

EXECUTIVE CABINET

29 August 2018

Present: Councillors Fairfoull (in the Chair),
Councillors Cooney, Gwynne, Fairfoull (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Bray and Feeley.

In Attendance:

Steven Pleasant	Chief Executive
Sandra Stewart	Director of Governance & Pensions
Kathy Roe	Director of Finance
Steph Butterworth	Director of Adult's Services
David Moore	Director of Growth
Jeanelle De Gruchy	Director of Population Health
Ian Saxon	Director of Operations & Neighbourhoods
Sandra Whitehead	Assistant Director (Adult Services)
Emma Varnam	Assistant Director (Operations and Neighbourhoods)

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Warrington and Kitchen

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

17. MINUTES

a) Meeting of Executive Cabinet

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 20 June 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 20 June 2018 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

b) Strategic Commissioning Board

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Strategic Commissioning Board held on 25 July 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Strategic Commissioning Board held on 25 July 2018 be received.

c) Enforcement Co-Ordination Panel

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 9 July 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 9 July 2018 be received.

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

Consideration was given to the minutes of the GM Combined Authority held on 29 June 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the GM Combined Authority held on 29 June 2018 be received.

18. REVENUE MONITORING REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Performance and Finance) / Director Finance providing a consolidated forecast for the Strategic Commission and NHS Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care Foundation Trust (ICFT) for the current financial year.

It was reported that the Strategic Commission is currently forecasting that expenditure for the Integrated Commissioning Fund will exceed budget by £5,848k by the end of 2018/19 due to a combination of non-delivery savings and cost pressures.

It was reported that there is a clear urgency to implement associated strategies to ensure the projected funding gap in the current financial year is addressed and closed on a recurrent basis across the whole economy. The Medium Term Financial Plan for the period 2019/20 to 2023/24 identifies significant savings requirements for future years. If budget pressures in service areas in 2018/19 are sustained, this will inevitably lead to an increase in the level of savings required in future years to balance the budget.

Following the liquidation of Carillion the appointed liquidator Price Waterhouse Cooper (PwC) has been managing the contracts to enable the smooth transfer to other providers. The costs of this service were not budgeted for, and will continue to be incurred until everything is finalised. PwC are charging a weekly management fee which, has increased significantly since period 2, and this was reflected in the deterioration of the forecast to a cost pressure of £0.9m.

Executive Cabinet were informed that the Strategic Commissioning Board had previously considered the report and supported the recommendations.

No alternatives were considered as not reporting on financial performance could put at risk the achievement of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan. Effective budget management was critical to ensuring that financial resources were spent in line with the agreed budgets.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the significant level of savings required during 2018/19 to deliver a balanced recurrent economy budget together with the related risks which, are contributing to the overall adverse forecast, be noted.**
- (ii) That the significant cost pressures facing the Strategic Commission, particularly in respect of Continuing Healthcare, Children's Social Care and Growth, be noted.**
- (iii) That officers work to identify and action offsetting savings and efficiencies to bring the budget back into balance.**
- (iv) That local Members of Parliament be requested to raise the issue in Parliament of the extortionate and opaque liquidation charges that Price Waterhouse Coopers are charging the local taxpayer following the collapse of Carillion.**

19. CUSTOMER SERVICES EXCELLENCE

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Leader, Executive Member (Performance and Finance) / Chief Executive / Executive Director (Governance & Pensions), advising Executive

Cabinet of the recent Customer Service Excellence Assessment and subsequent award of the Customer Service Excellence standard, which had been achieved for the whole of the Council.

Executive Cabinet were informed the aim of the Customer Service Excellence standard is to encourage, enable and reward organisations that are delivering services based on a genuine understanding of the needs and preferences of their customers and communities. Following the recent assessment, the Council had been awarded 100% compliance with ten areas being awarded the highest mark of compliance plus.

The report was submitted for information and no alternatives were therefore considered.

RESOLVED

That the report be welcomed and thanks be expressed to all involved with achieving the Customer Service Excellence standard.

20. HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Economic Growth, Employment and Housing) / Head of Planning informing Executive Cabinet of the completion of the recent Housing Needs Assessment for Tameside and highlighting issues to be addressed arising from the assessment.

The Tameside Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) was carried out independently by Arc4 Consultants to provide the latest available evidence to help shape the future planning and housing policies of the Borough.

Based on current and future demand, the HNA made recommendations in relation to the diversification of the local housing offer, creating a higher value residential offer, delivering new affordable housing, the role of the local Private Rented Sector (PRS) and delivering homes for an ageing society.

Executive Cabinet were requested to consider the need to seek a level of affordable housing, Furthermore, to request that future development focus on delivering to address identified mismatches, to reflect household aspirations and to take account of density and making the best use of land.

No alternatives were considered as the National Planning Policy Framework states that local planning authorities should 'use their evidence base to ensure that their Local Plan meets the full objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing'.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the outcomes of the Tameside Housing Needs Assessment be noted.**
- (ii) That the Council expects all new development to meet the Council's aspirations of 20% affordable housing but will not accept anything less than 15% except in exceptional circumstances.**
- (iii) That the identified need for older person's accommodation is taken in to account as part of any new development proposal.**
- (iv) That sustainable construction and energy efficiency opportunities are a material consideration in any future planning applications for housing**

21. SCHOOL STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Lifelong Learning) / Deputy Executive Leader / Director (Children's Services) / Assistant Director (Finance), setting out the role of local authority leadership in a system of school-led improvement and the strategic aims in relation to

academisation and seeking approval for obtaining external legal advice in relation to in relation to academisation of PFI schools.

Executive Cabinet were advised that on the 24 May 2018, representatives from the Council's legal, finance and education services had met with the DfE, Academies Regional Delivery Group, and the Chief Executive, Victorious Academies Trust, and Headteacher of Arundale Primary School to discuss the potential conversion of Pinfold and Arundale PFI Schools to academy status and to join the Trust. The Council had sought clarification on a number of residual risks remaining with the Council in light of the risks previously highlighted by the Council's external auditor.

Alternatively Executive Cabinet could approve an academisation strategy without due consideration to the risks raised by the external auditor in relation to on-going contract payments.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the overall strategic approach and the specific objective of working towards having a smaller number of larger, more sustainable locally led Multi-Academy Trusts, be noted and referred to a future meeting of the Executive Cabinet subject to further legal advice on academisation of PFI schools.**
- (ii) That legal advice be sought on the risks that would be retained by the Council on academisation of PFI schools in light of the external auditors concerns, with the cost of such legal advice being met by the Victorious Academies Trust.**

CHAIR