

## **COUNCIL**

**26 February 2019**

**Present:** Councillor Kitchen (Chair), Councillors Affleck, Billington, Bowden, Bowerman, Boyle, Bray, Buglass, Cartey, Chadwick, Choksi, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gosling, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, J Homer, S Homer, Jackson, D Lane, J Lane, Lewis, McNally, Mills, Patrick, Pearce, Peet, Quinn, Reid, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, Sidebottom, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, Ward, Warrington, Welsh, Wild and Wills.

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillor Bailey, Bell, Hollinshead, Newton, Ricci and Whitehead.

*Councillor Ward, Civic Mayor, in the Chair*

### **67 CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Civic Mayor reported to Council that Professor Fiona Devine OBE from Hyde who is the head of Alliance Manchester Business School and a professor of sociology at the University of Manchester has been awarded a CBE for services to the social sciences in the Queens New Year's Honour's List.

The Mayor informed Council that she had the pleasure of attending Lilian Greenwood's 100th birthday celebration, which was held at the Sycamores Care Home.

The Mayor had hosted the Mayor's Civic Ball charity fundraiser on Saturday 16 February at Dukinfield Town Hall, the event had been a resounding success thanks to the support of local businesses, fellow Councillors, family and friends. The event increased the Mayoral Charity fund by £6,200 all of which will go to the Mayor charities.

The Mayor extended good wishes to those Elected Members who have decided not to seek re-election in the local Elections in May including Councillors John Bell, Maria Bailey, Mike Fowler and Gill Peet.

*Councillor Kitchen in the Chair*

### **68 MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 26 February 2019 be approved and signed by the Chair of Council Business as a correct record.**

### **69 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

### **70 COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Executive Leader invited representatives from MacMillan Cancer Support and Willow Wood Hospice to receive cheques from the Council to support the work of each organisation.

The Executive Member for Lifelong Learning encouraged Members to engage with the Tameside Love Reading programme. Tameside Loves Reading is a three-year programme that will act as an

umbrella to a range of services, projects, initiatives and strategies being delivered to children, young people and adults across the borough, harnessing a love and enjoyment of reading and improving literacy skills.

Tameside Loves Reading also encompasses Tameside Reading Volunteers and will be working with partners across the borough to raise the profile of reading, ensuring that it is enjoyed by all, as well as being made a priority, supporting literacy development and is embedded in the home.

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

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Executive Cabinet held on 12 December 2018 and 23 January 2019 and the Joint Meeting of the Executive Cabinet and Overview (Audit) Panel held on 7 February 2018.

### **RESOLVED**

**That the minutes of the Executive Cabinet held on 12 December 2018 and 23 January 2019 and the Joint Meeting of the Executive Cabinet and Overview (Audit) Panel held on 7 February 2018, be received.**

## **72 MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 6 November 2018. It was moved by Councillor M. Smith and seconded by Councillor J. Lane that the minutes be received.

### **RESOLVED**

**That the Minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 6 November 2018 be received.**

## **73 MEETING OF OVERVIEW (AUDIT) PANEL**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Overview (Audit) Panel held on 12 November 2018. It was moved by Councillor Ricci and seconded by Councillor Homer that he minutes be received.

### **RESOLVED**

**That the Minutes of the meeting of the Overview (Audit) Panel held on 12 November 2018 be received.**

## **74 BUDGET 2019/2020 AND FUTURE YEARS**

The Executive Leader presented the budget for 2019/20 and future years, which set out what the Council intended to do for its residents and businesses over the coming year.

The Executive Leader reflected that Council funding has been cut by over half since 2010. Where once the Council had £1 to spend on services in 2010, in 2019 it has 40p. Simultaneously demand for services had remained the same or even increased in other cases. In Tameside, it was estimated that a further £31 million of savings and cuts would be required over the next three years whilst the Council would be required to stick to a balanced budget. The Executive Leader stated the protection of the most vulnerable residents, and the vital services they rely on, would remain the highest priority. To enable this it was more important than ever that the Council are honest with the public and with our partners about the challenges we face and what it means for them. As part of this process the Council had consulted residents on the budget. Between December 2018 and

January 2019, over 500 responses were received. Council Officers organised a number of engagement and drop-in sessions at community services across the Borough. The conversation was also promoted extensively through social media and our existing network of groups and partners.

The Council had committed to working more closely with public sector agencies and voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise groups in Tameside and Glossop by signing a PACT agreement. This formally commits to bringing fellow PACT members into discussions about designing and delivering services, to improve communities to build genuine partnership working, and to combine skills and resources to secure investment and funding. In February 2019 the first Partnership Engagement Network Conference of the year had been held at Hyde Town Hall. One of the three that will take place in 2019, these events bring together representatives of organisations and the public to discuss how each organisation can contribute to building the future of health and social care from the ground up in Tameside and Glossop.

The Executive Leader cited examples of how collaborative working was impacting on service delivery across the Borough. The Shared Lives scheme, which allowed residents with mental health issues or physical and learning disabilities to take part in everyday social and domestic activities with volunteer carers, had received almost universal praise about the difference it has made on the lives of everybody involved in it. It has contributed savings of £10,000-£25,000 per year per person over traditional forms of social care, and was named Local Government Communications Campaign of the Year at prestigious UK Public Affairs Awards.

Furthermore, with the opening of Tameside One, a key milestone in the Vision Tameside project, the Council and partners would operate from a single space. Smaller and far cheaper to run than the building it replaced, Tameside One will be a one-stop shop for customer services and will bring thousands of Council Officers, college students and support staff back into the heart of Ashton.

For the last financial year the total gross expenditure of the Council was approximately £533 million. £336 million of this was covered by income, government grants and various forms of payments from customers and clients. This left £197 million that was funded by business rates and council tax, just over a third of spending in total. Services for adult social care and children's services, at £83 million and £78 million a year respectively, were the two largest areas of spending. Operations and Greenspace, which covers many universal services such as parks and bin collections, was at £76 million a year. This financial spend provided services including the quarter of a million bins collected every week, the 33,000 visits to customer services and 179,000 calls resolved a year, the 1,000 family events held across each of the towns, and the 3,000 elderly or vulnerable residents supported to live with safety and dignity in their own homes.

In order to protect and maintain these services in the faces of cuts and uncertainty the proposed Budget called for an increase in council tax of 3.99%. This included an increase in the precept for adult social care, amounting to £37.58 a year, or 72p a week, for a Band A property in Tameside. It was expected this would provide an additional £3.5 million a year of funding for the services. Council tax also includes levies to help fund services to cover the whole of Greater Manchester, such as the Police, the Fire and Rescue Service and the Combined Authority. It was understood that they will also be increased this year by a combined total of 43p a week for a Band A property.

The Executive Leader concluded that challenges for 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 Dickinson informed Members that the Opposition Group would not be proposing an alternative budget.

General discussion then ensued in relation to the proposed budget as outlined and responses made accordingly. The budget for 2018/19 set out in the previously circulated report, as amended by the tabled report and addendum, was moved by Councillor Warrington, 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:

Councillors Affleck, Billington, Bowden, Bowerman, Boyle, Bray, Buglass, Cartey, Chadwick, Choksi, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gosling, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, J Homer, S Homer, Jackson, Kitchen, D Lane, J Lane, Lewis, McNally, Mills, Patrick, Pearce, Peet, Quinn, Reid, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, Sidebottom, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, Ward, Warrington, Welsh, Wild and Wills.

Against the motion:

None.

## **RESOLVED**

### **That Council:**

- (i) Notes the significant financial challenges and risks set out within the submitted report.**
- (ii) The budgeted net expenditure for the financial year 2019/20 of £196,803k as set out in section 3 and Appendix 1, noting the significant pressures outlined in Appendix 2 of the submitted report be approved.**
- (iii) The proposed savings to be delivered by management outlined in section 3 and Appendix 3, noting the additional detail provided in appendices 7 to 15 of the submitted report be approved.**
- (iv) An uplift to fees and charges as set out in appendix 21 of the submitted report be approved.**
- (v) An increase in the child allowance fees payable to Tameside Foster Carers and Relative Carers for the financial year 2019/20 in line with the weekly minimum rates as determined by the department of Education, together with a corresponding increase to the related allowances payable, be approved.**
- (vi) An increase in the personal allowance rate payable in 2019/20 to eligible and relevant care leavers living independently, to the same level as the Job Seekers Allowance rate payable for 18-24 year olds as determined by the Department for Work and Pensions, be approved. g)**
- (vii) Delegated authority to the Directors (in consultation with the Section 151 officer) to agree any uplifts required to other contractual rates from 1 April 2019, which Directorates will manage within their approved budgets for 2019/20, be approved**
- (viii) The use of £9,300k of reserves to fund further investment in Children's Services improvements as set out in appendix 4 of the submitted report, be approved.**
- (ix) A 3.99% increase to Council Tax for Tameside MBC for 2019/20, consisting of a 2.99% general increase and 1% Adult Social Care precept, be approved.**
- (x) Notes that the budget projections set out in section 6 of the submitted report assume a 2.99% per annum increase in general Council Tax through to 2023/24.**
- (xi) The Director of Finance's assessment of the robustness of the budget estimates and adequacy of reserves as set out in appendix 5. Following this, determine that the estimates are robust for the purpose of setting the budget and that the proposed financial reserves are adequate, be accepted.**
- (xii) The Reserves Strategy and an increase to the General Fund minimum balance to £28.2m (funded from the Medium Term Financial Strategy Reserve) as set out in appendix 6 of the submitted report, be approved.**
- (xiii) Notes that, in accordance with the Reserves Strategy, a review of reserves will be undertaken at year end and the Director of Finance will present a further report to Executive Cabinet following this review.**
- (xiv) Notes the position on the Capital Programme (Section 8 and Appendix 17) previously approved by Executive Cabinet, and the forecast future investment requirements.**

- (xv) The Pay Policy Statement for 2019/20 as set out in section 9 and Appendix 18 of the submitted report, be approved.
- (xvi) The Treasury Management Strategy 2019/20, which includes the proposed borrowing strategy, Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy (Appendix 19), be approved.
- (xvii) The Capital Strategy 2019/20 (Appendix 20) be approved.
- (xviii) That it be noted that a Key Decision was taken on 30 January 2019 by the Deputy Executive Leader that the relevant Council Tax bases for 2019/20 be as follows:
  - a. 62,306.76 for the whole Council area (including the Mossley Parish area) [item T in the formula in Section 31B(1) of “the Act”].
  - b. 3,388.70 for the Mossley Parish area to which a local precept relates.
- (xix) That the Council approves the Council Tax Requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding the Mossley Parish precept) as being £91,579,000.
- (xx) That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2019/20:
  - a. £533,086,000 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. £441,476,000 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. £91,610,000 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. £1,470.31 being the amount at 3(c) above, divided by item T (1(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. £1,469.81 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by item T (1(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. £1,478.96 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.
- (xxi) That it be noted that for the year 2019/20 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.
- (xxii) 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 2018/19 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

## 75 CIVIC MAYOR FOR 2019/2020

It was moved by the Executive Leader seconded by the Deputy Executive Leader that Councillor Leigh Drennan be nominated as Civic Mayor for 2019/2020 Municipal Year and Councillor Eleanor Wills be nominated for election as Deputy Mayor for the 2019/2020 Municipal Year at the Annual Meeting.

**RESOLVED**

**That Councillor Leigh Drennan be nominated as Civic Mayor for 2019/2020 Municipal Year and Councillor Eleanor Wills be nominated for election as Deputy Mayor for the 2019/2020 Municipal Year.**

**76 ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANNUAL COUNCIL**

It was noted that the Annual Meeting of the Council (Civic and Business) would commence at 5.00pm on Tuesday, 21 May 2019 and will be held at Dukinfield Town Hall.

**77 MEETING OF DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WORKING GROUP**

Consideration of was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Processes Working Group held on 18 February 2019. It was moved by Councillor Cooney and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull that the minutes be received.

**RESOLVED**

**That the minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Processes Working Group held on 18 February 2019, be received.**

**78 MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL BODIES**

The Chair of Council of Council Business reported there were no amendments of Membership of Council bodies for consideration.

**79 NOTICE OF MOTION**

The Chair reported there were no submitted notices of motion for consideration by Council.

**80 URGENT ITEMS**

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

**CHAIR**