

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

18 October 2017

Commenced: 2.00 pm

Terminated: 3.05 pm

Present: Councillor K. Quinn (Chair)
Councillors Cooney, J. Fitzpatrick, Gwynne, Taylor, L Travis and Warrington.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Robinson.

In Attendance:	Steven Pleasant	Chief Executive
	Sandra Stewart	Director (Governance and Pensions)
	Angela Hardman	Director of Population Health
	Kathy Roe	Director (Finance)
	Sarah Dobson	Assistant Director (Policy, Performance and Communications)
	Alan Dow	CCG Chair
	Tom Wilkinson	Assistant Director (Finance)
	Ian Saxon	Assistant Director (Environmental Services)
	Emma Varnam	Assistant Director (Stronger Communities)
	Sandra Whitehead	Assistant Director (Adult Services)

25. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by Members of the Executive Cabinet.

26. MINUTES

(a) Executive Cabinet

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 30 August 2017.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 30 August 2017 be taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

(b) Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 9 October 2017.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 9 October 2017 be received and the following recommendations approved:

Capital Investment Programme 2017/2020

- (i) That the changes to the existing programme (Table 2 in the report) and the revised Capital Investment Programme (Table 5 in the report) for 2017/18 to 2019/2020 be approved;
- (ii) That the allocation of funds to additional schemes (Table 4 in the report) be agreed in principle, subject to full business cases for each scheme;

- (iii) That the Chief Finance Officer provide regular updates on the funding sources proposed for the Capital Investment Programme and the affordability of the programme; and
- (iv) That all additional schemes (Table 4 in the report) submit a business case for consideration by Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel, prior to full approval by Executive Cabinet.

Vision Tameside Phase 2 Progress Update

- (v) That the progress with the delivery of the overall Vision Tameside Phase 2 programme be noted;
- (vi) That the emerging risk associated with the delay in securing an appropriate funding package for the Streetscape Improvement project, be noted;
- (vii) That the budget variations and virements identified in Section 7 of the report, be approved;
- (viii) That the progress being made to drawdown the £4 million Skills Funding Agency Capital Funding, be noted.

Corporate Asset Management Plan Update

- (ix) That the list of disposals identified in Appendix 1 to the report be approved subject to further discussion on land at Staley Hill Drive;
- (x) That the capital scheme on Heginbottom Mill detailed in the section 3.1 of the report - £125,000, be approved; and
- (xi) That the capital schemes on corporate buildings detailed in Section 3.2 of the report - £13,873.69, be approved.

Engineering Capital Programme 2017/2018

- (xii) The allocation of Highways Challenge Fund grant funding and the schemes detailed in Section 1.4, Table 1 of the report, be approved;
- (xiii) That the Engineering Maintenance Block Allocation, with specific reference to the Highways Structural Maintenance Programme for 2017/18 and the increased investment of £0.250 million to £3 million via the Transport Asset Management Plan, be approved and the planned profiled spend noted; and
- (xiv) That the Department for Transport Safer Roads Fund bid be noted and supported.

Financing Arrangements for Guardsman Tony Downes House

- (xv) The payment of £7.0 million to Greater Manchester Pension Fund, subject to the Fund agreeing:
 - (a) To the payment of an annual rent with effect from the 1 January 2017 to the Council of £384,250 per annum, with upward annual reviews linked to RPI, plus service charges for the running of the building and for cyclical maintenance of plant and equipment; and
 - (b) That in the event that the Fund vacates the building before the expiry of 25 years, it will pay the Council a sum equivalent to the total annual passing rent for the period beginning on the date of vacation of the building to the 25th anniversary of the date the Council 'purchased' the building (currently assumed to be 1 January 2043).
- (xvi) That the payment be financed from the earmarked reserve for Capital Investment;
- (xvii) That the building be taken on to the Council's balance sheet; and
- (xviii) That a further report be requested on the proposed use of the ground floor of Guardsman Tony Downes House and the associated financial implications.

(c) Single Commissioning Board

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Single Commissioning Board held on 29 September 2017.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Single Commissioning Board held on 29 September 2017 be received.

(d) Carbon and Waste Reduction Panel

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Carbon and Waste Reduction Panel held on 7 September 2017.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Carbon and Waste Reduction Panel held on 7 September 2017 be received.

27. REGIONAL ADOPTION AGENCY

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Performance and Finance)/Assistant Director (People and Workforce Development) seeking endorsement for Tameside Council to become a formal and constituent member of the Adoption NoW Regional Adoption Agency (Regional Adoption Agency) with effect from 6 November 2017, resulting in Adoption NoW becoming responsible for the delivery of the Council's statutory obligations with regard to adoption services. It was explained that Adoption NoW was a partnership arrangement between Tameside, Bolton, Rochdale, Oldham, Bury and Blackburn Councils along with Caritas Care and Adoption Matters, and was in line with the Government's Education and Adoption Act 2016 which required local authority adoption services to regionalise by 2020, with planning to have started by 2017.

By way of background, it was explained that in January 2013 the Coalition Government outlined a vision of a new adoption system where there were fewer organisations recruiting and assessing adopters with most of these organisations operating at a much greater scale. The Education and Adoption Act 2016 required local authority adoption services to regionalise where they were not making voluntary plans to do so by 2020, with the expectation that planning was to have started by 2017, with entry into a regional adoption agency being completed by 2020.

This resulted in a partnership emerging now branded as the Adoption NoW Regional Adoption Agency and a successful bid was submitted, with funding provided by the DfE totalling £390,000 to promote the development of the Regional Adoption Agency, devolved over a two year period. This was set up funding only and would cease at the point that the Regional Adoption Agency became operational.

Development work had been on-going by the Adoption NoW Regional Adoption Agency Board members to design the overall vision, aims and principles for the Regional Adoption Agency arrangement, with Bolton Council being determined as Host for the arrangements. More recent developments had produced a Hub and Spoke preferred delivery operating model, with the proposal that existing staff across the six local authority adoption teams be placed in the Regional Adoption Agency through a secondment arrangement.

The initial two years of the Regional Adoption Agency arrangement would focus on improving quality and as such there would be no intention to achieve savings from the formation of the Regional Adoption Agency, with each local authority committing to maintain staffing levels and operational budgets during this period of time.

The future governance arrangements proposed were a Regional Adoption Agency Steering Committee being established to oversee and monitor the development and progress of the Regional Adoption Agency. The Steering Committee would comprise of one representative from each Voluntary Adoption Agency (Caritas Care and Adoption Matters) and the Lead Member for Children's Services from each Local Authority (or their designated deputy). The Steering

Committee would meet quarterly and the Regional Adoption Agency Board would provide progress reports to the Committee on all aspects of the Regional Adoption Agency.

A legal agreement had been developed which the Council would be expected to sign up to on an individual basis, should it agree to the Regional Adoption Agency proposals, setting out the arrangements for the provision of Tameside Council adoption services in the Regional Adoption Agency.

Ofsted's position was that it would not be inspecting Regional Adoption Agencies in their own right and that adoption services would continue to be inspected through the eyes of each local authority.

Staff consultation had commenced on 25 July 2017 with council staff affected by the Regional Adoption Agency arrangements. The consultation period was due to close mid October 2017. The main issues identified to date during staff consultation at a local level covered the areas of increased travelling costs, car parking and pay parity. Responses had been provided to staff.

It was proposed that the Regional Adoption Agency would 'Go Live' with effect from Monday 6 November 2017, on an initial two year basis, with annual reviews of both the Regional Adoption Agency outcomes and the secondment arrangements taking place.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That approval be given to Tameside Council becoming a formal and constituent member of the Adoption NoW Regional Adoption Agency (Regional Adoption Agency) with effect from 6 November 2017 and that affected staff be supported to second into the Regional Adoption Agency. Executive Members acknowledged the additional financial implications for the Council by endorsing such arrangement.**
- (ii) That a programme of review against progress be agreed and presented to Executive Board members to ensure the Adoption NoW Regional Adoption Agency partnership arrangement remained fit for purpose for Tameside Council families, children and adopters.**

28 NOTIFICATION OF CQC RATING FOR LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Wellbeing) / Assistant Director (Adult Services), which reflected on the recently published Care Quality Commission rating for the Learning Disability Service (Supported Accommodation) following the inspection in July 2017. Members were informed that there had been very positive feedback and examples given in the Care Quality Commission inspection report, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, regarding the care and support provided by and to staff.

The service had received an overall rating of 'Good' with one domain, 'Responsive', being rated as 'Outstanding'. The Executive Cabinet was pleased that the hard work and focus on providing person-centred services to deliver great outcomes for people with learning disabilities had been recognised and acknowledged in the inspection findings.

RESOLVED:

That the recent Care Quality Commission 'Good' rating for the Learning Disability Service (Supported Accommodation) be noted.

29. GUIDE TO EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES – CHRISTMAS 2017

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Leader and the Assistant Director (Stronger Communities) explaining that all Christmas events, apart from the Tameside lantern parade celebration, would be organised either by a local community group, town team or town council.

In order to support organisers, meetings had been set up to support them going through the process of setup up a Christmas event and ensuring that an event notification form was submitted to the Council and all local organisers had identified an event manager. This person and other key local representatives had been in conversation with the Council appointed external event manager to ensure that they fully understood what was required of them.

The report set out the dates, initial plans and issues of what each local switch-on would entail as well as an overview of the annual corporate lantern parade.

It was noted that organising teams were now required to fully fund their own events through sponsorship or grant funding. The Executive Cabinet discussed that for parity across the borough, all Town Councils would make a contribution to the funding of the lighting and installation of the Christmas lights. It was requested that future reports on the planning of Christmas events be submitted for consideration earlier in the year and identification of any potential issues.

AGREED

That the approach set out in the report be noted and agreed including the dates and plans which would remain in place and not be subject to further change.

CHAIR