

EXECUTIVE CABINET

22 November 2023

Commenced: 1pm

Terminated: 1.37pm

Present:

Councillors Cooney (Chair), Choksi, Fairfoull, Feeley, Kitchen, Naylor, North, Jackson, Taylor, Ward and Wills

In Attendance:

Sandra Stewart	Chief Executive
Ashley Hughes	Director of Resources (S151)
Stephanie Butterworth	Director of Adult Services
Julian Jackson	Director of Place
Emma Varnam	Assistant Director of Operations & Neighbourhoods
James Mallion	Assistant Director of Public Health
Tracy Brennand	Assistant Director for People & Workforce Development
Jordanna Rawlinson	Head of Communications

72 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

73 EXECUTIVE CABINET MINUTES

The minutes of the Executive Cabinet meeting on the 25 October 2023 were approved as a correct record.

74 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL MINUTES

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel meeting held on 17 November 2023. Approval was sought of recommendations of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel arising from the meeting.

PERIOD 6 2023/24 FORECAST OUTTURN - CAPITAL

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet NOTE:

- (i) **The reprofiling of £1.024m of capital spend outlined in table 3 of the report.**
- (ii) **Other capital changes of £2.316m in table 7 of the report.**
- (iii) **The Capital programme position of projected spend of £46.946m, following Cabinet approval to reprofile project spend of £1.024m from 2024/25.**

75 PERIOD 6 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 the period 6 monitoring for the current financial year, showing the forecast outturn position.

It was reported that the General Fund, had a £7.950m overspend, for which recovery planning was required urgently. The report reviewed the financial position for the General Fund revenue budget, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and the Capital budget.

The underlying revenue position was an overspend of £13.901m at Period 6, which was an

adverse movement of £0.880m from Period 5 (where it was £13.021m). The adverse movement was primarily driven by increases in Children's care home placements.

The projected in year management action considered to be achievable across Council departments has reduced to £5.951m. These mitigations brought the reported position to an overspend of £7.950m, that Directorates were not able to contain within agreed budgets. This represented an adverse movement of £7.986m on the Period 5 position.

Members were advised that there was a forecast overspend on the DSG of £5.317m, which was a nil movement from the Period 5 position. This had been driven by an unprecedented growth over the summer term of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) and forecast support towards the education element of Children's Social Care placement costs.

The Capital programme was forecasting an underspend in-year, with subsequent reprofiling of budgets to future years, of £11.885m. At month 6, £1.024m had been reprofiled from 2024/25 back into 2023/24. The £11.885m of total reprofiling to 2024/25 to date was due to programme rephasing at major projects including Godley Green and Hawthorn's Special School.

RESOLVED

- (i) That Executive Cabinet receive a financial recovery plan signed off by the Section 151 officer at the next planned meeting of Executive Cabinet, from each of the Directors of Place, Adults and Children in a form (template) approved by the Section 151 Officer.**
- (ii) That the proposed contingency budget virements as part of routine financial management be approved:**
 - i. Increased fuel costs for the Council's fleet, £0.185m. As a result of national fuel cost rises.**
 - ii. To correct a historic imbalance between income and expenditure budgets for internal estates charges, £0.475m.**
 - iii. Traded services income budget deficit, £0.119m primarily as a result of schools transferring to academies.**
 - iv. Health income budget deficit, £0.214m as a result of the demise of NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) and the formation of the Greater Manchester Integrated Commissioning Board (ICB). A number of former NHS CCG locality services have been centralised within the Greater Manchester ICB arrangements and are no longer delivered or supported by the Council.**
 - v. The allocation from contingency to fully fund the confirmed pay award, totalling £2.402m.**
- (iii) That £0.989m grant funding for the financial year 2023-24 from the Department of Education relating to the Early Years Supplementary Grant be accepted. The funding is to be allocated to early years providers to supplement the free entitlement funding they already receive through the Early Years Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. Information on the distribution is included at Appendix 3.**
- (iv) That the allocation of £0.255m of earmarked reserves to support adult social care and NHS integration initiatives be approved. The investment is to be allocated to the 2023/24 Adult services revenue budget and will finance the hourly rate cost differential between the support at home and home care models and supporting additional in year demand.**
- (v) That £0.022m new burdens grant via the Department For Levelling Up, Housing and Communities be accepted. The grant is awarded to support the administration of the Council Tax Support Fund and is to be allocated to the 2023/24 Resources Directorate (Exchequer Services) revenue budget to finance the related expenditure.**
- (vi) That £0.028m new burdens grant via the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero be accepted. The grant is awarded to support the administration of the Energy Bills Support Scheme Alternative Funding and the Alternative Fuel Payment Alternative Fund schemes and is to be allocated to the 2023/24 Resources Directorate (Exchequer Services) revenue budget to finance the related expenditure.**

- (vii) That £0.020m additional grant funding via the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) awarded to the Council in May 2023 to extend the delivery of the Independent Domestic Violence Advisory service for the period 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2024 be accepted. The grant is to be allocated to the 2023/24 Population Health revenue budget. The existing service is commissioned via Bridges (who are part of Jigsaw Support) and it is recommended that the existing contract is extended for a 6 month period to the funding period end date of 31 March 2024.
- (viii) That the allocation of £0.030m investment via the earmarked Population Health reserve to support longer term health improvements across the borough to support the implementation and delivery of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Ageing In Place Pathfinder within the borough be accepted. The investment is to be paid to Jigsaw Support in 2023/24 via a grant agreement that will specify the outcomes to be delivered. The Ageing Well Steering Group for the borough will monitor progress and delivery of the initiative.
- (ix) The write off of irrecoverable debts as set out in Appendix 1 (1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023, Quarter 1) and Appendix 2 (1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023, Quarter 2) be approved.
- (x) The reprofiling of £1.024m of capital spend outlined in table 18 and other capital changes of £3.207m in table 23 be agreed.

That Executive Cabinet NOTES:

- (i) The forecast General Fund revenue budget position of an underlying pressure of £13.901m, which is an adverse movement of £0.880m from Period 5 reporting.
- (ii) The management actions being taken of £5.951m, reduced from £13.937m at month 5, and that recovery plans are required to manage the financial position.
- (iii) That there is a projected overall overspend for the Council of £7.950m, following the application of management actions, as outlined in Table 2.
- (iv) The forecast deficit on the DSG of £5.317m, which has not changed from Period 5 reporting.
- (v) The Capital programme position of projected spend of £46.946m, following Cabinet approval to reprofile project spend of £1.024m from 2024/25.

76 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE UPDATE, NOVEMBER 2023

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader / Chief Executive. The scorecard contained long term outcome measures that track progress to improve the quality of life for local residents and was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

It was highlighted that over the first Quarter of 2023/2024, 171.6 people per 10,000 adults aged 65+ were living in residential and nursing homes, an increase from 146.7 per 10,000 in Quarter 1 of the previous financial year. As of the end of September, 68.7% of care home beds in Tameside were in settings rated Good or Outstanding by the Care Quality Commission, a fall of 5.7 percentage points from the previous scorecard update in July.

It was stated that 60.1% of children in Tameside received a good level of development in 2022, 5.1 points lower than the national average of 65.2%. This data was the first update to this dataset since the Early Years Foundation Stage reforms in September 2021, meaning that it was not possible to directly compare 2021/22 assessment outcomes with earlier years. Therefore, although values were lower than the previous release in 2019 both for Tameside and England as a whole, this did not indicate a negative trend in outcomes. The number of 3 and 4 year olds at Early Years settings rated Good or Outstanding was 80.3% in the Summer term this year, down significantly from 91.3% in the Summer term last year. On the other hand, progress was being made on meeting the Department for Education-set target for 2 year olds in funded early education, with 87% of the target met in the summer term, up from 83% for the previous year's summer.

The proportion of primary schools rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted had increased since the previous scorecard update, with 94.7% of primary schools meeting this standard, which remained above the national average of 90.2%. The percentage of secondary schools rated Good or Outstanding was unchanged from the previous update at 62.5% compared to the national average of 81.8%.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report, scorecard Appendix 1 and the glossary of indicators at Appendix 2 be noted.

77 TAMESIDE ADULTS CARERS STRATEGY

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 to adopt a new Tameside Carers Strategy 2024-27 following the engagement with key stakeholders and a final period of consultation.

It was reported that following a period of engagement and consultation, the service had developed a new Tameside Carers Strategy attached at Appendix 1 to set out the vision and priorities for 2024-2027. It demonstrated the council's commitment to supporting carers, while they supported their loved ones. The Carers Service engaged and consulted with Carers in a variety of ways about their experiences of their caring role and the support that was on offer to them, and the people that they care for.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet approve the adoption and publication of the Tameside Carers Strategy 2024-27.

78 ADULT SOCIAL CARE STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care / Director of Adult Services. The report sought approval to adopt a new Adult Social Care Strategy following engagement with key stakeholders and a final period of consultation.

It was explained that the Adult Social Care Strategy attached at Appendix 1 set out Tameside's vision and priorities for 2024 to 2027, called Living Well at Home. Whether people were living well at home with 24-hour support or services were coming into people's home that experience should be a standard everybody could be proud of. The focus would be to maximise people's independence so that they could live more meaningful and enjoyable lives with strong links to their local community.

It was further explained that the last few years had not been easy with the challenge of the pandemic and the recovery period following it. With the additional financial challenges of the Cost-of-Living Crisis, it was important now more than ever to support vulnerable people to access the right services to look after their health and mental wellbeing.

The Adult Social Care Strategy provided the strategic context to drive future commissioning, care management and our role in the integration of health and social care.

RESOLVED

That approval be given to the adoption and publication of the Adult Social Care Strategy 2024-27.

79 ASHTON MOSS DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Inclusive Growth, Business & Employment / Director of Place. The report provided an update on the preparation of the Development Framework for the Ashton Moss strategic employment site and the ongoing work to facilitate its future development as Ashton Moss Innovation Park.

It was reported that the Ashton Moss Development Framework Appendix 1 had been prepared by a multi-disciplinary team, led by LDA Design, to consider collectively the AME and AMW areas; this combined site was referred to as 'Ashton Moss Innovation Park'. To inform preparation of the Framework the multi-disciplinary team had engaged with service across the Council (including planning, highways, strategic property, greenspace, and digital), Tameside College, TfGM, other key stakeholders and landowners, Members, and the Tameside Inclusive Growth Board. The Framework had been prepared collectively with the principal landowners at Ashton Moss (Muse Developments, Staley Developments and Arqiva) who were supportive of its content.

The Ashton Moss Development Framework was an investment, planning and economic tool that would assist in driving forward development of the site. It clearly outlined the infrastructure required to enable and unlock the full potential of the site, as well as the key delivery considerations and development options. The Framework considered the background, context, planning status and ownership of the site. An analysis of current commercial property market trends and potential for employment generation had informed the analysis of site constraints and identified opportunities.

It was explained that the baseline engagement with specialist commercial property market agents has identified unprecedented demand for spaces to support a wide range of industrial, manufacturing and other industries. This informed the view that the Ashton Moss Innovation Park was optimally positioned to both provide jobs for local people and attract specialist talent from around the region.

The report detailed the work that would continue over the next 18 months in relation to the Ashton Moss Development Zone. In support of this the report sought approval for £0.184m of non-recurrent Council earmarked reserves previously allocated by Executive Cabinet in January 2023 to the Place Directorate to support the further development of Ashton Moss and be utilised for this purpose in 2023/24 and 2024/25 to progress the next steps.

RESOLVED

That approval be given to:

- (i) The Ashton Moss Development Framework for adoption, which will facilitate the future development of Ashton Moss Innovation Park and act as a material consideration when consulting on any planning applications for the site to help ensure that proposals for development comply with the vision and objectives for Ashton Moss.**
- (ii) The next steps as set out in Section 5 and enable the Director of Place to manage the programme of works associated with their delivery, in consultation with the Executive Member for Inclusive Growth, Business & Employment, which will be subject to the usual governance and transparency requirements.**
- (iii) That £0.184m of non-recurrent Council earmarked reserves previously allocated by Executive Cabinet in January 2023 to the Place Directorate to support the further development of Ashton Moss, be utilised for this purpose in 2023/24 and 2024/25 to progress the next steps in accordance with Section 5.**

80 HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Planning, Transport and Connectivity / Director of Place. The report provided details of a proposed approach to allocate

funding in order to develop and deliver a highway safety programme in Tameside. It also listed a proposed criteria against which potential schemes should be measured. It suggests no actual schemes but states that top ranking schemes against the criteria, would have separate, detailed reports that would require approval, as and when funding allows.

Members were advised that each of the ten districts in Greater Manchester previously made annual bids to receive funding for substantial road safety schemes that were unable to be funded by other means. Previously, this funding allowed the council to deliver a range of road safety schemes including:

- i. Introduction of traffic signals at Curzon Road and Whitacre Road in 2016. The scheme reduced incidents at that location from 15 recorded casualties (2008 to 2012 prior to the scheme being introduced) to 0 recorded casualties (2014 to 2022).
- ii. Clarence Street, Whitelands Road and Bayley Street, Stalybridge in 2017. The scheme reduced incidents at that location from 24 serious and slight recorded casualties (2014 to mid-2017, before the scheme started) to 3 slight casualties (2017 from start of scheme to 2022).

However, funding for these type of schemes stopped the following year and had not been made available since. Throughout Greater Manchester, incident rates and severity of injuries had increased. The police, as enforcers, had limited resources when it comes to preventing bad driving and engineering measures were seen as an important contribution to highway safety.

It was stated that in 2022, Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) announced a funding stream, the Integrated Transport Block, would be divided between the 10 Highway Authorities of Greater Manchester and Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) over a period of two years, 2022/2023 – 2023/2024. The remaining three years 2024/2025 – 2026/2027 was to be determined.

It was explained that Tameside's confirmed budget, which was ring fenced for the development and delivery of highway safety initiatives, was £0.624m carried forward from 2022/2023 and £0.631m for 2023/2024. This gave a confirmed budget to date of £1.255m to commit to the development and delivery of a highway safety programme for Tameside.

The overall objective of the funding was to encourage safe and long term driving practices on our roads, whether that was by introducing physical engineering schemes on the roads or via training for groups of people that were deemed more in need. Having had no funding available to deliver highway safety works since 2017 it was essential that the council now identified and prioritised schemes for development and delivery to improve safety on the borough's highway.

The number of requests that had been documented over the years was considerable and additional resources would be required to develop a programme and then design potential highway safety schemes for approval.

Requests for traffic calming or speed reduction measures had been compiled over many years from ward members, residents and other stakeholders. Each request would now be examined and applied to the proposed evaluation criteria to identify priority schemes which were deliverable and affordable from the current available ITB budget. Careful consideration would be given to the development and delivery of sustainable schemes which offered best value and would have minimal impact on future maintenance costs.

Members discussed some of the previously documented requests that were to be examined against the evaluation criteria.

RESOLVED

That the following be approved:

- (i) **The proposed approach, set out in this report, to develop a highway safety programme for Tameside.**

- (ii) **The allocation of Integrated Transport Block funding, to allow the development and delivery of a highway safety programme as set out in section 2 of the report.**
- (iii) **The proposed evaluation criteria which will allow a prioritised highway safety programme to be developed as set out in section 3 of the report.**
- (iv) **The principle of engaging with key stakeholders to support the highway safety development process as set out in section 3 of the report.**
- (v) **In principle, the procurement of external highway consultancy services, via STAR procurement as set out in section 2 of the report.**

81 LOCAL STUDIES AND ARCHIVES FORWARD PLAN 2024-2028

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Towns and Communities / Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods. The report set out the key priorities of the proposed Forward Plan 2024-2028 and sought formal approval of the plan.

The National Archives (TNA) was the National body with ministerial governance in place that oversees Archives across the UK. TNA acted as the professional body for Archive Services and set the standards for best collections care and best practice public access to records through their Accreditation Scheme. Tameside Local Studies and Archives Centre was an approved Place of Deposit, meaning the Service held certain public records of local interest such as the Council's records. Holding Accredited status was required to maintain Places of Deposit status.

As TNA's Accreditation scheme was re-iterative, it meant the Service would be going through its full accreditation process again in 2024. A strong forward plan was important in helping it maintain its high standards. It was also essential in demonstrating to the Accreditation Panel how the Service would achieve its aims and ambitions and was required for submitting an accreditation application.

The Service gained full accreditation on 4 October 2018. This was based on relevant GMALSP policies being submitted as well as the following Tameside specific policies and procedures developed in line with Accreditation standards and expectations:

- The Tameside Collections Information Plan. This set out the Service's information process for archives; from the point of their deposit at the Centre, through accessioning to cataloguing (Appendix 1).
- The Tameside Preservation and Security Policy. This outlined how the Service kept its holdings secure, and ensures that they were not subject to conditions or actions which may harm them. It also outlined the environmental conditions in which the holdings should be stored as well as the Service's preservation procedures Appendix 2.
- The Tameside Policy and Access Restrictions policy. This outlined the necessary access restrictions and the legislation behind these. The policy set out the closure periods, exceptions and the reasons behind them Appendix 3.

It was explained that the Forward Plan had been developed by staff, informed by the public consultation and stakeholder consultation mentioned above (point 5.1 to point 5.3), service requirements and the requirements of the Accreditation.

The Service aims, set out in the Forward Plan, were as follows:

1. Access to Services: Ensure our Services were accessible, expanded and reached beyond the current visiting audiences, and maintained the highest possible standards of customer service.
2. Access to Learning: Provide opportunities for education to users of all ages, which were relevant, informative, engaging and inspiring.
3. Access to Collections: Collect, care for, document and develop the borough's archival collections and provide access to them in imaginative, informative and interesting ways.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted and the Local Studies and Archives Forward Plan covering 2024-2028 be approved.

82 MUSEUMS FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Towns and Communities / Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods. The report set out the Museums Forward Plan, Collections Development Policy, Documentation Policy, Care and Conservation Policy and Access Policy for formal consideration and adoption.

The report explained that the Council's Museums and Galleries consisted of Portland Basin Museum, Astley Cheetham Art Gallery and the Manchester Regiment collection. The Museums and Galleries were part of Arts Council England's Museum Accreditation scheme, which was the industry standard for museums and galleries. Tameside Museums had been invited to reapply for Accreditation and in order to achieve it the service needed to have approved plans and policies in place.

The service aims, set out in the Forward Plan, were as follows:

- Access to services: ensure that all of our sites were accessible, friendly and had the highest standards of customer care.
- Access to the community: respond to the needs and demands of the local community and to participate fully in the life of Tameside, contributing to the cultural, social and economic activity of the borough.
- Access to learning: offer visitors enjoyable, inspirational and educational experiences.
- Access to collections: ensured that the borough's museums, galleries and collections were cared for and added to, for future generations.

The full Forward Plan 2023-28 was appended to the report. The Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods then summarised each of the four policies appended to the report.

The Collections Development Policy provided an overview to the collections and set the themes and priorities for collecting. It also provided information about the legal and ethical framework for acquiring and disposing of objects.

The Documentation Policy set out how the museum accounts for the collections it held. It showed that the council followed standard procedures for documenting the objects in the councils care.

The Care and Conservation Policy outlined how the museum cared for its collections and how ethical and legal requirements were met. It was designed to ensure the long term preservation of the collection and takes into account recognised museum frameworks and standards.

The Access Policy set out how people could see, use and reference the collections and the buildings they were housed in. It showed that a variety of interpretive methods to exhibit the collections were used and that information is provided to the public as to how they could access the collections.

RESOLVED

That the policies be approved.

83 URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

CHAIR