

EXECUTIVE CABINET

27 September 2023

Commenced: 1pm

Terminated: 1.24pm

Present: Councillors Cooney (Chair), Choksi, Fairfoull, Feeley, Jackson, Kitchen (ex-officio), North, Sweeton, Taylor, Ward and Wills

In Attendance:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Sandra Stewart | Chief Executive |
| Ashley Hughes | Director of Resources (s151) |
| Allison Parkinson | Interim Director of Children's Services |
| Julian Jackson | Director of Place |
| Debbie Watson | Director of Population Health |
| Ilys Cookson | Assistant Director of Exchequer Services |
| Simon Brunet | Head of Policy, Performance and Intelligence |
| Jordanna Rawlinson | Head of Communications |

43 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

44 EXECUTIVE CABINET

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 30 August 2023 be approved as a correct record.

45 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Climate Emergency Working Group held on 30 August 2023 be noted.

46 PERIOD 4 2023/24 FORECAST OUTTURN – REVENUE AND CAPITAL.

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation) / Director of Resources. The report detailed period 4 monitoring for the current financial year showing the forecast outturn position. The report also reviewed the financial position for the General Fund revenue budget, the Dedicated Schools Grant and the Capital Budget.

It was reported that the underlying revenue position was £11.674m at Period 4, this was a favourable movement of £0.590m from Period 3 (where it was £12.264m). Compensatory management actions had been put in place to deliver a forecast balanced position. The favourable movement was primarily driven by forecast reductions in external residential placements in Children's Social Care.

There was a forecast deficit on the Dedicated Schools Grant of £2.540m, driven by High Needs Block costs forecast above the grant resources.

The Capital programme was forecasting an underspend in-year, with subsequent reprofiling of budgets to future years, of £12.909m. This is due to programme rephasing at major projects including Godley Green and Hawthorn's Special School.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet APPROVES:

- (i) The proposed contingency budget virements as part of routine financial management.
 - 1. Street lighting energy costs, £0.782m. As a result of national energy cost rises.
 - 2. Business rates on Council assets, £0.099m. Following the national 2023 Business rates revaluation the rateable values of Council's buildings increased from the 1 April 2023.
- (ii) The acceptance of additional workforce market sustainability and improvement fund grant funding of £1.755m from the Department of Health and Social Care that was announced on 28 July 2023. The funding is to be allocated to the Adult Services 2023/24 revenue budget in accordance with the grant conditions. The supporting proposals on use of the grant award will be included in a subsequent report for approval.
- (iii) The acceptance of additional Disabled Facilities Grant capital funding of £0.249m from the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities that was announced on 7 September 2023. The capital funding is to be allocated to the Adult Services 2023/24 capital programme and will be reflected at Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.
- (iv) The acceptance of the Youth Justice Grant 2023/24 of £0.586m to contribute to the functions of the Youth Justice Service, including both prevention services to reduce offending and activity to support young people going through the Youth Justice system. The grant allocation is higher than was budgeted in the 2023/24 budget by £0.123m, reducing the forecasted use of General Fund resources, which will be reflected in the forecasts within the Period 5 budget monitoring as a favourable variance movement in Children's Services. The Funding letter is set out at appendix 1 together with the grant agreement (appendix 2)

That Executive Cabinet NOTES:

- (i) The forecast General Fund revenue budget position of an underlying pressure of £11.674m, which is a favourable movement of £0.590m from Period 3 reporting.
- (ii) The management actions being taken of £11.710m, which have been monitored for delivery, are currently on track, and will be reported back to Cabinet on a regular basis.
- (iii) That there is a projected overall underspend of £0.036m, following the application of management actions, as outlined in Table 2.
- (iv) The forecast deficit on the Dedicated Schools Grant of £2.540m, primarily arising from the High Need Block.
- (v) The Capital programme position of projected spend of £46.321m, following Cabinet approval to reprofile project spend of £12.909m to 2024/25.

47 STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY FRAMEWORK

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader / Chief Executive. The report presented the review of the and refresh of the Strategic delivery and performance framework.

Following the establishment of the Office for Local Government (Oflog), the consultation on new Best Value Duty statutory guidance and the need for continuous improvement it was appropriate and timely to review and refresh (where necessary) the council's approach.

This paper presented the conclusions of that review and outlined the proposed codified model going forward. The proposed framework is attached at Appendix 1. The framework would be implemented subject to agreement by the Executive Cabinet on 27 September 2023.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet agree the framework at Appendix 1 and support its implementation and delivery subject to agreement by the Executive Cabinet on 27 September 2023.

48 REVIEW OF EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FORM AND LOCAL

PROTECTED GROUPS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Education, Achievement and Equalities. The report summarised the evidence used to inform the review and recommendations.

The proposed new template took a three-stage approach, the proposed new EIA was attached at Appendix 1.

- Part A – initial screening. To summarise the proposal; make an initial assessment of impact; and decide whether there is a need to do a full EIA (Part B).
- Part B – full EIA. To outline evidence and issues to consider (data & intelligence, engagement & voice, legislation and finance); assess impact; and develop mitigations.
- Part C – post-implementation. To review the impacts and mitigations at 6 and 12 months after the proposal has been implemented.

Most local authorities include additional local protected groups alongside the nine outlined in the Equality Act 2010. Tameside was one those and had include local protected groups for a number of years. These additional groups had been adopted on the basis of being a priority area of focus for the council and partners and/or a group whose needs require extra attention. Attached at Appendix 2 was a proposed refresh of the local protected groups to be adopted by Tameside Council (subject to agreement by Executive Cabinet).

RESOLVED

- (i) Agree the new Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) template attached at Appendix 1 is adopted by the council.**
- (ii) Confirm the corporate standard that Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) should be included with all proposals going through the governance process; cited (with key issues) on the front sheet of reports; and mitigations reviewed after the implementation of proposals.**
- (iii) Agree the revised local protected groups (in addition to those in the Equality Act 2010) outlined at Appendix 2 are adopted by the Council.**

49 ADULT SOCIAL CARE MARKET POSITION STATEMENT 2023-2026

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care, Homelessness and Inclusivity / Director of Adult Services. The report sought approval for the adoption and publication of the Adult Social Care Market Position Statement 2023-2026.

It was explained that in meeting its Care Act duties on local in facilitating a vibrant, diverse and sustainable market the Market Position Statement documents Adult Services direction for delivering high quality care and support in the area for the benefit of the local population. This document and the data in it were presented in such a way as to encourage providers to analyse, interpret and innovate by way of contributing to the realisation of Tameside's vision for the future.

The Market Position Statement was one element of Adult Services approach to develop and improve our communication with partners, encouraging creativity and innovation, sharing ideas and best practice and engaging with our communities to better understand what local people need and want from their support. Given the challenges facing Councils and Adult Services, and adjustments required as new data on trends was made available it is intended that this Market Position Statement will be reviewed and amended on an annual basis.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet approves the adoption and publication of the Adult Social Care Market Position Statement 2023-2026.

50 ADULT SERVICES COMMISSIONING INTENTIONS REPORT 2024/2025

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care, Homelessness and Inclusivity / Director of Adult Services. The report summarised the strategic commissioning plan of Adult Services outlining activity that will take place during 2024-2025 thus ensuring effective resource planning. This was to be achieved by executing the available contract extensions for a number of contracts whilst options appraisals were carried out to inform the future tender exercises.

In addition there were a number of supported accommodation contracts which were due to expire between September 2023 and March 2025 and therefore the report sought approval to align contract end dates via extensions to enable a review of the supported accommodation model prior to re-tendering those arrangements. The report set out specific details on the following service agreements:

- Community Response Service – Call Handling Service
- Provision of an integrated electronic staff monitoring and scheduling solution.
- Delivery of a Payroll Service for those receiving direct payments
- Care Act Support Partnership Arrangement to support VCFSE sector across Tameside
- Supported Accommodation
 - Provision for adults with a learning disability living in their own home
 - Intensive Community Based Support for people with a learning disability
 - Provision of respite service for adults with a learning disability

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve:

- (i) **Extend the current provision of a Community Response Service – Call Handling Service for seven months and six days from 25 February 2024 to 31 September 2024 and tender for the provision of a new contract for the contract period of six years to commence 1 October 2024 to 31 September 2030.**
- (ii) **Tender for the provision of an integrated electronic staff monitoring and scheduling solution for a contract period of five years and 24 days to commence 7 March 2024 to 31 March 2029.**
- (iii) **Extend the current delivery of a Payroll Service for those receiving direct payments for the period of two years from 1 November 2024 to 31 October 2026.**
- (iv) **Extend the Care Act Support Partnership Agreement with Action Together to act as the local infrastructure organisation to the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector (VCFSE) for a period of three years to commence 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028.**
- (v) **Agree a review of all supported accommodation for people with a learning disability to take place whereby a refreshed model and permission to tender will be presented to Cabinet in July 2024.**
- (vi) **Extend the following contracts included in the review of Supported Accommodation to enable the contract end dates be aligned:**
 - a. **Extend the current contract for the provision of the intensive community based support for people with a learning disability for a period of 12 months from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025**
 - b. **Extend the current contract for the provision of respite service for adults with a learning disability for a period of 18 months from 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2025**
- (vii) **That permission is given for the Director of Adult Services, in consultation with the Executive Member for Adult Social Care, Homelessness and Inclusivity, to approve the contract awards following the tenders, subject to compliance with the Council's Procurement Standing Orders.**

51 HOUSING BENEFIT MODIFIED SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Finance, Resources and Transformation) / Assistant Director of Exchequer Services. The report sought approval for the continuation with the Modified Scheme for Housing Benefit as detailed in Section 2 of the report for a 12 month period.

It was explained that the Council administers Housing Benefit on behalf of the DWP in accordance with the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 and the Social Security Administration Act 1992. Section 134(8)(a) of The Social Security Administration Act 1992 allowed local authorities to modify the Housing Benefit scheme, the cost of which was met by the Council. The Council had modified the scheme for many years to offer additional protection to residents in receipt of any prescribed war disablement pension or prescribed war widow's pension.

The cost to the Council for 2023 / 2024 was estimated to be £26,794 less a payment from the DWP, in lieu of the Council having a local scheme, of £20,096, resulting in an estimated net cost to the Council of £6,698. It was envisioned that the cost would reduce year on year due to the impact of Universal Credit migration and reducing eligible claimant numbers.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet approve the continuation of the Modified Scheme for Housing Benefit as detailed in Section 2 of the report for a 12 month period.

52 ASHTON PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Town Centres, Communities / Director of Place. The report incorporated the principles of the approved Phase 1 Public Realm Strategy in sets out the vision, design principles and key themes for the wider town centre in ensuring a robust and cohesive town centre wide strategy was in place to attract further investment into Ashton Town Centre.

The redevelopment of this significant civic outdoor space provides an opportunity to kickstart the regeneration of Ashton Town Centre. Building on several of the design principles within the Phase 1 strategy, this Phase 2 strategy provided the wider context for regenerating the town centre. Proposals focus on destinations and place making and seek to ensure that these are well connected to the core of the town centre, Market Square and surrounding businesses and assets.

The strategy provided a cohesive approach to regeneration in the town centre, building on some of the towns existing assets such as St Petersfield, Ikea, the shopping centres and landmark heritage features along Stamford Street and Old Street. Whilst the proposals (aside from the Phase 1 Market Square planning application) sit outside of the existing Levelling Up Funding, the strategy would enable the Council to seek additional funding to help to deliver on the vision for Ashton Town Centre outlined in this strategy.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet APPROVES:

- (i) The proposed Phase 2 Public Realm Strategy for the wider Town Centre**
- (ii) The Director of Place proactively apply to have additional external funding to support the proposed cohesive approach to Ashton's regeneration in the Phase 2 Public Realm Strategy.**

That Executive Cabinet NOTES:

- (iii) Progress made to date in delivering the Phase 1 Market Square proposals.**
- (iv) There is no funding currently available to deliver any of the schemes and initiatives identified in this Phase 2 strategy.**

53 HOMES ENGLAND / GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY REVENUE FUNDING

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation) / Executive Member for Inclusive Growth, Business and Employment / Director of Place. The report provided an update on the position with regard to external funding for projects at Droylsden Town Centre and Ashton Town Centre from Homes England via the Greater Manchester Combined

Authority (GMCA) and sought approval to accept and spend the funding under the terms of the Grant Funding Agreements.

Droylsden Town Centre and Ashton Town Centre were projects that support delivery of GM strategic priorities, the Tameside Corporate Plan and Tameside Inclusive Growth Strategy. The revenue funding secured via GMCA provided a significant financial contribution to these projects and provided a proactive and positive response to the delivery of investment and development in Tameside.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet APPROVE:

- (i) The acceptance of Grant Funding from GMCA for £0.100m at Droylsden Town Centre and £0.100m at Ashton Town Centre;**
- (ii) Delegated authority to the Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) to enter into the Grant Funding Agreements (Appendix 1); and**
- (iii) The Director of Place to manage the programme of works associated with the Grant Fund Agreements and to commission, drawdown and incur all expenditure related to delivery with ongoing performance and reporting provided to this Executive Cabinet, or other suitable forum, on a periodic basis.**

54 PLACES FOR EVERYONE MODIFICATIONS CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Planning, Transport and Connectivity / Director of Place. The report provided an update to Members on the progress of Places for Everyone Plan. A Joint Development Plan Document for 9 Greater Manchester Local Authorities (Places for Everyone Plan) and sought approval to consult upon proposed modifications to the plan.

The Inspectors' post hearing letter was published on the examination website on the 11 August 2023. The Inspectors' post hearings' letter was based on a consideration of all the evidence and on the application of professional expertise and judgment. In that letter, the inspectors state that they were now satisfied, at this stage of the examination, that all of the proposed main modifications were necessary to make the Plan sound and would be effective in that regard. This conclusion was, however, without prejudice to their final conclusions that they will reach following consideration of responses to the public consultation to be carried out on the main modifications and which are the subject of this report. Additional modifications (sometimes also referred to as minor modifications) were changes which did not materially affect the policies in the plan. They could be made to the Places for Everyone Plan, but did not fall within the scope of the examination. A separate schedule of additional modifications had been prepared which would sit alongside the main modifications schedule during the consultation period. These had been prepared at this point in time to make the modified plan more readable, but the inspectors would not consider responses made in respect of these additional modifications, as they did not fall within the scope of the examination.

Whilst the consultation was only about the proposed main modifications and the policy map changes associated with these main modifications, a schedule of additional modifications and a composite plan illustrating all the proposed modifications in situ had been prepared and were available alongside this report. All documents would be made available at the time of the consultation to assist the reader, but only representations on the main modifications are considered by the inspectors.

Whilst it was only necessary to consult on the main modifications and any related policy map changes, it was proposed to also consult on the additional modifications that had been identified too, so that the full suite of overall proposed changes to the plan are clear. The inspectors would, however, only consider comments received to the main modifications; the nine Places for Everyone authorities would consider those comments relating specifically to the additional modifications. It was proposed that the consultation would run for a period of eight weeks. Consideration of which consultation activities undertaken in Tameside at the regulation 19 stage and which continued to be appropriate for this modifications consultation were set out in Appendix 1.

RESOLVED

Executive Cabinet are recommended to:

- (i) Note progress made in respect of the Places for Everyone Plan;**
- (ii) Agree that the Places for Everyone modifications (main, additional and those relating to the policies map) and associated supporting background documents be subject to a period of representations for a period of 8 weeks commencing no earlier than 9 October 2023; and**
- (iii) Agree the next steps for the production of the Places for Everyone Plan (section 12).**

55 ASHTON MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Inclusive Growth business & Employment / Director of Place. The report sought approval to create a Greater Manchester (GM) Mayoral Development Zone (MDZ) to be known as the Ashton Mayoral Development Zone (AMDZ).

The Council had identified the Ashton Growth Corridor, comprising St Petersfield, Ashton Moss and Ashton Town Centre, as one of its priority areas to deliver growth and implement the objectives of the Tameside Inclusive Growth Strategy 2021-26. The location forms part of the Greater Manchester (GM) Eastern Growth Cluster, which is one of six Growth Locations across GM that would deliver new development, create and retain jobs, offer better job opportunities, enable training and skill development to increase the number of residents in employment.

The report proposed creating a GM Mayoral Development Zone (MDZ) for the Ashton Growth Corridor area to be known as the Ashton Mayoral Development Zone (AMDZ). The AMDZ would bring together the leader of Tameside Council alongside the GM Mayor and other relevant organisations and agencies to work in partnership to deliver a joined up approach to realising the full potential of this area.

The creation of a Mayoral Development Zone (MDZ) would support delivery of the GM Eastern Growth Cluster Growth Location and the Council's growth ambitions at St Petersfield, Ashton Moss, and Ashton Town Centre. This would help to maximise the full potential of the Ashton Growth Corridor and capitalise on the existing assets and infrastructure in the area to deliver growth.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet APPROVE:

- (i) To formally establish a Mayoral Development Zone (MDZ) around Ashton Growth Corridor to be known as the Ashton Development Zone (AMDZ).**
- (ii) The establishment of the AMDZ Board.**
- (iii) A budget of £100,000 (to be resourced via the unallocated Levelling Up Capacity Grant awarded to the Council of £125,000 in 22/23 and £70,000 23/24) to support the proposed next steps in Section 5 of this report.**
- (iv) The TMBC Director of Place to implement the AMDZ and manage the programme of works in Ashton associated with its establishment and delivery, subject to on-going performance and reporting to Executive Cabinet.**

That Executive Cabinet NOTE:

- (v) The principles of the business case and development strategy for the AMDZ, and in noting agree to them without modification.**
- (vi) The above recommendation will also be sought by the GM Combined Authority.**

56 EXEMPT ITEM

RESOLVED

That under Section 100 (A) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded for the following item of business on the grounds that:

- (i) it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 3&10 of Schedule 12A of the act specified below; and**

- (ii) in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information for reasons specified below:

| Item | Paragraphs | Justification |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Item 13 – Appendix | 3 & 10 | This report contains exempt information relating to paragraph 7 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) in that it relates to private financial and business affairs of the Council and developers active within the Borough. |

57 ITEM 13 - APPENDIX - ASHTON MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE

Members of the Cabinet noted the information contained within the Appended document to Item 13.

58 URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

CHAIR