

## COUNCIL

28 February 2017

Commenced: 5.00 pm

Terminated: 6.50 pm

**Present:** Councillors Kitchen (Chair), P Fitzpatrick (Civic Mayor), Affleck, Bailey, Beeley, Bell, Bowden, Bowerman, Buckley, Buglass, Cartey, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gwynne, Homer, Kinsey, D Lane, J Lane, McNally, Middleton, Newton, Patrick, Pearce, Peet, Piddington, K Quinn, S Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, F Travis, L Travis, Ward, Warrington, K Welsh, R Welsh, Whitehead, Wild and Wills

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillors Bray, Jackson, A Holland, B Holland and Sidebottom

*Civic Mayor (Councillor P Fitzpatrick) in the Chair*

### 68. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was with sadness that the Civic Mayor made reference to the recent deaths of Mr Dennis Fogg and Mr David Evans. Mr Fogg had served on Tameside Council from 1979 until 1991 representing Denton South Ward. He was Deputy Mayor of Tameside in 1985/86. Mr Evans served for many years as an Officer of the Council and was Assistant Director of Policy Services before his retirement. He then went onto serve Tameside Council as an Elected Member from 1991 until 1999, being elected to serve Denton South Ward following Mr Fogg's retirement from the Council. Those in attendance joined the Chair in a few moments silence to pay their respects and remember Mr Fogg and Mr Evans and the loyal service they gave to the Council and the local community.

*Councillor Kitchen, Chair of Council Business, in the Chair*

### 69. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED

**That the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on 24 January 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair of Council Business.**

### 70. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

<b>DISPENSATION Item 7 – Budget 2017/18 and future years</b>		
Councillors: Affleck, Bailey, Beeley, Bell, Bowden, Bowerman, Buckley, Buglass, Cartey, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gwynne, Homer, Kinsey, Kitchen, D Lane, J Lane, McNally, Middleton, Newton, Patrick, Pearce, Peet, Piddington, K Quinn, S Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, F Travis, L Travis, Ward, Warrington, K Welsh, R Welsh, Whitehead, Wild and Wills	Prejudicial – Section 33(2)(a) of the Localism Act 2011 – that without the dispensation the number of Members prohibited from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business.	Beneficial interest in property in Tameside, namely residence.

## **71. COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Robinson thanked Members for their support in signing Tameside's Children in Care Council Pledge. The pledge was a promise describing the way the Council would work to support children in care to be safe, to be healthy, to enjoy life and to achieve their goals.

Councillor Robinson further informed Members that one of Tameside's Children's homes had been inspected in early February 2017 and achieved a 'Good' Ofsted outcome.

## **72. COUNCIL BIG CONVERSATION**

The Chair reported that there were no questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with Standing Orders 31.12 and 31.13.

## **73. JOINT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET AND OVERVIEW (AUDIT) PANEL**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Joint meeting of Executive Cabinet and Overview (Audit) Panel held on 8 February 2017. It was moved by Councillor K. Quinn, seconded by Councillor Taylor and –

### **RESOLVED**

**That the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 8 February 2017 be received and the recommendations set out in minutes 50 and 53 be agreed as follows:**

#### **Minute 50:**

**That Council be RECOMMENDED to approve that the Council participates in the sector led procurement of external auditors.**

#### **Minute 53:**

**That Council be RECOMMENDED, subject to any final amendments/clarifications from the Council's external auditors, to**

- (i) Make an advance payment equivalent to three years' contributions to the Greater Manchester Pension Fund; and**
- (ii) The amount included in the employers' contribution rate for early retirement be reduced from 1% to 0.5%.**

## **74. BUDGET 2017/2018 AND FUTURE YEARS**

The Executive Leader presented the budget for 2017/18 and future years, which set out what the Council intended to do for its residents and businesses over the coming year.

The Executive Leader began by recalling key events in 2016 both nationally and worldwide, including; a new Prime Minister for the UK; the result of the US presidential election and the Brexit vote. Locally, he outlined the following achievements in 2016:

- Council of the Year;
- Redevelopment of Ashton Market;
- Opening of Ashton Old Baths;
- Vision Tameside: Opening of Clarendon Sixth forum, first students at Advanced Technologies Centre, work started on Joint Public Service Centre; and
- Moving forward with Pension Pooling and Infrastructure with Greater Manchester Pension Fund – driving local growth through local investment.

He further detailed projects and challenges for 2017 as follows:

- Total Adrenaline facility in Longdendale;
- ITrain Gym in Dukinfield;
- Hyde Baths; and
- Tameside Wellness Centre in Denton.

The Executive Leader made reference to continuing work on the Care Together programme, putting self-care at the heart of the agenda for Tameside. This had the twin advantages of healthier and longer lives for residents whilst reducing pressure on health services. He further spoke of the need to increase life expectancy in Tameside and reduce health inequalities and highlighted on-going work on the £20m leisure offer to help residents get more active.

The Executive Leader informed Members that the £23m Transformation Fund awarded to Tameside and Glossop by Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership, had boosted plans to lead the way on health and social care integration.

Care Together had also facilitated big changes to the treatment of mental health and the Council had signed the 'Time to Change' mental health pledge.

The Executive Leader commented on Greater Manchester devolution and the forthcoming elections for Mayor of Manchester. He stressed the importance of progressing with devolution and planning for the future in light of the Brexit decision, and commented on the need to replace £650 million of European funding.

The Executive Leader made reference to the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, and explained that it would determine the direction of travel for Greater Manchester for the next 20+ years. He further made reference to delivering a sensible plan, reflecting local concerns and explained that there had already been a two and a half month consultation process (October 2016 – January 2017) and another round of consultation was to come. In total, there had been 20,000 responses to date across Greater Manchester, with an average of 2,000 in Tameside.

The Executive Leader raised the continuing difficulties faced by the Council during six years of austerity due to funding cuts imposed by the Government. He highlighted the pressures on adult social care, with a projected £70 million funding gap in Tameside and Glossop by 2020 and explained that the Council would be increasing the council tax in 2017/18 by 3% as a social care precept, to assist the authority in meeting expenditure on adult social care in order to support and protect the most vulnerable members of the community, and by 1.99% for general council tax.

The Executive Leader gave an update on work ongoing following the Ofsted inspection published in December 2016. He made reference to the pledge presented by the Children in Care Council and signed individually by Members (Minute 71 refers). He further explained that a draft improvement plan would be considered by the Tameside Children's Services Improvement Board, and, following input from the Department for Education, the Local Government Association and Ofsted, would be published on Tameside's website.

The Executive Leader concluded that challenges to the Council were many and varied and that, despite the unprecedented scale of the cuts faced by local government, it was vital to protect vulnerable residents and take every opportunity to invest in Tameside, its people and businesses.

In accordance with the Constitution, the Chair of Council Business then afforded the Opposition Group the opportunity to present to the Council alternative budgets.

In response, Councillor Bell, informed Members that the Opposition Group would not be proposing an alternative budget. He highlighted the need for an urgent and fundamental review of social and health care and the importance of protecting services and caring for the elderly and vulnerable.

General discussion then ensued in relation to the proposed budget as outlined and responses made accordingly. The budget for 2017/18 set out in the previously circulated report, as amended by the tabled report and addendum, was moved by Councillor K Quinn, seconded by Councillor Taylor and, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations, a named vote was taken on the Council Tax Motion as follows:

For the Motion, as set out below:

Councillors: Affleck, Bailey, Beeley, Bell, Bowden, Bowerman, Buckley, Buglass, Cartey, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gwynne, Homer, Kinsey, Kitchen, D Lane, J Lane, McNally, Middleton, Newton, Patrick, Pearce, Peet, Piddington, K Quinn, S Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, F Travis, L Travis, Ward, Warrington, K Welsh, R Welsh, Whitehead, Wild and Wills.

## **RESOLVED**

- 1. That the budgeted net expenditure for the financial year 2017/18 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be agreed at £177.396 million and that the level and usage of reserves and balances set out in this report be approved.**
- 2. That the Medium Term Financial Strategy, as updated in this report, be approved and form the basis of future updates, reports and decisions taken by Cabinet to balance resources and expenditure in future years budgets.**
- 3. That Council Tax for 2017/18 be increased by 4.99%, being 1.99% in respect of general level council tax and 3% in respect of social care precept.**
- 4. That the Pay Policy for 2017/18 included at Appendix 5 to the report is approved.**
- 5. That the budget assurance statement process for service areas is noted.**
- 6. That all fees and charges of the Council be raised by an average increase of 2.5% unless costs are not being recovered or market conditions require a higher or lower level.**
- 7. That the position on the Capital Programme as set out in section 9.3 is agreed and that specific proposals are considered in a future report.**
- 8. That the updated Minimum Revenue Provision statement as set out at section 9.31 be approved.**
- 9. That the Prudential Limits set out in this report be approved with the Council to receive monitoring reports during the coming year to demonstrate compliance.**
- 10. That the Prudential Indicators reported at Appendix 4 to the report be approved.**
- 11. That authorised borrowing limits for 2017/18 for Tameside and for the Greater Manchester Metropolitan Debt Administration Fund (GMMDAF) are agreed as set out in Appendix 4 to the report.**
- 12. That the Council notes the difficult circumstances, and the expected challenges set out in the report over the medium term.**
- 13. That the Council notes the significant good progress made over the last few years in meeting the financial challenges and continuing to operate in a financially robust manner.**
- 14. That the Council retains a minimum level of General Fund balances of £17 million.**

15. That the Council accepts the advice of the Section 151 Officer regarding the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the budget calculations and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves. Following this, that the Council determines that the estimates are robust for the purpose of setting the budget and that the proposed financial reserves are adequate.
16. That it be noted that a Key Decision was taken on 31 January 2017 by the First Deputy (Performance and Finance) that the relevant Council Tax bases for 2017/18 be as follows:
  - (a) 59,786.5 for the whole Council area (including the Mossley Parish area) [item T in the formula in Section 31B(1) of “the Act”].
  - (b) 3,238.7 for the Mossley Parish area to which a local precept relates.
17. That the Council approves the Council Tax Requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2017/18 (excluding the Mossley Parish precept) as being £80,460,000.
18. That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2017/18:
  - (a) £390,640,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of “the Act” taking into account the precept issued for the year by Mossley Parish Council (Appendix 2).
  - (b) £310,149,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of “the Act” (Appendix 2).
  - (c) £80,491,000 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of “the Act”, as its Council Tax Requirement for the year [item R in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the “the Act”].
  - (d) £1,346.31 being the amount at 3(c) above, divided by item T (16(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of “the Act”, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year (including the Mossley Parish precept).
  - (e) £31,000 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of “the Act”, being the Mossley Parish precept.
  - (f) £1,345.79 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by item T (16(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of “the Act”, as the basic amount of tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special items relate.
  - (g) £1,355.36 being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amount of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned at 3(e) above divided by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of “the Act”, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in

those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

19. That it be noted that for the year 2017/18 the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Greater Manchester and the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of “the Act”, for each category of dwelling in the Council's area as indicated in the tables below.
20. That the Council, in accordance with “the Act”, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2017/18 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings

VALUATION BANDS - TAMESIDE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL (EXCLUDING MOSSLEY PARISH COUNCIL)								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council	855.13	997.65	1,140.17	1,282.69	1,567.73	1,852.77	2,137.82	2,565.38
<b>Precepts</b>								
Adult and Social Care Precept	42.07	49.08	56.09	63.10	77.12	91.14	105.17	126.20
Police & Crime Commissioner for Greater Manchester (calculated figures)	108.20	126.23	144.27	162.30	198.37	234.43	270.50	324.60
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority (calculated figures)	39.96	46.62	53.28	59.95	73.27	86.59	99.91	119.90
<b>Aggregate of the Council Tax requirement (including Precepts)</b>								
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (excluding Mossley)	1,045.36	1,219.58	1,393.81	1,568.04	1,916.49	2,264.93	2,613.40	3,136.08

VALUATION BANDS - TAMESIDE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL (INCLUDING MOSSLEY PARISH COUNCIL)								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council	855.13	997.65	1,140.17	1,282.69	1,567.73	1,852.77	2,137.82	2,565.38
<b>Precepts</b>								
Adult and Social Care Precept	42.07	49.08	56.09	63.10	77.12	91.14	105.17	126.20
Mossley Parish Council	6.38	7.44	8.51	9.57	11.70	13.82	15.95	19.14
Police & Crime Commissioner for Greater Manchester (calculated figures)	108.20	126.23	144.27	162.30	198.37	234.43	270.50	324.60
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority (calculated figures)	39.96	46.62	53.28	59.95	73.27	86.59	99.91	119.90
<b>Aggregate of the Council Tax requirement (including Precepts)</b>								
Mossley Parish Council Boundary	1,051.74	1,227.02	1,402.32	1,577.61	1,928.19	2,278.75	2,629.35	3,155.22

## 75. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Performance and Finance) and the Assistant Executive Director (Finance) detailing the Council's borrowing strategy for 2017/18 and the Annual Investment Strategy, which was required under the Local Government Act 2003.

The Annual Investment Strategy was detailed at **Appendix A** to the report and details were given with regard to the estimated borrowing requirement for both Tameside and the Greater Manchester Metropolitan Debt Administration Fund and the strategy to be employed in managing the debt position.

It was reported that as at 31 March 2016, the Council had £156m of investments, which needed to be safeguarded, and £120m of debt. Members were reminded that the Council was also the lead authority responsible for the administration of the debt of the Greater Manchester County Council on behalf of all ten Greater Manchester Metropolitan Authorities. As at 31 March 2016, this was a further £110m of debt. The significant size of these amounts required careful management to ensure that the Council met its balanced budget requirement under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

The report included details of the following:-

- Code of Practice;
- Need to Borrow;
- Types and Duration of Loans;
- Sources of Borrowing;
- Rescheduling;
- Current Position 2016/17;
- Tameside's estimated position at 31 March 2017;
- 2017/2018 Borrowing Requirement;
- Greater Manchester Metropolitan Debt Administration Fund Requirement;
- Borrowing Strategy;
- Interest Rates;
- Investments; and
- Treasury Management Advisors.

Proposed changes to the Council's investment strategy were also detailed as follows:

### **Counterparty Limits**

It was proposed that the counterparty limit be changed to £50 million for UK Government bodies (e.g. local authorities and other similar bodies). Any such investments would be highly secure due to the Government-backed nature of these entities.

In line with this, it was proposed that the limit for total investments for more than 12 months was increased from £30 million to £50 million and that the limit for investments in non-specified investments be increased from 25% to 50%.

### **Alternative Investments**

A new class of 'alternative investments' be added to the available list of non-specified investment instruments. These instruments offered increased returns in the current low interest environment whilst still meeting the DCLG requirements for security, liquidity and yield.

This would include asset backed securities and asset backed pooled investment funds, which were secured against real assets such as green energy, timber or property.

Members were advised that any proposed investment of this nature would be the subject of a further report.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the report be noted and the proposed borrowing strategy be supported; and
- (ii) That the Annual Investment Strategy, including the changes set out above, be approved.

**76. MAYORALTY**

Nominations were sought for the position of Civic Mayor for 2017/18 and it was moved by Councillor K Quinn, seconded by Councillor Taylor and:

**RESOLVED**

**That Councillor Joyce Bowerman be nominated for election as Civic Mayor for the Municipal Year 2017/18 at the Annual Meeting of the Council on Tuesday 23 May 2017.**

Nominations were also sought for the position of Deputy Civic Mayor for 2017/18 and it was moved by Councillor K Quinn, seconded by Councillor Taylor and:

**RESOLVED**

**That Councillor Andy Kinsey be nominated for election as Deputy Civic Mayor for the Municipal Year for the 2017/18 at the Annual Meeting of the Council on Tuesday 23 May 2017.**

**77. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANNUAL COUNCIL**

It was noted that the Annual Meeting of the Council (Civic and Business) would commence at 5.00pm on Tuesday, 23 May 2017 and would be held at Dukinfield Town Hall.

**78. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

Consideration was given to the Calendar of Meetings for 2017/18. It was moved by Councillor K Quinn and seconded by Councillor Taylor and:

**RESOLVED**

**That the Calendar of Meetings for 2017/18 be approved.**

**79. MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL BODIES**

There were no changes to be made to the membership of Council bodies.

**80. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER FOR COMBINED AUTHORITY MAYORAL ELECTION**

Consideration was given to the appointment of Returning Officer for the Combined Authority Mayoral Election. It was moved by Councillor K Quinn and seconded by Councillor Taylor and:

**RESOLVED**

**That Steven Pleasant be appointed as Returning Officer for Tameside for the 2017 Combined Authority Mayoral Election.**



**81. QUESTIONS**

The Chair reported no questions had been received in accordance with Standing Order 17.2.

**82. URGENT ITEMS**

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

**CHAIR**