project is intended to underpin current and future investment opportunities and will:

- Create a distinctive and high quality public realm for the town centre that provides a gateway into the town and a well-connected setting for new developments;
- Improve pedestrian connectivity and safety between destinations and transport nodes;
- Raise the quality of the town centre urban environment and experience to reinforce its character as a connected and accessible area;
- Manage vehicular volumes and speeds to enhance the environment and safety for both pedestrian and cyclists; and,
- Create a network of attractive existing and new public spaces.

5.4 This report presents details of the overall approach to the Ashton Town Centre Public Realm project and seeks approval of the outline proposals and governance arrangements. Further reports will be presented once detailed development work has been completed and further consultation undertaken with key stakeholders.

5.5 Background to Ashton Town Centre Public Realm

The development of the Ashton Town Centre Public Realm project is based upon a substantial existing evidence and policy framework for Ashton Town Centre which has been developed in recent years and includes:

- Tameside Development Prospectus 2009
- Ashton Town Centre Northern Core Prospectus 2010
- Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy SPD 2010
- Greater Manchester Town Centres Study 2010
- Tameside Retail Study 2010
- Ashton Town Centre Delivery Framework and Prospectus
- Atkins Movement and Transport Study
- Public Realm Design and Delivery Framework 2013.
- Mott MacDonald Report September 2015

5.7 The Council's Ashton Town Centre Delivery Framework and Prospectus identifies an estimated £250 million investment programme to be delivered over the next 5 to 10 years. This Framework, along with other evidence, recognised the quality of the public realm as a key enabling infrastructure for current and future investment opportunities.

5.8 In February 2015, the Council Executive Cabinet gave approval for the Ashton Town Centre public realm improvements to be included within the scope and funding presented as part of the strategic business case for the Vision Tameside Phase 2 programme.

5.9 A further report to the Council's Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel in July 2015, identified the projected costs relating to the different elements of the ATCPR project.

5.10 Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Context and the Vision

The Council has previously identified the poor quality of the built environment across the Borough as a barrier to business investment and the ability to attract aspirational new residents (Tameside Economic Strategy, 2012). In addition, the Ashton Town Centre Strategy SPD (2010) highlights poor quality in a number of elements of the town including the public realm and the pedestrian connections across the town centre.

5.11 A refreshed Vision for Ashton Town Centre, agreed by the Council in December 2011, reaffirmed the critical role that high quality public realm could play in the regeneration of the town centre:

*“To create a vibrant Ashton Town Centre that successfully fuses the historic and modern in a high quality town centre environment with defined “quarters” linked by **high quality public realm**, successfully utilised to complement a viable mix of town centre uses encouraging day and night activities. In particular, a new town centre campus for the College and a modern replacement for the TAC will, through considered planning, underpin the regeneration of the Town Centre including the attraction of additional, larger retail units for town centre comparison and convenience goods shopping and a new, more integrated public transport infrastructure. ”*

5.12 The Ashton Town Centre Public Realm project will contribute significantly to the delivery of the Strategic Objectives of the Vision Tameside programme as it will help create benefits in five broad areas:

- Stimulation of private sector investment
- Making the town centre better connected and more easily navigable
- Encouraging greater levels of footfall and improved physical health
- Making the town centre more attractive to visitors and tourists
- Increasing civic pride, raise aspirations and sense of well-being.

Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Issues and Opportunities

5.13 The Public Realm Framework, produced in 2013, identified the following key issues and opportunities to be addressed through the delivery of this project.

Current Development Opportunities

Issues	Opportunities
<p>New Shared Service Centre (VTP2) The creation of a high quality landmark building to replace the Council Offices, to an appropriate scale and with sensitivity to the existing environment and new public realm.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new high quality building will provide opportunities for new public realm as well as the need for improved connections into the retail core and transport interchanges. • The site is a key gateway into the town centre and improvements to this scale will create a new high quality and more attractive gateway into the town centre. • The public realm improvements will improve pedestrian movement through high quality surface treatments and a clear signage and wayfinding strategy.
<p>VTP1 College Building The construction of this building will help to create a strong gateway into the town centre along with the new VTP2 building. It is important that the public realm works delivered at this location are consistent with the wider proposals and that links for pedestrians through traffic routes are given careful consideration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The VTP1 and 2 buildings will form a strong gateway into the town centre with potential to significantly increase the amount of pedestrian footfall. • The project will ensure that improvements to the public realm include key links being identified through signage and way marking and that links through traffic routes have pedestrian priority status.
<p>Tameside Interchange</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public realm improvements will play a

Remodelling of the bus station will provide the opportunity to deliver new public realm thereby improving pedestrian movement and connectivity to the interchange between different transport modes in the town centre.	key role in pedestrian movement from the train, bus or tram towards all areas of the town centre.
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Public Realm Quality

Issues	Opportunities
The majority of Ashton Town centre's public realm is deficient in terms of quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A simple palette of high quality and consistent materials will be introduced to better connect strategic sites and new developments. The future maintenance and sustainability of materials used will be considered carefully.
Development at St Petersfield has introduced new high quality public realm. This area is advanced in terms of quality from the remainder of Ashton and is geographically isolated and disjointed from the town centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary hard landscaping materials will be informed by those applied to St Petersfield and Ashton Market Square to create consistency, strengthen links, aid maintenance and establish a new simple town centre palette.
There is some continuity of approach to street furniture in the retail core but this becomes more diluted in other areas of the town.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A coherent mix of street furniture will be introduced, paying particular attention to future maintenance.

Existing Public Space and Wayfinding

Issues	Opportunities
There is a general lack of public green space within the town centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The redevelopment of Ashton Market Square will create areas of green space and additional landscaping which was identified as a priority following consultation.
Wayfinding fingerposts are clustered within the Retail Core. Brown tourist signage connects the retail core and Portland Basin but does not guide visitors through the most desirable parts of the town.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project will deliver new wayfinding for the town centre.
Artwork is commonplace within Ashton and can help pedestrians navigate the town centre. However all artwork needs an association to Ashton's geography, people or heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project will include a review of locations and concepts behind the artwork to determine whether there are any further opportunities for new installations or whether the existing provision should be removed, enhanced or better utilised.

5.14 In addition, the following overarching principles are to be embedded into the design proposals:

- **Legibility / Navigation** – research indicates that user experience is vastly improved with improved pedestrian legibility into and around the town centre. The proposals will

consider a balance between minimising street “clutter” whilst introducing more traditional means of sign posting and more subtle approaches to wayfinding, where people can find their way following visual clues such as landmarks and strategic or continuous paving treatments.

- **Collaboration** – Involving key stakeholders and specialists, will ensure that a co-ordinated approach to development and delivery of this project is adopted thereby ensuring the Vision for Ashton’s public realm is achieved.
- **Consultation** – the public must be placed at the heart of the design of the public realm, acknowledging the diversity and differences between users. Therefore a robust consultation process will be implemented in order to ensure the public realm is accessible to all and offers convenient, enjoyable and comfortable spaces to use.

Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Overall Approach

5.15 In order to achieve the Council’s ambitious plans to deliver a high quality well-connected setting for new developments, the following primary design objectives have been agreed by the Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Task Group:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Objective 1 | Improve pedestrian accessibility and environment of Wellington Road between the new developments |
| Objective 2 | Improve pedestrian crossing, safety and experience between the Transport Interchange and new developments |
| Objective 3 | Improve the quality of the urban environment |
| Objective 4 | Lower traffic speeds on Wellington Road. |

5.16 The project area has been split into 10 Zones to effectively manage and co-ordinate project development, delivery and phasing. It also ensures that the four key primary design objectives are achieved. **Figure 1** provides a map of the project scope, identifying each Zone, and helps to demonstrate the impact and integration of the 10 Zones.

5.17 Zones 11 and 12 are outside the scope of the project currently but have been included in **Figure 1** to highlight the connection with the Public Realm project area and ensure appropriate links are maintained.

Figure 1



Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Outline Proposals

5.18 The table below provides a summary of the outline proposals for each of the 10 Zones and a status and progress update respectively.

Outline Proposal by Zone			
Zone	Scheme	Outline Proposals	Next Steps
1	Market Square	New market stalls and kiosks, public realm and lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works on site and progressing well • Completion Summer 2016
2	Civic Square	High quality public realm including landscaped areas, trees, street furniture and lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept Design complete • Detailed design subject to VTP2 plans being finalised • Completion to coincide with opening of VTP2 building
3	Market Square Approach (previously mayoral and disabled parking area)	High quality public realm, street furniture, landscaping and lighting providing gateway into the new Market Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept Design complete • Detailed design subject to VTP2 plans being finalised • Completion to coincide with opening of VTP2 building
4	Rear of Town Hall	High quality public realm providing an attractive route from Wellington Road to Market Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design to be complementary to the future use of the Town Hall • Ryder's to design ground level public realm in consultation with the Council and IBI who have been commissioned to produce the overall Public Realm Concept Design • Carillion to formally request Council to deliver the public realm ground

			works
5	VTP2 Deck area	Decked area incorporating high quality public realm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awaiting issue of first floor deck area design to assist with completion of the wider concept design
6	Wellington Road, Harley Street, Camp Street	Pedestrianisation of an area along Wellington Road between VTP1 and VTP2 buildings. Options being considered to accommodate essential vehicle movements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellington Road Movement Framework Options Review paper produced by Atkins - June 2015 and critical review completed by Mott MacDonald in September 2015 • A range of intervention options have been identified and these are discussed in more detail at section 6.2
7	Camp Street in front of new College building	High quality public realm to complement the wider public realm enhancing links to the VTP2 building and train station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation underway with Tameside College to agree delivery of S278 works, material choice, status of trees and construction programme
8	Railway Station Plaza	Pedestrianise area in front of the entrance, creating an attractive, prominent and welcoming route into the station.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In principle agreement with Network Rail, Northern Rail and TfGM regarding plans to improve entrance Plaza • Northern Rail unable to commit funding currently as a new operator is due to be announced in winter 2015, taking up operations in April 2016
9	Turner Lane Junction	Redesign and rationalisation of the junction. Closure of Turner Lane being considered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of Phase 2 UTC traffic modelling work to inform a redesign and rationalisation of the junction
10	Warrington Street	To provide a well-connected setting for new developments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept Design complete • Detailed design subject to VTP2 plans being finalised

Zone 6 (Wellington Road)

- 5.19 In the context of emerging developments affecting footfall and public transport demands within the Wellington Road area the Council commissioned Atkins to undertake an Options Review to consider a range of interventions to reduce the impact of vehicle movements on Wellington Road.
- 5.20 Wellington Road is a key route within Ashton Town centre, providing access to key development sites and visitor attractions. The route is well used by buses, pedestrians and a mixture of service and access vehicles. This incompatible mixture of pedestrians and vehicular traffic, along with the volume and speed of vehicles using the route, led the Council to commission Atkins Transport experts to undertake an Options Review.
- 5.21 The Options Review considered intervention options to influence vehicle movements and associated severance issues on Wellington Road.

- 5.22 Wellington Road will need to be closed to some or all traffic between the junctions with Camp Street and Warrington Street / Albion Way for a 6 – 12 month period in order to facilitate the demolition of the Council offices. This will provide an opportunity to trial alternative vehicle movements for a short period of time.
- 5.23 The potential intervention options identified have been developed under the themes of reducing the impact of vehicles currently using the route, adapting the local environment to reduce the prominence given to the street's movement function and reducing or removing traffic using the route.
- 5.24 The Atkins work has been validated and developed further by traffic consultants from Mott McDonalds, who have been appointed for the traffic designs for the new transport interchange.
- 5.25 Mott McDonalds have identified a preferred option which will address the impact of vehicle movements on Wellington Road by closing Wellington Road between Harley and Camp Street to vehicular movement.
- 5.26 The key benefits of this flexible option include keeping bus stops close to the Market Square, minimising bus circulation on Camp Street and keeping the Henrietta Street south route to the bus station simple. This option could be further enhanced with the introduction of eastbound Albion Way stops.
- 5.27 Dis-benefits of this option are the re-routing of west bound buses up Camp Street, impacts on Carillion's vehicular access arrangements for the new service centre.
- 5.28 More detailed work to fully consider the impact of this option, on the wider town centre, is now underway.
- 5.29 Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Costs and Funding

The table below provides details of the estimated budget costs and source of funding.

Zone	Scheme	Total Estimated Cost £	TMBC Estimated Cost £	Funding Source
1	Market Square	4,016,347	4,016,347	Corporate TMBC part of £4.5 m approved
2	Civic Square	1,600,000	1,600,000	Corporate TMBC part of £4.5m approved
3	Market Square approach	575,000	575,000	VTP2 Public Realm
4	Rear of Town Hall	350,065	0.00	VTP2 Construction
5	VTP2 Deck area	0.00	0.00	VTP2 Construction
6	Wellington Road, Harley Street, Camp Street	1,125,211	1,125,211	VTP2 Public Realm
7	Camp Street, front of VTP1	475,000	475,000	VTP2 Public Realm
8	Railway Station Plaza	200,037	200,037	Tbc
9	Turner Lane Junction	1,500,282	1,500,282	Tbc
10	Warrington Street	450,084	301,556	Tbc (proportion approved in VTP2)
	Total Estimated Cost	10,292,026	9,793,433	
	Approved Budget		7,131,000	

	Funding to be identified	2,662,433
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- 5.30 The Council has currently committed a total of £7.1 million to this project (£4.5m from the Ashton Town Centre budget and £2.63m for Public Realm).
- 5.31 The table above identifies potential estimated costs of £9.793 million for works in all the Zones which the Council could potentially be responsible for. The current approved budget is £7.131million; therefore the shortfall of £2.662 million needs to be identified from either third parties such as Northern Rail and TfGM or a decision needs to be taken to reduce the scope of works.
- 5.32 Negotiations with partners are ongoing and further information will be provided in a future report once the funding package has been developed further.
- 5.33 It should be noted that the estimated costs are based on the following key assumptions:
- Total project area to be given a new surface treatment in Porphyry to complement the material choice at Ashton Market Square and Phase's 1 and 2
 - Levels are in line with existing
 - Existing drainage can be re-used
 - Existing road construction is satisfactory.
- 5.34 The costs do not include:
- Street furniture
 - Service diversions
 - TROs
 - Planning costs
 - Landscaping
 - Out of Hours working
 - Traffic diversions
 - Signage
 - CCTV
 - Traffic signal alterations
 - Inflation.

Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Programme

- 5.35 The emerging timescales and key milestones in respect of the delivery of the ATCPR project are outlined in the table below:

Key Milestones	Timescales
Concept design approved	January 2016
Detailed design	February – June 2016
Service diversions	February – September 2016
Stakeholder consultation	March 2016
Commence tender process	April – July 2016
Submission of Planning / TRO's	May – July 2016
Cost evaluation	July – August 2016
Start on site	Earliest September 2016
Works complete	Target date is January 2018

- 5.36 A start date and phasing plan will be confirmed on receipt of Carillion's sequencing construction programme which is due at the end of September 2015. This will enable the project completion date to be identified; however it is acknowledged that access to the new VTP2 building will be required by January 2018 to accommodate the College's opening date.

Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Governance

- 5.37 Due to its high profile, robust project governance arrangements will need to be followed in line with Council governance arrangements to secure the successful project delivery of the Ashton Town Centre Public Realm.
- 5.38 It is intended proposed that To note the governance arrangements whereby Cllr Bill Fairfoull will take a political lead in respect of oversight of the project particularly in relation to financial management reporting to the First Deputy and the Executive Board for direction with any governance decisions being made through Strategic Capital Panel and Cabinet subject to Key Decisions where required.

ATCPR Delivery Options

- 5.39 The table below sets out the alternative delivery options which have been considered. Options 1 and 2 have been rejected as they will not deliver the project benefits identified in this report.

Option	Reason
1. Do Nothing	Do nothing is not an acceptable option due to the fact that this project is an essential element of the VTP2 Programme as it will deliver the navigable connections between the new developments and the rest of the town centre.
2. Do minimum	“Do minimum” could be considered, however this is unlikely to create the benefits required for the economic growth of Ashton Town Centre and Tameside and will not complement the high quality public realm being delivered at the AMS development site. A “Do Minimum” approach will entail the use of lower quality materials which will result in much higher future maintenance costs and will not represent value for money.
3. Phased Approach	The project will be phased to ensure a coordinated approach to delivery is adopted and disruption in the town centre is kept to a minimum. The construction programme will be agreed with key partners, including Carillion, TfGM, Network Rail, local businesses and the College, to ensure timescales are realistic and are integrated into the wider town centre redevelopment plans. However, the aim is to have the project completion to coincide with the completion of the major developments in January 2018.

6. RISKS

Vision Tameside Phase 2

- 6.1 The risk profile of the programme of activity is being reviewed through the Stage 2 process, as with all major projects at this stage there are a number of significant risks that need to be managed. There are a number of major risks that need to be mitigated as the programme develops.

Risk	Potential Impact	Mitigation
Inflation	Increase in construction costs beyond funding levels approved in the capital programme.	The cost plan has been reviewed in line with the anticipated 11.83 % inflationary increase to mid-point 2017. This was reviewed in July and September 2015 by Sweets who confirmed that this is still appropriate.
Insufficient Funding Available to complete all aspects of the programme.	Elements of the programme not completed or fully funded.	The programme is subject to close monitoring to ensure that overall costs are contained within the overall approved budget. The main packages of work for the new building are now being tendered by the TIP and building company to give a more accurate projection of costs at Stage 2.
Failure to move telecom masts in required timescales	This may delay the project significantly if not removed by 31 October 2015.	The Council has purchased Howe Mill and agreed a lease with Vodafone for their mast to be relocated to the building. Progress is closely being monitored, however, it may be necessary to install a temporary mast on Union Street car park.
Identification of asbestos in the TAC building following intrusive pre demolition surveys	Increase in cost and potential delay in programme.	Evaluation of surveys completed so far to assess potential impact, discussions with HSE and options to mitigate delay in programme and cost are being progressed.
Works required to decant locations not completed in time	Vacant possession of TAC not achieved in July 2015.	The decant works to all buildings have been completed. However, the delay in decanting services to Clarence Arcade has had a negative impact on the vacation of TAC and demolition programme, which will in turn impact on the construction programme unless this can be mitigated sufficiently.
Ground conditions	Increase in cost and delay in programme	Trial bore holes have not revealed any significant issues.
Planning risks	The existing town hall and related buildings are grade 11 listed. Delays in approval for the demolition of TAC and the construction of the new building will delay programme and increase costs.	Planning permission for the TAC demolition and Listed Building Consent has been obtained. Planning permission for the new building has been approved.
Works to the retained estate	Increase in cost and potential delay in programme.	Review of exposed façade on Ashton Town Hall and reduction in estate retained.
Reduction of footfall during construction	Reduction in trade for local shops and businesses.	A shop locally loyalty scheme has been launched and shop local campaigns will be undertaken. Additional staff and students moving into Clarendon College in October 2015, plus construction staff will mitigate some of the impact.
Reputation and public perception	Confidence in project reduced, negative publicity	Joint Communications plan with Tameside College and Retail Tenants
VAT	Increase in cost through irrecoverable VAT expenditure	Consultation with VAT specialist advisers in order to mitigate future risks throughout the project.

ATCPR – Risks

- 6.2 The table below summarises the three project-wide risks that are currently ranked highest following risk assessment:

	Risk	Mitigation	Likelihood	Impact
1	Partners do not agree project scope and delivery programme in time.	Discussions ongoing with partners to reach early agreement on project scope and delivery programme.	Medium	Medium
2	Failure to secure sufficient funding contribution to deliver the project from partners and key stakeholders.	Seek funding commitments from all partners and key stakeholders as a matter of priority.	Medium	High
3	Inadequate project management and delivery capacity delays implementation.	Identify necessary resources at the outset and utilise experienced external resources to fill gaps.	Medium	Medium

- 6.3 A full risk register, which includes details of the range of governance, financial and delivery risks, is monitored at the project level at the monthly Task Group meetings and will be overseen by the Project Board.

7 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The programme to deliver the Vision Tameside Phase 2 project, is progressing well, however, there are cost implications from design development, IT, and furniture and equipment that need to be managed within the programme.
- 7.2 There are as yet unquantified risks relating to the treatment of the exposed Ashton Town Hall façade, the impact of any additional asbestos identified in TAC and also the extent of the fixed furniture in the College element of the Vision Tameside Phase 2 building. If costs exceed budget, virement from the contingency allocation or savings elsewhere will need to be identified.
- 7.3 Planning permission for the construction of the new Vision Tameside Phase 2 building has been approved by Speakers Panel.
- 7.4 The current programme will deliver the new building for February 2018, due to delays in vacating the TAC building, however, work is being undertaken to identify if the current projected delay can be mitigated. There is also a potential impact of a delay and increase in cost, which will need to be managed relating to the identification of any additional asbestos in the TAC building.
- 7.5 Significant risks remain in connection with aerials still located on the TAC roof. The Council has mitigated these as far as possible by securing the purchase of James Howe Mill and agreeing a lease with Vodaphone, to relocate their mast from the TAC building. However Vodaphone are managing the installation works with close monitoring by the Council, and there is still a risk of delay. The masts will need to be disconnected and removed before the tower area of the building can be demolished.
- 7.6 Expenditure on all elements of the programme will be closely monitored on a fortnightly basis to ensure that the programme is delivered within the approved budget.
- 7.7 The outstanding agreements for lease and leases with partners and particularly Tameside College, CCG and Job Centre Plus must be resolved as soon as possible to confirm the occupation in the new building and also enable capital and revenue budgets to be confirmed.
- 7.8 The delivery of high quality public realm will support the objectives of the Vision Tameside Programme and will provide the catalyst for future investment opportunities, resulting in

significant economic, social and environmental benefits for Tameside and a much improved gateway into the town centre.

7.9 Detailed project development work in respect of the Ashton Town Centre Public Realm is currently being progressed in consultation with all the key stakeholders.

7.10 Due to its high profile, robust project governance arrangements will need to be followed in line with Council governance arrangements to secure the successful project delivery of the Ashton Town Centre Public Realm.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 These are included at the front of the report.