

COUNCIL

Tuesday, 28 November 2017

Commenced: 5.00 pm

Terminated: 7.05 pm

Present: **Councillor Bowerman (Civic Mayor)**

Councillors Kitchen (Chair), Affleck, Bailey, Beeley, Bell, Bowden, Buckley, Buglass, Cartey, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Glover, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Homer, Jackson, Kinsey, D Lane, J Lane, McNally, Mills, Patrick, Pearce, K Quinn, S Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Ryan, Sharif, Sidebottom, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, F Travis, L Travis, Ward, Warrington, K Welsh, R Welsh, Whitehead and Wild

Apologies for Absence: **Councillors Bray, Fowler, Newton, Peet, Piddington, Robinson and Wills**

Civic Mayor (Councillor Bowerman) in the Chair

41. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Civic Mayor made reference to her Annual Report, which detailed a selection of engagements she had attended over the last six months. She expressed that it had been an honour and pleasure to be Civic Mayor for the past six months and she would continue to work hard for the remainder of the Mayoral year. She thanked Members for their kind support and looked forward to working with them in 2018.

The Civic Mayor extended her sincere congratulations to Councillor Jim Fitzpatrick and Councillor Jan Jackson on their recent marriage and she wished them every happiness for the future.

In conclusion, as this was the last Council meeting of the calendar year, the Civic Mayor took the opportunity to wish all those present a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Councillor Kitchen, Chair of Council Business, in the Chair

42. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on 10 October 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair of Council Business.

43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by Members of the Council.

44. COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Executive Leader was pleased to present charity cheques to Mandy West of MacMillan Cancer Support and Elaine McConnell of Willow Wood Hospice for £12,500 and £5,000 respectively and thanked them for the significant work undertaken by their organisations for Tameside residents.

He was pleased to announce that the preferred route for the Trans-Pennine Upgrade Programme (Mottram Bypass) had been confirmed. After a long campaign and a public consultation programme, Highways England had decided to adopt the route, which featured a dual carriageway link from the M67 terminal roundabout to a new junction at A57 Mottram Moor near the junction with Back Moor and a single carriageway link from the new junction at A57 at Brookfield that would relieve pressure on the Woolley Bridge – Hadfield Road junction.

There would be a series of safety initiatives including highly reflective road markings, LED road studs, vehicle-activated signs that warned drivers of hazards or inappropriate speed, skid-resistant surfaces and better crossing facilities for pedestrians in built-up areas. The route would reduce congestion and improve journey times, reliability and safety and unlock the economic potential of the Trans-Pennine region, in particular the Tameside and Glossop economies. Construction would commence in 2020 and it was anticipated that the route would take 30 months to complete.

The Executive Leader was also pleased to announce that Godley Green, south east of Hyde, would be developed as a garden village as part of the Government's Garden Village's programme. 2,350 new homes would be constructed alongside supporting infrastructure and facilities.

In relation to Executive Member portfolios, he reported that Councillor Robinson would provide the Executive oversight for the Garden Village project in addition to strategic transport matters including related highways and transport planning matters such as the Tameside Interchange and Longdendale Bypass. Councillor Jim Fitzpatrick would continue to have oversight of Children's Services, to ensure continuity with Ofsted and the Department for Education, and Councillor Sweeton would support Councillors Jim Fitzpatrick, Taylor and Gwynne to provide additional political capacity to drive through the Children's Improvement priorities. Revised portfolios would be drafted to reflect the changes and the Executive Member portfolios would be reviewed in May 2018 to ensure they continued to reflect the Council's priorities and that there was sufficient Political Leadership capacity to drive through necessary changes.

Councillor Frank Travis expressed thanks for the support and impressive attendance that had been shown at Remembrance Day events across the Borough and announced that the Council would seek to work with communities to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War on a project called 'Battles Over'. He outlined a number of successes that were taking place within the service community, in particular the work of the Tameside Armed Services Community with young people. Over 4,000 had been engaged with the arts award, which had triggered further work around the award in Tameside schools.

He reported that officers from Welfare Rights and Outreach would help ex-service personnel with financial advice and provide assistance around debt issues. He was pleased to report that the Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme had awarded Tameside MBC with a bronze award in national recognition of their Commitment to the Armed Forces.

45. 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.

46. EXECUTIVE LEADER'S ANNUAL KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Chair of Council Business, Councillor Kitchen, called on the Executive Leader, Councillor K Quinn, to deliver his annual keynote address.

The Executive Leader began by reflecting on the terrorist attack at Manchester Arena on 22 May 2017. It was a momentous event both locally and nationally and it was important that the Greater

Manchester community never forgot the events that occurred that evening. The long term impact of the atrocity and the resilience of the people and their families who were involved was being realised and the Tameside community would stand by those who had been affected by the attack. He announced that the Government had eventually committed to providing financial support that had been promised to Greater Manchester after the terrorist attack in May 2017.

He made reference to the two elections that had taken place during the year – the Greater Manchester Mayoral Election in May 2017 and the General Election in June 2017, and the current Brexit negotiations, some of which were having a negative effect on the people of the North West. The region and Tameside in particular, were renowned for innovative ways of working, which was demonstrated by the Council's collaborative work with its partners and models of service delivery, such as healthcare integration. It was important to stand strong together and find any available opportunities, which Tameside, as a strong and vibrant community, could do.

In relation to the Budget, the Government had recently announced a cut in the waiting times for Universal Credit, which was a welcome move, however, major cuts were still in place, and there had been an additional £1.5 million allocated to the NHS but there needed to be a response to the wider health and social care environment. The Executive Leader reported that productivity forecasts had again been reduced and were now at their lowest ever level, with the lowest levels of growth and the highest inflation levels of the major EU countries. There were 1.4 million zero hour contracts in operation throughout the country and the longest fall in living standards since records began. Investment was required in schools, the Police, infrastructure, and the area needed more housing options.

He was pleased to announce that the Budget contained a £1.7 billion 'Transforming Cities' fund, which would improve connectivity between cities and regions in the UK and the Greater Manchester region would receive approximately £243 million over four years to invest in transport and digital infrastructure. Tameside and the Greater Manchester conurbation would make effective use of this money. The Government had also committed funds to the development of 5G and full fibre broadband networks. Tameside had led the way having already spent £125,000 on upgrading and installing new digital infrastructure throughout the borough, which had enabled SWIFT Wi-Fi in the town centres.

The Chancellor had announced in his Budget the abolition of stamp duty, which allowed easier access for first time buyers onto the property ladder, however, this notion alone was not enough and needed to be matched by an increase in houses being built. There was a risk that due to a lack in supply of houses, house prices could increase, which would absorb the financial benefits of the abolition of stamp duty for first time buyers. Tameside were looking to work with the Greater Manchester Mayor on the Town Centre Challenge and would focus on small and medium sized enterprises and look to build for rent and utilise existing sites to create higher density housing in the towns of Tameside.

With regard to devolution, the Executive Leader stated that one of the Greater Manchester Mayor's key pledges was to eradicate homelessness and the Budget contained a £28 million fund for devolved areas. Greater Manchester would be one of three pilot areas to trial a 'Housing First' approach, which aimed to find permanent accommodation for homeless people. Greater Manchester Pension Fund was playing a key role in the new three year initiative through its investment in Bridges social impact bond fund, who were backing the scheme. The Pension Fund had been investing in projects like Bridges since 2014 via its Invest 4 Growth plan that combined strong returns with a positive economic and social impact.

The Pension Fund continued to grow with over 350,000 members and was valued at £22 billion with a variety of investments including local impact and investment schemes and loans in local house building projects. It was fully committed to the Pooling agenda, which would allow the Fund to make large infrastructure investments. St Peters Square and Soapworks in Salford, which would transform a historic factory into high quality housing options and a hub for creativity, business and leisure, were highlighted. The Fund continued to meet its funding objectives whilst realising its goal

of socially responsible investments. The social impact fund was helping unemployed people find a route into work and making 'green' investments.

The Executive Leader outlined the progress of Vision Tameside and the new Council building in Ashton, healthcare integration including digital health and investment in leisure services. The iTrain facility had opened in Dukinfield and work had commenced on the Tameside Wellness Centre in Denton. Work and developments in these areas would make Tameside a better place to live and work and help residents live healthier, longer lives.

As Tameside entered the festive season and began its Christmas celebrations, it was important to remember those less fortunate. Members were encouraged to donate or volunteer at local foodbanks and assist vulnerable people in the community. The Executive Leader emphasised the community spirit of the Borough, who came together to celebrate the good times and support each other through the bad times, which had been demonstrated through the response to the Manchester Arena terrorist attack and the support for Remembrance Day commemorations throughout Tameside. The work and achievements of the Youth Council showed that the younger generation also had a sense of community pride.

He concluded by saying that 2017 was ending on a positive note and although austerity was still prevalent there was hope for the future. Times remained hard and problems lay ahead but by standing together the necessary solutions could be found.

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Chair of Council Business called upon the Leader of the Main Opposition Group, Councillor Bell, who responded by expressing his Group's views on the matters raised.

47. MEETING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 18 October 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 18 October 2017 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

48. MEETING OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of Standards Committee held on 7 November 2017. It was moved by Councillor J Lane, seconded by Councillor M Smith and –

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of Standards Committee held on 7 November 2017 be received and the recommendations therein be approved.

49. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION - SINGLE COMMISSIONING

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Wellbeing) / Care Together Programme Director, which proposed some revisions to the governance arrangements for the Single Commissioning Board.

It was reported that in April 2016 the Single Commissioning Board was established as a comprehensive single health and social care commissioning system. The next step was to incorporate wider public sector commissioning roles and ensure alignment of health and social care into place-based provision. This would move the locality further towards an accountable care

system where a variety of care providers could work together to take responsibility for improving population health outcomes, enable care and support to be accessed closer to home and reduce health inequalities.

In order to enhance the governance of strategic commissioning it was proposed to make some revisions, which included strengthening the democratic accountability by increasing the elected representation on the Board with representation from Derbyshire County Council and High Peak Borough Council. The changes to the Terms of Reference, as appended to the report, of the Single Commissioning Board were outlined as follows:-

- A name change to Strategic Commissioning Board.
- That the Clinical Commissioning Group's membership of the Strategic Commissioning Board be increased to include all of its Governing Body GPs plus the Lay Member for Commissioning.
- Balance the membership with an equal number of Elected Members.
- The membership changes would drive the need to revisit quoracy as the total number of members would increase. The intention would be to retain the requirement of there being at least one representative from Tameside MBC and the Clinical Commissioning Group.
- The Strategic Commissioning Board had decision-making powers over the pooled funds and it made recommendations to the relevant statutory body regarding commissioning proposals to be funded from the aligned funds.

It was moved by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor K Quinn and –

RESOLVED

- (i) **That the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference of the Single Commissioning Board set out in Section 4 and Appendix 1 of the report be agreed;**
- (ii) **That the changes to the Clinical Commissioning Group's governance arrangements be noted; and**
- (iii) **That the Council's representation on the Board be:-**
 - Executive Leader**
 - First Deputy (Performance and Finance)**
 - Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Wellbeing)**
 - Executive Member (Clean and Green)**
 - Executive Member (Healthy and Working)**
 - Councillor Feeley**
 - Councillor Sweeton**

50. SECTION 48 AGMA GRANTS SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader / Assistant Director (Stronger Communities) informing Members of the outcome of the consultation exercise into the proposed closure of the AGMA run Section 48 grants scheme.

It was reported that the Section 48 grants scheme was established in 1986 to support organisations to deliver cultural, social or community activity and services across the ten districts of Greater Manchester. Since that period priorities and criteria for the scheme had changed and in 2016 the joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board agreed to undertake a consultation on the formal closure of the scheme and the development of a new funding programme for culture under GMCA.

A consultation on both the potential closure of the AGMA run Section 48 grants scheme and the creation of a new Culture and Social Impact scheme under GMCA was undertaken throughout August / September 2017. The majority of responses were in favour to the closure of the current scheme and the creation of a new scheme.

It was moved by Councillor K Quinn, seconded by Councillor Taylor and –

RESOLVED

That Council agree to the closure of the Section 48 Grants Scheme on the basis that it will be replaced by the GMCA Culture and Social Impact Programme

51. MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL BODIES

It was moved by Councillor K Quinn, seconded by Councillor Taylor and –

RESOLVED

That Councillor Mills be appointed as a Member of Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel and Carbon and Waste Reduction Panel.

That Councillor Sweeton be removed from the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel.

52. HONORARY ALDERMAN

It was moved by Councillor K Quinn, seconded by Councillor Taylor and –

RESOLVED

That in recognition of his eminent service that he has rendered to the Borough of Tameside, former Councillor Jim Middleton be made an Honorary Alderman of the Borough at the Annual Meeting of Council on 22 May 2018.

53. NOTICES OF MOTION

Consideration was given to the following motion received in accordance with Standing Order 16.1, which was proposed by Councillor Buckley:

That this Council notes that chronic loneliness is unhealthy and leads to many physical and mental health problems. It can affect anyone at any stage of their life. A disconnected society could be costing the UK economy £32 billion a year and also has a massively negative impact on communities across Tameside.

Nine million people, across all ages and social groups, in the UK report themselves lonely all or most of the time – including 43% of 17-25 year olds, 24% of parents and 8 out of 10 carers. Up to 50% of disabled people will be lonely on any given day and 3.6 million people aged over 75 say that television is their main form of company.

This Council notes the work of the Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness in tackling this scourge on society. The Commission has, over the course of this year, put a spotlight on a number of sections of society, including older people, refugees, carers and children; not only highlighting the problem, but acting as a call to action. With the message ‘Start a Conversation’, the Commission is trying to get people talking to one another, whether chatting to a neighbour, visiting an old friend or just making time for the people they meet. It is also targeting businesses and employer organisations to get them to be part of the solution.

The Council also notes that the Commission will produce a manifesto of recommendations in the new year on how to reduce loneliness, however, it is possible to pledge to start a conversation now at the Commission website (www.jocoxloneliness.org/pledge).

This Council resolves that:

- (i) *The Chief Executive will write to the Co-Chairs of the Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness (Seema Kennedy MP and Rachel Reeves MP) to offer the Council's support in their endeavours,*
- (ii) *Councillors and officers of the Council will work with local voluntary groups, businesses and Government to reduce loneliness in communities across the borough of Tameside, and,*
- (iii) *Councillors and officers of the Council will 'Start a Conversation' and take the time to do something to make someone feel less lonely.*

Upon being put to the vote, the Motion was carried and it was therefore –

RESOLVED

That this Council notes that chronic loneliness is unhealthy and leads to many physical and mental health problems. It can affect anyone at any stage of their life. A disconnected society could be costing the UK economy £32 billion a year and also has a massively negative impact on communities across Tameside.

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- (iii) **Councillors and officers of the Council will 'Start a Conversation' and take the time to do something to make someone feel less lonely.**

54. QUESTIONS

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

55. URGENT ITEMS

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

CHAIR