

EXECUTIVE CABINET

28 November 2018

Present:	Councillors Warrington (in the Chair) Councillors Cooney, Fairfoull, Kitchen, Bray, Feeley and Ryan	
In Attendance:	Steven Pleasant Sandra Stewart Kathy Roe Steph Butterworth David Moore Jeanelle De Gruchy Ian Saxon Emma Varnam	Chief Executive Director of Governance & Pensions Director of Finance Director of Adult's Services Director of Growth Director of Population Health Director of Operations & Neighbourhoods Assistant Director (Operations and Neighbourhoods)
Apologies:	Councillor Gwynne	
In attendance:	Alan Dow	Chair of NHS CCG Tameside & Glossop

38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

39 EXECUTIVE CABINET

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 24 October 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 24 October 2018 be approved.

40 STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Strategic Commissioning Board meeting held on 24 October 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Strategic Commissioning Board held on 24 October 2018 be received.

41 ENFORCEMENT COORDINATION PANEL

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Enforcement Coordination Panel held on 24 October 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Enforcement Coordination Panel held on 24 October 2018 be received.

42 STRATEGIC COMMISSION AND NHS TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP INTEGRATED CARE FOUNDATION TRUST – CONSOLIDATED 2018/19 REVENUE MONITORING STATEMENT AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2018 AND FORECAST TO 31 MARCH 2019

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Director of Finance providing an overview on the financial position of the Tameside and Glossop economy in 2018/19. As at 30 September 2018, the Integrated Commissioning Fund was forecast to spend £583.1 million against an approved budget of £580.4 million, an overspend of £2.7 million.

The improved position was due mainly to the release of corporate contingency budgets, additional grant income in respect of business rate reliefs and underspends in Governance. Overspends remain in Continuing Healthcare, Operations and Neighbourhoods and Growth as highlighted in previous reports to the Strategic Commissioning Board. Further detailed analysis of budget performance and progress against savings was provided.

The Director of Finance emphasised that whilst this was a significantly improved position from the previous month there were significant and increased pressures in a number of areas including Children's Services which was now forecasting expenditure to be £6.7 million in excess of budget. This increase in the projected variation since the previous reporting period was primarily related to placements expenditure.

The Council's Collection Fund update was detailed in Appendix 5 of the submitted report, with a forecast position at month 6 for a £0.1 million deficit on Council Tax and £1.2 million surplus on Non-Domestic Rates. Appendices 6 and 7 of the submitted report detailed the Council's irrecoverable debts over £3,000 that had been written off.

RESOLVED

- i. That the significant level of savings required during 2018/19 to deliver a balanced recurrent economy budget together with related risks contributing to the overall adverse forecast be acknowledged.**
- ii. That the significant costs pressures facing the Strategic Commission, particularly in respect of Continuing Healthcare, Children's Social Care and Growth, be acknowledged.**
- iii. That the outcome of the PFI accounting review summarised in section 3 and Appendix 4 of the submitted report, be noted.**

43 TAMESIDE EMPLOYMENT FUND

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Economic Growth, Employment and Housing / Director of Children's Services, seeking a recommendation for an investment of £0.287 million to support continuation of the scheme over the 2 year period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2021.

It was reported that Tameside MBC had been supporting local small to medium enterprises to grow and develop skilled trades, employment of young people aged 16 to 24 years old in apprenticeships and reduction of young residents aged 16 to 24 years who were not in employment, education or training. Reference was made to a summary evaluation and business case to continue the outcomes delivered by the grants in the form of re-branded Tameside Employment Fund beginning in April 2019.

Cabinet were advised that the case for continuing the grants was based on the benefits of cost avoidance by targeting outcomes on vulnerable and complex cohorts and supported the delivery of Corporate Parenting. A grant of £100,130 had been secured from the Greater Manchester

Combined Authority towards the programme and further details on this funding were outlined in section 6 of the submitted report.

RESOLVED

- i. That the significant benefits of the grants and schemes for Tameside businesses, providers and young people aged 16-24 years old; particularly looked after children and care leavers, be noted.**
- ii. That an investment of £0.287 million to support continuation of the scheme over the 2 year period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2021, be approved for recommendation to Council within the budget setting process.**
- iii. That a celebration event and a marketing strategy be approved for those benefiting from the scheme to further build sustainable relationships, be approved.**

44 HOUSING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY 2018 - 2023

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader / Interim Director of Growth providing an updated Private Sector Housing Policy to enable a wider and more holistic approach to Housing Adaptation improvements due to increased Government Disabled Facilities Grant funding and continued repayments from previous housing improvement grants and loans. The revised Policy would replace Tameside's current Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy approved in 2003 and provided the means to allow vulnerable and disabled residents access to existing forms of financial assistance to assist them in maintaining independence, preventing further deterioration in their condition and reducing the need to call upon social care and health services.

In addition, and as part of the revised Policy, it was intended to introduce new forms of assistance to enable the offer to be increased to the elderly and the vulnerable home-owner, assisting those individuals who might not qualify for a Disabled Facilities Grant adaptation but need other assistance to prevent or deter the need for further and more expensive interventions at a later date. The proposed assistance would be offered in a number of ways and subject to financial considerations as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report

Reference was also made to an Equality Impact Assessment, attached to the report at Appendix 2 of the submitted report, drafted to address the impacts of this policy change and continuing to operate alongside the implementation of the revised policy for the purpose of monitoring. As part of the Equality Impact Assessment process and in order to seek wider support for the proposed Housing Financial Assistance Policy, it was intended to consult with a range of users. This would include Tameside MBC Adult, Social and Children's Services, disability user groups, registered providers (whom the Council had service level agreements with for adaptations) and through the facilities offered by the Council's Big Conversation initiative, as detailed in Appendix 3 of the submitted report.

RESOLVED

That approval be given for a 6 week public consultation exercise in respect of the proposed amendments to current policy in connection with the Disabled Facilities Grant and other associated funding loans and grants as set out in the report, the outcome of which would be reported for final decision to the Strategic Commissioning Board and Executive Cabinet.

45 SOCIAL VALUE IN COMMISSIONED CONTRACTS GUIDANCE

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Interim Director of Growth providing a summary evaluation and business case for the implementation of a Tameside Social Value Guidance, to be adopted within all was commissioned contracts where appropriate.

The Tameside Social Value Guidance supports the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Social Value Policy, which had already been adopted by all GM boroughs, and should increase social value outcomes within Tameside if implemented effectively.

The Guidance had been developed in conjunction with STAR procurement and, if adopted, STAR and the Employment Skills Team would work with the relevant commissioners to ensure the Guidance was operationally implemented and continued to evolve through learning.

RESOLVED

That the Tameside Social Value Guidance be approved and the potential significant benefits to the borough of the adherence to the Guidance in all contracts be noted.

46 CAPITAL MONITORING PERIOD 6 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Assistant Director of Finance summarising the 2018/19 capital expenditure monitoring position at 30 September 2018. Members were informed there was a projected capital investment in 2018/19 of £69.582m by March 2019. This was significantly less than the original budgeted capital investment for 2018/19, and was in part due to project delays that are being experienced following the liquidation of Carillion.

There had been changes to the 2018/19 Capital Programme to the value of £15.835m since the Period 4 monitoring report. These were largely due to the re-profiling of £16.753m into 2019/20 approved in period 4. A Capital Programme Review outlined how the proposed programme, along with additional emerging pressures, needed to be reprioritised in line with current available resources. A reprioritisation exercise was ongoing which sought to determine which schemes that had been earmarked but not fully approved should proceed, and which should be temporarily placed on hold. It was proposed that the capital investment programme was re-profiled to reflect current information. Proposed re-profiling of £10.796m into the next financial year was identified in within the individual service area and detailed within Appendix 3 of the submitted report.

RESOLVED

- i. The reprofiling to reflect up to date investment profiles, be approved.**
- ii. The changes to the Capital Programme be approved.**
- iii. The updated Prudential Indicator position be approved.**
- iv. The current capital budget monitoring position be noted.**
- v. The resources currently available to fund the Capital Programme be noted.**
- vi. The updated capital receipts position be noted.**
- vii. The timescales for review of the Council's three year capital programme be noted.**

47 COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNT FOR CARE LEAVERS AGED FROM 21 AND UP TO AGE 25 YEARS OLD

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Assistant Director Exchequer, which sought Cabinets recommendation to Council for the extension of the local Council Tax discount for care leavers aged between 18 and 21 years old, to care leavers from aged 21 to age 25 and who have a Council Tax liability.

It was reported that care leavers are a particularly vulnerable group for Council Tax debt. Care leavers represent 0.02% of all Council Tax payers in the Borough and the estimated cost of implementing the increase in eligible age would be an additional £24k per annum.

Member noted the Equality Impact Assessment in considering the submitted report.

RECOMMENDED:

That Council agree to amend the Council Policy to reflect the AGMA protocols to:

- i. Award a Council Tax discount of up to 100% of the Council Tax due up to a care leavers 25th birthday.**
- ii. If the care leaver is joint and severally liable for the Council Tax that is due or becomes a member of a household where a previous exemption or disregard is in place, such as a Single Person Discount or Student Exemption, the care leaver should be ignored for the purposes of retaining the Council Tax exemption/disregard.**
- iii. Care leavers up to aged 25 to be included as a specific vulnerable group in the Council's discretionary financial support policies including the Welfare Provision Scheme, the Discretionary Council Tax Support Scheme and the Discretionary Housing Payment scheme.**
- iv. For the purposes of this report a care leaver is defined as an individual whom a Council has Corporate Parent responsibilities for. This includes a person who is currently resident in the Greater Manchester area and has been in the care of a local authority (looked after) for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14 and who was in care on their 16th birthday.**
- v. If approved this decision would be effective from the beginning of the 2018/19 financial year and, as such, any awards would be backdated to 1 April 2018 where appropriate.**

48 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME EMPLOYER DISCRETIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Assistant Director People and Workforce Development that sought approval of the Council's Pension Scheme Policy Statement employer discretions in accordance with the Local Government Pension Regulations.

There is a statutory requirement for the Council to operate Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). As an employer, the Council is required to formulate, publish and keep under review a policy statement on how they will apply their discretionary powers in relation to certain provisions of the LGPS.

Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) is a statutory pension. The 1997 Regulations provided less central control of pension arrangements, increased the scope of local decision-making and offered improved flexibility in pension provision. This gave employers more scope to manage pension scheme benefits and referred to as discretions. Subsequent LGPS regulations, including the latest LGPS 2014 rules, require employers to formulate, publish and keep under review a policy statement in relation to the exercise of a number of discretions under the LGPS. The policy statement is required to show the basis on which the employer would make its decisions on the various discretions.

RESOLVED

Council be recommended:

- i. That the Pension Scheme Policy Statement as outlined in Appendix 1 of the submitted report, which sets out the required employer discretions under the Local Government Pension Regulations, be approved.**
- ii. That the Pension Scheme Policy Statement as outlined in Appendix 2 of the submitted report, which sets out the non-mandatory employer discretions under the Local Government Pension Regulations, be approved.**
- iii. That Cabinet the policy statement be reviewed in line with a proforma, to be produced by the Fund for the next Valuation and thereafter on a three yearly basis in accordance**

with the pension schemes valuation cycle, to ensure financial and operational viability.

49 UPDATE TO HIGHWAYS RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY DOCUMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods / Assistant Director for Operations & Neighbourhoods which sought approval of the Highways Risk Management Policy and that the budget requirements for Risk Management Repairs are allocated annually through the budget setting process.

The Code of Practice, *Well managed Highway Infrastructure* (WmHI), was published on 28 October 2016. The new WmHI Code of Practice recommended changing from reliance on specific guidance and recommendations in the previous codes, to a risk-based approach determined by each highway authority. Across Greater Manchester a framework had been produced giving due regard to all Council highway duties and adopted the guidance that reflects the recommendations from the new WmHI Code of Practice.

The expected impact on spend of changes to this policy was an additional £0.200m per annum, primarily as a result of an increase in inspections under the new risk based regime expected to result in considerably more defects being identified over the course of an inspection year. However, any pressure would be partially mitigated by the costs of any claims against the council that were avoided as a result of having a robust policy in place.

RESOLVED

- i. That the Risk Management Policy for the inspection and repair of Tameside's highway assets be approved.**
- ii. That the budget requirements for Risk Management Repairs, to ensure that repairs are completed in a timely basis, are allocated annually through the budget setting process.**

50 REGIONAL ADOPTION AGENCY

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Children's Services / Director of Children's Services, which detailed the work of the Regional Adoption Agency since its establishment in 2017; and the planned development work for 2018/19.

There has been a significant change in the way that adoption services were delivered as Adoption Now went live on 20 November 2018. Adoption Now is the Regional Adoption Agency providing adoption services on behalf of six Local Authorities – Bolton, Blackburn with Darwen, Bury, Rochdale, Oldham and Tameside.

During the year forty one children had been presented to the Agency Decision Maker (ADM) for a Should Be Placed for Adoption decision (SHOBPA). Of the children with SHOBPA decisions, twenty were part of a sibling group. Twenty one were single children. Twenty were male and twenty one female. Within the year nineteen children had been placed.

RESOLVED

That the work of the Regional Adoption Agency be noted.

51 ANIMAL WELFARE REGULATION 2018

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, seeking approval for the increase in fees to the licensing of activities involving animals, as a result of the introduction of the Animal Welfare (Licensing of activities involving animals) Regulations 2018.

The fees had been calculated based upon time spent historically issuing and inspecting animal licensable activities and anticipated time to be spent based upon the requirements set out within the Regulations. They were broadly in line with other Authorities and were to be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that the costs associated with these activities was recovered.

RESOLVED

That the fees for the licensing of activities involving animals be approved as detailed in Appendix 1 and 2 of the submitted report.

52 CASH BOX CREDIT UNION - ANNUAL UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Assistant Director for Digital Services, which provided an update on the current financial performance of the cash Box Credit Union.

It was reported that over the last three years Cash Box Credit Union, has transformed its operation from a loss making position in 2012 and 2013 into profit and able to pay a dividend to members for the last four years.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

CHAIR