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Chief Executive

**THE CIVIC MAYOR, CHAIR OF
COUNCIL BUSINESS AND ALL
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Steven Pleasant, Chief Executive
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Our Ref	rl/Council
Ask for	Robert Landon
Direct Line	0161 342 2146
Date	

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend an **ORDINARY MEETING** of the Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council to be held on **Tuesday, 20 July, 2021 at 5.00 pm** in the **Jubilee Hall, Dukinfield Town Hall** when the undermentioned business is to be transacted.

Yours faithfully,



**Steven Pleasant
Chief Executive**

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Robert Landon, Head of Democratic Services, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
1.	MINUTES	1 - 14
	That the Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of Council held on 25 May 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair of Council Business (or other person presiding) (Minutes attached).	
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	To receive any declarations of interest from Members of the Council.	
3.	CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
	The Civic Mayor to make any appropriate announcements.	
	At this juncture the Civic Mayor will retire from the Chair and the Chair of Council Business shall assume the Chair for the remaining business.	
4.	COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS	
	To receive any announcements or communications from the Chair of Council Business, the Executive Leader, Members of the Executive Cabinet or the Chief Executive.	
5.	COUNCIL BIG CONVERSATION	
	To consider any questions submitted by Members of the public in accordance with Standing Orders 31.12 and 31.13.	
6.	MEETING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET	15 - 40
	To receive the minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 28 April and 23 June 2021.	
7.	MEETING OF DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WORKING GROUP	41 - 44
	To receive the minutes of the Meeting of the Democratic Processes Working Group held on 5 July 2021.	
8.	TAMESIDE ELECTORAL REVIEW - RESPONSE TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND (LGBCE) WARD PATTERNS AND WARD NAMES PROPOSAL	45 - 58
	To consider the attached report of the Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment).	
9.	PLACES FOR EVERYONE	59 - 80
	To consider the attached report of the Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment)/Director of Growth.	
10.	MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL BODIES	
	To consider any changes to the membership of Council bodies.	

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Robert Landon, Head of Democratic Services, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

Motion A in the name of Councillor Cooney:

That Tameside Council believes planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver necessary new homes; and therefore calls on the Government to protect the right of communities to comment on individual planning applications.

This Council notes:

- The Conservative Government's intention to change planning rules to benefit developers were set out in 'Planning for the Future' in 2020, and were immediately branded a 'Developer's Charter' by housing campaigners. The plans are due to return to Parliament after this year's local elections.
- The proposals have attracted widespread criticism – except from developers. President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Alan Jones, branded the white paper's proposals as "shameful", the Campaign to Protect Rural England voiced concerns about community involvement, and the housing charity Shelter expressed concern at the reforms' potential impact on social housing.
- The Conservative Party received £11 million in donations from developers in Boris Johnson's first year as Prime Minister and £891,000 from developers in the first three months of 2021 alone.
- The House of Commons has called on the Government to protect residents' right to retain a voice over planning applications, recognizing that the best way to get necessary new homes built is to support communities, councils and developers to work in partnership.

This Council believes:

- One aspect that has raised particular concern is the proposal to remove local residents' right to object to individual planning applications in their own neighbourhood.
- The current planning system is locally-led, with councils and the communities they represent given a say over the way their neighbourhoods develop.
- The 'Developer's Charter' proposals would take away the right of local people to comment or object to development in their area, instead allowing the Secretary of State to grant developers planning "permission in principle" without any local consultation on the application.
- These changes to the planning system would help developers avoid contributions for affordable housing, local infrastructure, and avoid existing standards on good quality design, allowing them to rack up hundreds of millions of pounds extra profit without building any more homes.

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Robert Landon, Head of Democratic Services, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

This Council therefore resolves:

- To fight to ensure that Tameside residents do not lose their right to a fair say over future developments in our streets and our communities.
- To ask the Chief Executive to write to Secretary of State and the Tameside Members of Parliament to express the Council's belief that the 'Developer's Charter' does not represent the best interests of our local residents.

12. QUESTIONS

To answer questions (if any) asked under Standing Order 17.2, for which due notice has been given by a Member of the Council.

13. URGENT ITEMS

To consider any other items which the Chair of Council Business (or other person presiding) is of the opinion shall be dealt with as a matter of urgency.

Agenda Item 1

COUNCIL

25 May 2021

Present: Councillors Kitchen (Chair), Affleck, Alam, Billington, Bowden, Bowerman, Boyle, Bray, Cartey, Chadwick, Choksi, Cooney, Cooper, Costello, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Glover, Gosling Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, J Homer, S Homer, Huntbach, Jackson, Jones, Lane, Lewis, McNally, Martin, Mills, Naylor, Newton, North, Owen, Patel, Patrick, Pearce, Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, N Sharif, T Sharif, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, Ward, Warrington, R Welsh and Wills

1 ELECTION OF CIVIC MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Owen, seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and

RESOLVED

That Councillor Janet Cooper, be and is hereby elected Civic Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Tameside for the ensuing Municipal Year

2 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Choksi, seconded by Councillor Lewis and

RESOLVED

That Councillor Glover be and is hereby appointed Deputy Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Tameside for the ensuing Municipal Year

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF COUNCIL BUSINESS

It was moved by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and

RESOLVED

That Councillor Kitchen be appointed Chair of Council Business for the Municipal Year 2021/22.

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. COUNCIL MINUTES

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 23 February 2021.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 23 February 2021 be signed by the Chair of Council Business as a correct record.

6. ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS

A report of the Returning Officer was received detailing the persons elected to the office of Councillor

for the Wards of the Borough For details see **Appendix A** to the minutes.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

7. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Civic Mayor advised that it was her very sad duty to officially inform Members of the death of one of our freemen of the borough, Dr Ron Hill MBE, who passed away over the weekend at the age of 82.

The Civic Mayor said that as well as being a world-class athlete, and a European marathon champion and the founder of the Tour of Tameside, Ron was an enterprising businessman and established the

Ron Hill brand of sportswear which became synonymous with his sport. Ron Hill brought great credit to Tameside and his death was a huge loss.

The Civic Mayor also made reference to the death of the Duke of Edinburgh on April 9 at the age of 99. The borough marked the occasion with all the respect possible in the midst of a lockdown. Flags flew at half-mast, and the national minute's silence was observed at Dukinfield Town Hall and a message of condolence was sent to the Queen.

The Civic Mayor paid tribute to four former Councillors, three of whom had been Civic Mayor of Tameside, who ceased to be members of the Council following the elections on 6 May 2021 .Brian Wild, Leigh Drennan, Margaret Sidebottom and Pauline Hollinshead had between them given almost 70 years of service to the borough and its residents, The Civic Mayor thanked them all for their dedication and wished them well for the future.

The Civic Mayor welcomed new councillors: Dan Costello, Jean Drennan, Jacqueline North, Sangita Patel and Naila Sharif.

The Civic Mayor thanked everyone involved in the smooth running of the Council and Greater Manchester Mayoral Elections on May 6, 7 and 8 May – including those who worked on postal votes, the many roles surrounding polling stations, and all those who counted the votes.

The Civic Mayor also thanked members of staff from the refuse-collection teams. A month ago, Lee Hewitt, Anthony Hibbert and Stephen Rhodes were on their rounds in Ashton when they saw smoke coming from an open door. Without a thought for their own safety, they went into the burning building and rescued a man who was overcome by fumes. On behalf of the Council the Civic Mayor thanked Lee, Anthony and Stephen for their bravery. The Civic Mayor stated that their actions summed up the ethos of the authority, which was to help the people of Tameside whenever and wherever possible.

In concluding the Civic Mayor reiterated her thanks to all the NHS staff and keyworkers who had continued to help people affected by the pandemic and to protect them from the coronavirus. The Civic Mayor also thanked everyone involved in the vaccination rollout, including the many members of staff who has volunteered to help the programme as well as covid community champions and ambassadors.

8. APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE LEADER

It was moved by Councillor Fairfoull and seconded by Councillor Gwynne and

RESOLVED

That Councillor Warrington be appointed as the Executive Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2021/22.

9. EXECUTIVE LEADER'S ADDRESS

The Executive Leader begin her address by paying tribute to Dr Ron Hill, a Freeman of the Borough who had recently passed away. The achievements in his life were far too numerous and momentous to cover them all. The Executive Leader stated that many people would be satisfied with a sports career that saw them break world records at four different distances, represent their country at two Olympic Games, win gold medals at Commonwealth and European level, and become the first British runner to triumph at the prestigious Boston Marathon. But for Ron Hill that was just the beginning of the journey, and after he hung his professional running shoes up he made a further name for himself in business and charity. He also founded the Tour of Tameside, which four decades later is still putting the borough on the map and attracting thousands of later residents every year into taking up running themselves. It was for these reasons that the Executive Leader was delighted to honour him as a Freeman of the Borough, the highest civic award the Council could bestow. Ron Hill MBE was a runner, an inspiration, an entrepreneur and a family man. We shall not see his likes again.

Earlier this month residents in Tameside and the wider city region went to the polls to cast their votes for both their local councillors and the Mayor of Greater Manchester. Despite the challenging and unusual circumstances, council officers and volunteers went above and beyond to guarantee that everybody could exercise their democratic rights. The Executive Leader congratulated those who had been returned by their electors, those who are representing their communities for the first time, and those who have retired or otherwise stepped down from their duties. The Executive Leader extended her thanks to former Councillors Margaret Sidebottom, Brian Wild and Pauline Hollinshead who made the decision to retire as Councillors. The Executive Leader stated her delight that Andy Burnham had been returned as Mayor of Greater Manchester with an even more resounding victory than the one he recorded four years ago, winning over two-thirds of the vote as well as every electoral ward in the city region.

The Executive Leader stated that as we enter what would be hopefully be the beginning of the end of the coronavirus pandemic that, thanks to the tireless efforts of our key workers and communities, the local vaccination programme continued to make excellent progress. As of 23 May 136,605 Tameside and Glossop residents, or 68.6% of our population, had received their first jab. Every adult over the age of 40 in the borough has been offered a vaccination, and efforts continued to try to persuade those who had not yet chosen to take it up to do so. 41.5% of Tameside residents, or 82,610 in total had also received their second jab, and the focus was currently on increasing this figure to ensure maximum protection for some of the most vulnerable cohorts.

Thanks to the scale and pace of our vaccination programme, we can all start looking forward to when this terrible pandemic will be put behind us. However, until that day comes, we must continue to take the appropriate steps to protect ourselves and those around us.

The Executive Leader reminded Members that at the meeting of Full Council in February, she said that the key priority for the next financial year would be to ensure Inclusive Growth in Tameside. This was as much about equality as it was about economics. During the pandemic it had all too clear how the imbalances and injustices in society has made certain groups of people far more vulnerable to infection and death than others. The Executive Leader stated that the only growth worth chasing was the growth that benefited all. By improving the quality of life of our residents, regenerating our town centres, and increasing the productivity of our businesses, a local economy that serves all the people and not the other way around will be created.

Before the election period the Council concluded a round of consultation to inform the masterplan and planning application for the Garden Village in Godley Green. If approved and completed, this project had the potential to deliver up to 2,350 new quality homes in the borough. Members were reminded that Local authorities had a responsibility to act and plan not just for the present, but for the generations to come as well. As part of that, the Council was required by the government to have plans to build over 11,000 new homes over the next 17 years. By putting people first, emphasising the creation of thriving communities, and backing any housing up with infrastructure such as access to broadband, public transport links and open greenspace, the Garden Village model offered an ambitious and sustainable model of growth. It was estimated that this development alone would

deliver a significant part of our mandated housing requirements, as well as providing a wide variety of jobs and apprenticeships to local residents both during and after the construction phase. The Executive Leader stated that doing nothing was not an option. If a plan for meeting our housing targets was not produced, the government would simply step in to do it for us. This would lead to a development free-for-all and, more likely than not, the loss of even more precious greenspace. The reality was that development on Godley Green was likely to go ahead anyway but we are fighting against a free for all and trying to make this a responsible development which protected open space as far as possible and brought the homes needed and the public services to support this. The alternative presented by some, of building all required housing on brownfield land, was also not a viable solution. All brownfield land suitable for residential development in Tameside had already been identified, and there simply was not enough of it to deliver housing in the numbers which are needed. Moving beyond housing, plans for inclusive growth and improving quality of life were also forcing us to look deeper into what our residents actually needed to be happy and healthy. Better health was not just about a better NHS, as important as that was, it was also about better jobs, better skills, better wages and better housing.

As one of the largest employers and most prominent institutions in the borough, it was up to the Council to take the lead in this process. The Council was driving investment and innovation in advanced manufacturing, health, and the digital and creative industries to bring more and better jobs in the borough. Through the Godley Green Garden Village the Council was creating a new standard for housing quality that we expected others to follow, and efforts were continuing to bring empty homes back into use and improve standards in the private rented sector.

Particular focus was being given to the Borough's town centres, including the development of a Historic England High Street Heritage Action Zone in Stalybridge, and the drafting of a masterplan for investment and regeneration in Hyde town centre. The Council's ambitions for creating high quality jobs in Ashton had also hit a significant milestone with the completion of the Old Baths Annex, which would provide digital incubation space for a number of start-ups and small businesses. This would be complemented by the opening up of 29,000 square metres of additional commercial space at St Petersfield, and preparation work had also begun to bring forward Ashton Moss which would create a further 200,000 square metres of employment space to support approximately 4,500 new jobs.

Plans were also being brought forward for Union Street in Hyde, as well as bringing forward schemes for Ashton Town Hall and Market Hall. Also just this week foodie Friday Market had been launched in Stalybridge and the Council was taking forward two highly ambitious levelling up bids for £20 million in Stalybridge and Ashton.

At the same time, it must be remembered that in the era of climate disaster growth, even inclusive growth, should never be "growth at any cost". In February 2020 the Council formally declared a Climate Emergency, which committed the Council to make its operations net-zero carbon in line with the Greater Manchester target to do so by 2038. Since then, the Council had worked closely with partners across the city region to turn that promise into practical action. That included consulting on the creation of a Greater Manchester-wide Clean Air Zone, and moving forward with plans for Minimum Licensed Standards to make every taxi and private hire vehicle in the city region zero emission by the end of the decade. Plans for bus reform within the city region were being accelerated to start full operation in 2024. When complete, this would give the Greater Manchester public control over not just the allocation of routes, but the environment sustainability of the buses themselves.

The Council wanted to make walking, cycling or public transport the natural choice for as many short trips within and around Tameside as possible. Not by going out of our way to penalise drivers, but by making it easier and safer for residents to make the decision to leave the car at home.

In October 2020, Currier Lane in Ashton and Stamford Drive in Stalybridge became the first areas in the borough to become designated Active Neighbourhoods to prevent speeding vehicles and rat-running, while also opening up the streets to bicycles, people and wheelchairs. A further Active Neighbourhood was now being proposed for the centre of Dukinfield.

We have also seen the first two cycling and walking schemes to be built in the borough as part of the

multi-million pound Bee Network. These will see a cycle route being created from the A627 Cavendish Street to the A6017 Stockport Road in Ashton, via Hill Street, Victoria Street and Trafalgar Square. The second project would be delivered in Stamford Park in Stalybridge connecting down to Mossley Road. Once complete, the full Bee Network would be the longest, integrated network in the country, covering 1,800 miles and connecting every neighbourhood and community across Greater Manchester.

10. APPOINTMENTS OF EXECUTIVE CABINET, PANELS, THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE, OUTSIDE BODIES AND OPPOSITION SPOKESPERSONS

It was moved by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and

RESOLVED

That the appointments to the Executive Cabinet, Panels, Standards Committee, Outside Bodies and Opposition Spokespersons for the Municipal Year 2021/22 be approved and adopted as set out in Appendix B to these minutes subject to:

- (i) Removing Councillor Pearce from the Speakers Panel (Liquor Licensing);**
- (ii) Removing Councillor Boyle from:**
 - Speakers Panel (Liquor Licensing), and**
 - Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel,**
- (iii) Carbon and Waste Reduction Panel being renamed the Environment and Climate Emergency Working Group.**

11 LICENSING POLICY EXTENSION

It was moved by Councillor Gwynne, seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and

RESOLVED

That the re-instatement of the current Statement of Licensing Policy be approved for one year, subject to a full review and consultation process being conducted in 2021/2022. This approach will enable the updated Policy to take into account the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the licensed sector.

12 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

It was moved by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and

RESOLVED

That in order to:

- (i) maintain covid secure access to all members of the GMPF Management & Advisory Panel, which has representatives from all Greater Manchester districts and the Ministry of Justice, following the expiry of the virtual meeting legislation and in line with a letter to all council leaders dated 25 March 2021 from Local Government Minister Luke Hall, that all future meetings of the panel remain virtual until further notice with any formal decisions arising from the published agenda be delegated to the chair of the panel taking into the account the prevailing view of the virtual meeting.**
- (ii) enable the Clinical Commissioning General Practitioners to take part in decisions of the strategic commissioning board, whilst they continue to support the NHS in dealing with the pandemic that all future meetings of the SCB remain virtual until further notice with any formal decisions arising from the published agenda be delegated to the chair of the SCB taking into the account the prevailing view of the virtual meeting.**

18 URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items of business for consideration at this meeting.

CHAIR

APPENDIX A

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 25 MAY 2021

TAMESIDE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER ON THE PERSONS ELECTED TO THE OFFICE OF COUNCILLOR FOR THE WARDS INDICATED BELOW

The following persons, at the elections held on 6 May 2021, were elected to the Office of Councillor for the Wards respectively indicated, to hold office for a period of four years:-

WARD	NAME AND PARTY OF COUNCILLOR ELECTED
ASHTON HURST	Dan Costello (Conservative)
ASHTON ST. MICHAEL'S	Jean Drennan (Labour)
ASHTON WATERLOO	Sangita Patel (Labour)
AUDENSHAW	Teresa Smith (Labour)
DENTON NORTH EAST	Denise Ward (Labour)
DENTON SOUTH	George Newton (Labour)
DENTON WEST	George Jones (Labour)
DROYLSDEN EAST	David Mills (Labour)
DROYLSDEN WEST	Ged Cooney (Labour)
DUKINFIELD	Naila Sharif (Labour)
DUKINFIELD/STALYBRIDGE	Leanne Feeley (Labour)
HYDE GODLEY	Joe Kitchen (Labour)
HYDE NEWTON	Peter Robinson (Labour)
HYDE WERNETH	Ruth Welsh (Conservative)
LONGDENDALE	Jacqueline North (Labour)
MOSSLEY	Jack Homer (Labour)
ST PETERS	Warren Bray (Labour)
STALYBRIDGE NORTH	Jan Jackson (Labour)
STALYBRIDGE SOUTH	Doreen Dickinson (Conservative)

APPENDIX B

APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE CABINET, PANELS, DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL AND OPPOSITION SPOKESPERSON FOR 2021/2022

THE CABINET

Executive Leader	Councillor Warrington
Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families)	Councillor Fairfoull
<u>Executive Members</u>	
Finance and Economic Growth	Councillor Ryan
Adult Social Care and Health	Councillor Wills
Housing, Planning and Employment	Councillor Cooney
Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage	Councillor Feeley
Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment	Councillor Gwynne
Transport and Connectivity	Councillor Bray
<u>Lead Member</u>	
Chair of Council Business	Councillor Kitchen
Assistant Executive Member	Support to Executive Cabinet Member
Cllr Janet Cooper	Cllr Bill Fairfoull
Cllr Mike Smith	Cllr Leanne Feeley
Cllr Barrie Holland	Cllr Warren Bray
Cllr Laura Boyle	Cllr Allison Gwynne
Cllr Vincent Ricci	Cllr Ged Cooney
Cllr George Newton	Executive Leader
Cllr Claire Reid	Cllr Oliver Ryan

OPPOSITION SPOKESPERSONS

<u>Shadow Brief</u>	<u>Spokesperson</u>
Executive Leader	Councillor Dickinson
Deputy Executive Leader	Councillor Welsh
Children and Families	Councillor Costello
Finance and Economic Growth	Councillor Billington
Health, Social Care and Population Health	Councillor Patrick
Housing, Planning and Employment	Councillor Costello
Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage	Councillor Welsh
Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment	Councillor Chadwick
Transport and Connectivity	Councillor Dickinson

Strategic Neighbourhood Forums	
North (Ashton Hurst, Ashton St Michael's, Ashton Waterloo, St Peters)	Councilor Bowerman (Chair); Councillor Choksi (Vice-Chair), Councillors Bray, Cartey, Costello, Drennan, Fairfoull, Glover, Huntbach, Lewis, McNally, Patel

South (Hyde Godley, Hyde Newton, Hyde Werneth, Longdendale)	Councillor P. Fitzpatrick (Chair), Councillor Robinson (Vice-Chair), Councillors Affleck, Alam, Bowden Chadwick, Cooper, J. Fitzpatrick, Kitchen, North, Owen, Welsh
East (Dukinfield, Dukinfield / Stalybridge, Mossley, Stalybridge North, Stalybridge South)	Councillor T. Sharif (Chair), Councillor Gosling (Vice-Chair), Councillors Billington, Dickinson, Feeley, J. Homer, S. Homer, Jackson, J. Lane, Patrick, Pearce, N. Sharif, Sweeton, Taylor, Wills
West (Audenshaw, Denton North East, Denton South, Denton West, Droylsden East, Droylsden West)	Councillor Ward (Chair), Councillor A. Holland (Vice-Chair), Councillors Boyle, Cooney, Gwynne, B. Holland, Jones, Martin, Mills, Naylor, Newton, Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Ryan, M. Smith, T. Smith, Warrington

SPEAKERS PANEL (PLANNING)

12 Members (Labour 11: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Councillor McNally (Chair)
2.	Councillor Jones (Deputy)
3.	Councillor Affleck
4.	Councillor Boyle
5.	Councillor Choksi
6.	Councillor P. Fitzpatrick
7.	Councillor Glover
8.	Councillor Naylor
9.	Councillor Owen
10.	Councillor Ricci
11.	Councillor Ward
Conservative	
12.	Councillor Dickinson

SPEAKERS PANEL (LIQUOR LICENSING)

11 Members (Labour 10: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Councillor Lewis (Chair)
2.	Councillor Bowden (Deputy)
3.	Councillor Bowerman
4.	Councillor Boyle
5.	Councillor Drennan
6.	Councillor J. Homer
7.	Councillor Jones
8.	Councillor Martin
9.	Councillor Pearce
10.	Councillor Quinn
Conservative	
11.	Councillor Billington

SPEAKERS PANEL (LICENSING)

12 Members (Labour 11: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Councillor Taylor (Chair)
2.	Councillor Quinn (Deputy)
3.	Councillor Cartey
4.	Councillor J. Homer
5.	Councillor S. Homer
6.	Councillor Jackson
7.	Councillor J. Lane
8.	Councillor Lewis
9.	Councillor North
10.	Councillor T. Sharif
11.	Councillor Sweeton
Conservative	
12.	Councillor Chadwick

SPEAKERS PANEL (EMPLOYMENT APPEALS) 5

Members (Labour 4: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Chair of Council
2.	Relevant Executive Member for employee
3.	Deputy Executive Leader
4.	Assistant Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment)
Conservative	
5.	Councillor Dickinson

OVERVIEW PANEL

12 Members (Labour 11: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Councillor Naylor (Chair)
2.	Councillor Owen(Deputy)
3.	Councillor Boyle
4.	Councillor Fairfoull
5.	Councillor J. Fitzpatrick
6.	Councillor Glover
7.	Councillor Kitchen
8.	Councillor Ryan
9.	Councillor N. Sharif
10.	Councillor T. Smith
11.	Councillor Warrington
Conservative	
12.	Councillor Costello

ENVIRONMENT AND CLEAN AIR PANEL

11 Members (Labour 10: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Councillor Boyle (Chair)
2.	Councillor Affleck
3.	Councillor Cooper
4.	Councillor B. Holland
5.	Councillor Jones
6.	Councillor Martin
7.	Councillor Mills
8.	Councillor Patel
9.	Councillor Pearce
10.	Councillor Taylor
Conservative	
11.	Councillor Patrick

AUDIT PANEL

7 Members (Labour 6: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Councillor Naylor (Chair)
2.	Councillor Owen (Deputy)
3.	Councillor Boyle
4.	Councillor J. Fitzpatrick
5.	Councillor Kitchen
6.	Councillor N. Sharif
Conservative	
7.	Councillor Costello

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

9 Members (Labour 8: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Councillor Warrington (Chair)
2.	Councillor Cooney
3.	Councillor Fairfoull
4.	Councillor Feeley
5.	Councillor McNally
6.	Councillor Newton
7.	Councillor Reid
8.	Councillor Ryan
Conservative	
9.	Councillor Dickinson

DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WORKING GROUP

11 Members (Labour 10: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Councillor Cooney (Chair)
2.	Councillor Fairfoull
3.	Councillor Feeley
4.	Councillor J. Fitzpatrick
5.	Councillor Kitchen
6.	Councillor Reid
7.	Councillor Ryan
8.	Councillor M. Smith
9.	Councillor Ward
10.	Councillor Warrington
Conservative	
11.	Councillor Billington

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

4 Executive Members

Labour	
1.	Executive Leader (Chair)
2.	Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families)
3.	Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment)
4.	Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Health)

STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD

8 Executive Members

Labour	
1.	Executive Leader (Chair)
2.	Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families)
3.	Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth)
4.	Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Health)
5.	Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment)
6.	Executive Member (Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage)
7.	Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment)
8.	Executive Member (Transport and Connectivity)

PLACE AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS SCRUTINY PANEL

19 Members (Labour 17: Conservative 2)

Labour	
1.	Councillor Glover (Chair)
2.	Councillor Mills (Deputy)
3.	Councillor Bowerman
4.	Councillor Cartey
5.	Councillor Choksi
6.	Councillor J Fitzpatrick
7.	Councillor P. Fitzpatrick
8.	Councillor Gosling
9.	Councillor A. Holland
10.	Councillor J. Homer
11.	Councillor Jones
12.	Councillor Lewis

EDUCATION ATTAINMENT IMPROVEMENT BOARD

6 Members (Labour 5: Conservative 1)

Labour	
1.	Councillor Feeley (Chair)
2.	Councillor Boyle
3.	Councillor Cooper
4.	Councillor Fairfoull
5.	Councillor M. Smith
Conservative	
6.	Councillor Patrick

INTEGRATED CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY PANEL

15 Members (Labour 13: Conservative 2)

Labour	
1.	Councillor T. Smith (Chair)
2.	Councillor S. Homer (Deputy)
3.	Councillor Affleck
4.	Councillor Alam
5.	Councillor Boyle
6.	Councillor Cooper
7.	Councillor Drennan
8.	Councillor Jackson
9.	Councillor Martin
10.	Councillor Owen
11.	Councillor Pearce
12.	Councillor N. Sharif
13.	Councillor Sweeton

13.	Councillor Naylor
14.	Councillor North
15.	Councillor Patel
16.	Councillor Robinson
17.	Councillor T. Sharif
Conservative	
18.	Councillor Billington
19.	Councillor Chadwick

Conservative	
14.	Councillor Patrick
15.	Councillor Welsh

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Allowance will only be payable to Independent Person and Deputy Independent Person)

Chair Valerie Bracken (Independent)

Mrs J Barnes (Independent) together with Councillors Boyle, Dickinson, McNally, Ricci and M. Smith and Parish Councillor Travis (substitute Parish Councillor S Homer)

OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENTS

Other than the following bodies any other appointment will be made by the Executive Leader following a recommendation by the relevant Executive Member for example: Citizens Advice Bureau, Ring & Ride Steering Group

GM Combined Authority	Executive Leader
	Substitute: Deputy Executive Leader
AGMA Executive Board	Executive Leader
	Substitute: Deputy Executive Leader
Police and Crime Panel	Councillor Gwynne
GM Planning and Housing Commission	Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment)
Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Glover Councillor T. Smith Councillor S. Homer Councillor Mills Councillor Billington Councillor Welsh
GM Health Scrutiny Panel	Councillor S. Homer Substitute: Councillor T. Smith
Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care Mental Health Trust	Chair and Vice Chair of Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel Councillor Patrick
GM Health and Social Care Strategic Partnership Board	Executive Leader Deputy Executive Leader (substitute)
GM Joint Health Commissioning Board	Councillor Warrington
GM Reform Committee	Deputy Executive Leader
Greater Manchester Pension Fund	Councillor Warrington (Chair)
	Councillor Cooney (Deputy Vice-Chair)
	Councillor M. Smith (Vice-Chair)
	Councillor J. Homer
	Councillor J Naylor
	Councillor Newton
	Councillor Patrick
	Councillor Ricci
Councillor T Sharif	

	Councillor Ward
	Councillor Wills
	Councillor Ryan (Observer)
	Councillor Pantall (Observer)
Local Pensions Board	Employer Reps:
	Councillor Fairfoull (Chair)
	J Hammond
	P Taylor
	Scheme Member Reps:
	M Rayner
	D Schofield
Pension Fund Working Groups:	
Administration Employer Funding Viability	Chair: Councillor M. Smith
Investment Monitoring and ESG	Chair: Councillor Cooney
Policy and Development	Chair: Councillor Warrington
Transport for Greater Manchester Committee	Executive Member for Transport & Connectivity
GM Waste & Recycling Committee	Councillor Gwynne Councillor Boyle
AGMA Statutory Functions Committee	Relevant Executive Member or nominee
GM Culture & Social Impact Fund Cttee	Councillor Feeley Sub- Councillor M. Smith

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EXECUTIVE CABINET 28 April 2021

Commenced: 1.55pm

Terminated: 2.35pm

Present: Councillors Warrington (Chair), Bray, Cooney, Fairfoull, Feeley, Gwynne, Kitchen, Ryan and Wills

In Attendance:	Dr Ashwin Ramachandra	Co-Chair, Tameside & Glossop CCG
	Dr Asad Ali	Co-Chair, Tameside & Glossop CCG
	Steven Pleasant	Chief Executive & Accountable Officer
	Sandra Stewart	Director of Governance & Pensions
	Kathy Roe	Director of Finance
	Steph Butterworth	Director of Adults Services
	Richard Hancock	Director of Children's Services
	Ian Saxon	Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods
	Jayne Traverse	Director of Growth
	Jeanelle De Gruchy	Director of Population Health
	Tom Wilkinson	Assistant Director of Finance
	Ian Duncan	Interim Assistant Director of Finance
	Sarah Threlfall	Assistant Director, Policy, Performance and Communication
	Ilys Cookson	Assistant Director, Exchequer Services
	James Mallion	Consultant, Public Health
	Catherine Moseley	Head of Access Services

175. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by Members.

176. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet meeting held on 24 March 2021 be approved as a correct record.

177. MINUTES OF STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Commissioning Board held on 24 March 2021 be noted.

178. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meetings of Executive Board held on: 10 and 17 March 2021 be noted.

179. CARBON AND WASTE REDUCTION PANEL

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Carbon and Waste Reduction Panel held on 17 March 2021 be noted.

180. CONSOLIDATED 2020/21 REVENUE MONITORING STATEMENT AT 28 FEBRUARY 2021

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth / CCG Chair / Director of Finance, which updated Members on the financial position up to 28 February 2021 and forecasts to 31 March 2021.

It was reported that as at Month 11, the Strategic Commission was forecasting a net underspend of £0.204 by 31 March 2021. This was a small overall deterioration on the position reported at month 10 and reflected the reduced surplus on CCG budgets which was previously offsetting a larger overspend on Council Budgets. As further COVID funding continued to be made available to the Council in the final month of the year, this position may improve before the end of the financial year.

It was reported that whilst the overall forecast position remained broadly positive compared to the position earlier in the year, there remained significant variances in some service areas which were not attributed to COVID and which presented ongoing financial risks for future year

RESOLVED:

That the forecast outturn position and associated risks for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted.

181. UPDATE ON PROVISION OF SOCIAL WELFARE INFORMATION AND ADVICE AND SPECIALIST EMPLOYMENT ADVICE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Executive Member, Adult Social Care and Health / Clinical Lead, Starting Well / Assistant Director, Operations and Neighbourhoods, explaining that the Council had a contract with Citizens Advice Tameside for many years to deliver generalist social welfare advice and specialist employment advice.

It was explained that the contract was last reviewed in 2018 when a waiver to standing orders was granted to allow the direct award of a three-year contract to Citizens Advice Tameside. The current contract ended on 31 March 2021. A report was presented to Strategic Commissioning Board on 25 November 2020, which gave approval to tender the service for a 3 year period to commence 1 April 2021. It had taken longer than envisaged to get to a position of being tender ready and this was due in part to the current climate during the Covid-19 pandemic, but this had been further exacerbated by the nature of the contract and the fact that this was the first time the service has been tendered.

The report outlines the current position with the tender process and requests additional time by way of a 6 month direct contract award to Citizens Advice to allow a competitive tender process to take place for the remaining 2.5 year contract period. This would cover the period 1 October 2021 – 31 March 2024. The overall total contract spend would be for a 3 year period as previously agreed at SCB on 25 November 2020. Additionally, approval was sought to allow a 1 plus 1 year optional extension in the contract noting that further governance would need to be obtained before any such extension could be exercised.

Members were advised that permission had previously been afforded to the Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods by way of delegated authority to award the tender and enter into all necessary contract arrangements. Further approval was requested to award the same delegation powers to the Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods for the revised 2.5 year tender exercise for the provision of the contract.

RESOLVED

(i) That the current situation with the tender process and the difficulties encountered in meeting the tender commencement date of 1 April 2021 be noted;

- (ii) That approval be granted to directly award a 6 month contract to Citizens Advice to cover the period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021 to allow a competitive tender process to take place;
- (iii) That approval be granted to tender the provision of generalist social welfare information and advice and specialist employment advice for a period of 2.5 years;
- (iv) That approval be granted to allow a 1 plus 1 year optional extension in the contract noting that further governance would need to be obtained before any such extension could be exercised; and
- (v) That authority be delegated to the Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods to award the tender and enter into all necessary contract arrangements.

182. SECTION 31 LOCAL AUTHORITY GRANT FOR ADDITIONAL DRUG TREATMENT, CRIME AND HARM REDUCTION ACTIVITY 2021/22

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member. Adult Social Care and Health / Clinical Lead / Director of Population Health, providing background information on the Section 31 Local Authority Grant for additional drug treatment and harm reduction activity and outlined the proposed approach to the commissioning and delivery of the Universal Component of this Grant in Tameside with a value of £406,000 for 2021/22.

It was explained that the GM Drug and Alcohol Strategy 2019-2022 set out a vision to make Greater Manchester a place where everyone could have the best start in life, live well and age well, safe from the harms caused by drugs and alcohol:

The strategy identified six priorities for making things better:

- Prevention and early intervention;
- Reducing drug and alcohol related harm;
- Building recovery in communities;
- Reducing drug and alcohol related crime and disorder;
- Managing availability and accessibility; and
- Establishing diverse, vibrant and safe night-time economies

Tameside was adopting the GM Strategy locally as it was known that substance misuse harm in Tameside was extensive and was an important factor that adversely affected the overall quality of life and perpetuated inequalities.

Due to the scale of the challenge posed by drug and alcohol use in Tameside, and following an independent peer review around substance misuse in late 2018, the Council had developed a local Strategic Substance Misuse Partnership with senior leaders from the local authority, CCG, ICFT, police and voluntary sector. This partnership oversees the local work programme with: specialist treatment services, hospital alcohol liaison service, therapeutic residential supported housing, motivational programmes in community and residential settings, proactive work with licensing colleagues to reduce harms of alcohol availability across the community, the Alcohol Exposed Pregnancies work programme, and dedicated work around the hidden harm to children.

Specialist treatment services in Tameside were commissioned as an all-age integrated substance misuse service. This was currently provided by Change Grow Live, My Recovery Tameside (CGL MRT) and this had been in place since August 2015.

Members were advised that the government had announced £80 million for drug treatment as part of a £148 million funding package for reducing crime. This was the biggest increase in drug treatment funding for 15 years. This was additional to the local authorities core allocation for substance misuse treatment services as part of the public health grant and was funding for 1 year specifically to enhance drug treatment, focused on reducing drug-related crime and stopping the rise of drug-related deaths.

This overall drug treatment crime and harm reduction activity funding package would consist of three separate components:

1. **Universal** – available to all LAs except for those selected to be Accelerator areas. These grants would account for the majority of the £80m.
2. **Accelerator** – available to a small number of local authority areas as an extension of Project ADDER (see further information below). These local authorities would receive larger grants. This would be alongside Home Office funding for targeted enforcement activity by the police and the targeting of recovery support resources and interventions, such as employment support and criminal justice system interventions, by other government departments. It was noted that the specific areas had been selected based on specific needs and Tameside was not one of the areas selected for this element of the programme
3. **Inpatient** – all areas would be able to benefit from grants awarded to regional or sub-regional consortia of LAs for commissioning inpatient detoxification beds. Tameside would benefit from a GM-wide allocation to increase inpatient detox capacity which was currently being developed.

It was reported that Tameside had been awarded a Section 31 Local Authority Grant totalling £406,000 for commissioning and delivery of the Universal Component of the Drug Treatment, Crime & Harm Reduction Grant for 2021/22. This was one-off funding for the 2021/22 financial year only. Brief details of the areas of work the funding would be utilised for were included in the report and a full cost breakdown was also provided in an appendix to the report.

Members sought assurances that appropriate advice from STAR was obtained to ensure that the procurement of the service was achieved compliantly.

RESOLVED

That approval be given to award the allocation of £406,000 for delivery of the drug treatment crime and harm reduction activity 2021/22 through the Section 31 Local Authority Grant provision, as outlined in the report. That approval be given to commission CGL My Recovery Tameside to deliver the drug treatment, crime and harm reduction package of interventions aligned to the Universal component of the Section 31 Local Authority Grant award.

183. TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF A SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Adult Social Care and health / Clinical Lead/ Director of Population Health, outlining the proposed approach to the re-commissioning of Sexual & Reproductive Health services in Tameside with an annual budget of £1,274,924.

It was reported that Tameside had seen increasing demands in recent years for sexual health advice, contraception, testing and treatment and at the same time continued to have relatively high rates of under-18 conceptions; abortions; and STI diagnoses.

Tameside MBC was responsible for commissioning open access sexual and reproductive health services to be available within the borough, which was a mandated function (Health & Social Care Act 2012). Ensuring the delivery of high quality, accessible services for residents was key to improving the wide-ranging health outcomes linked to sexual & reproductive health. Tameside continued to have a relatively low level of investment per head of population on sexual health services compared to similar areas.

The report put forward the evidence of the impact that sexual & reproductive health interventions had on population health outcomes. It also provided value for money and cost benchmarking analyses to make the case for ongoing investment in sexual & reproductive health services, which would return longer-term savings. Therefore, the report sought permission to go out to tender, and award for a longer-term contract to work up a developmental, neighbourhood-centred model of

delivery with the provider to achieve a step-change in supporting good sexual wellbeing across Tameside over the next 5-years and beyond.

The report sought authorisation to tender the service for a new contract to start on 1 April 2022. The total contract value over the five year period was £6,374,620. The Council would co-commission this service with Stockport MBC, who would act as the lead commissioner via a legally binding Inter-authority Agreement and work was underway with STAR procurement to re-tender the service. There was also an additional element of grant funding for the PrEP HIV prevention drug for which there was an allocation of £68,320 for in 2021/22.

RESOLVED

- (i) That approval be given to tender the Sexual & Reproductive Health Service to commence 1 April 2022 for a five year period, plus the option of a five year extension, dependent on a formal review of the service in year 4 (2025/26) to ensure adequate performance and outcomes achieved and the necessary approval granted to proceed as demonstrates vfm. The contract term will include a termination period of six months;**
- (ii) That approval be given to award the contract following the completion of a compliant tender exercise , subject to compliance with the Council's Procurement Standing Orders;**
- (iii) That approval be given to enter into an Inter-authority Agreement, as advised by STAR procurement, with Stockport MBC; and**
- (iv) That approval be given to award a grant for provision of the PrEP HIV prevention treatment during 2021/22 and in future years when this grant will be allocated within the wider public health grant allocation.**

184. CIPFA FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CODE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Finance, which gave details of the new CIPFA Financial Management code and provided an assessment of the Council's current levels of compliance and any areas for further development and improvement.

It was reported that the first year of compliance for the FM Code was 2021/22 however CIPFA had recognised the extraordinary burden being placed on Local Authorities since the beginning of the COVID pandemic. In a statement issued on 11 February 2021 a proportionate approach was encouraged, meaning that in practice adherence to some parts of the Code would demonstrate a direction of travel rather than full compliance from 1 April 2021.

It was explained that the FM Code established an approach based on six principles of good financial management, supported by 17 standards for compliance, and was therefore not intended to be prescriptive. The six principles covered:

- 1. Organisational Leadership** Demonstrating a clear strategic direction based on a vision in which financial management is embedded into organisational culture.
- 2. Accountability** Based on medium term financial planning, driving the annual budget process, supported by effective risk management, quality supporting data and whole life costs.
- 3. Transparency** At the core of financial management, using consistent, meaningful and understandable data, reported frequently, with evidence of periodic officer action and elected member decision making.
- 4. Professional Standards** Promoted by the leadership team, with adherence evidenced.
- 5. Assurance** Recognised as an effective tool, mainstreamed into financial management, including political scrutiny and the results of both external audit, internal audit and inspection.
- 6. Long-Term Sustainability** At the heart of all local services' financial management processes, evidenced by the prudent use of public resources.

The FM Code translated the principles of good financial management into a series of standards. These standards addressed the aspects of the Council's operations and activities that must function effectively if financial management was to be undertaken robustly and financial sustainability was to be achieved.

Members were advised that an assessment of compliance with the standards in the FM code had been undertaken and was summarised in Appendix 1 to the report. This assessment concluded that the Council was compliant with minimum standards set out in the FM Code but identified some areas for further improvement over the course of the next 12 months.

RESOLVED

That the content of the report be noted and the improvement actions identified in the self-assessment against the Code requirements, be endorsed.

185. SELF ISOLATION PAYMENTS – DISCRETIONARY POLICY AMENDMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth, detailing the additional funding made available from central government in respect of discretionary self-isolation payments, the expansion of the discretionary policy and the inclusion of parents or guardians of children who had to self-isolate with effect from 8 March 2021. It also detailed the latest mandatory grants payable to businesses to support them in re-opening safely.

It was explained that self-isolation payments commenced in September 2020 for people on low incomes who needed to self-isolate, and were unable to work from home. The scheme was due to end at 31 March 2021 and the government had since extended the self-isolation payment scheme until the end of June 2021.

As at 31 March 2021, 684 people had been paid under the mandatory scheme totalling £342k, and 178 in the discretionary scheme totalling £89k. The mandatory scheme was fully funded by central government, whereas the discretionary scheme was subject to local policy being developed within the funding provided by government. Additional monies had been granted by the government in respect of the discretionary scheme totalling £340,365.87.

The scope of the discretionary scheme may be extended, subject to approval, in line with other Greater Manchester discretionary policies, to remove the eligibility criteria regarding having property costs and a Council Tax liability and to include parents or guardians of children having to self-isolate from 08 March 2021, subject to eligibility criteria being met.

In respect of Restart Grants, it was reported that further monies were available from central government via Restart Grants aimed at supporting businesses in relevant business sectors of non-essential retail, hospitality, leisure, personal care and gym businesses to open safely amid the easing of COVID restrictions.

Payment of a one-off lump sum was dependent on rateable value and business sector. The cost of the Restart Grants would be met in full by government by way of a Section 31 grant and new burdens funding would be available. The scheme was to operate from 1 April 2021 and application closure date was 30 June 2021 with final payments having to be made by 31 July 2021.

Government guidance was prescriptive on the information required from businesses to satisfy eligibility checks, and weekly payments recording and post payment assurance was reported to BEIS. A robust process was in place, which was compliant with government guidance and approved by internal audit.

RESOLVED

(i) That the amendment to the discretionary self-isolation eligibility criteria as detailed in Section 2.9 of the report, be approved;

- (ii) That the inclusion in the scheme of parents or guardians of children who have to self-isolate be noted; and
- (iii) That the payment of Restart Grants to eligible businesses in accordance with government guidance, be noted.

186. HOMELESSNESS COMMISSIONING INTENTIONS

A report was submitted by the Executive Member, Housing, Planning and Employment / Assistant director, Operations and Neighbourhoods detailing Homelessness commissioning intentions for 2021/22. The report set out specific details on service developments that would allow the Council to meet its obligations to deliver a holistic and integrated response to preventing homelessness and increasing the resilience of vulnerable people.

It was explained that the Council's Homelessness Service utilised a range of services to support those who were homeless or at risk of homelessness in the Borough. The service had undergone considerable transformation over the last 2 years and used a broad range of different approaches in order to fulfil the aims of the Council's Preventing Homelessness Strategy.

In 2018, Tameside Council was successful in its bid to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for additional resources to provide new services to prevent and relieve rough sleeping. The funding enabled the Council to develop and review delivery in order to meet the continued demands on services.

The Covid-19 pandemic had also had an impact on both commissioners and providers and services had responded flexibly in making adjustments to deliver Covid-19 safe services. The rapid response to the pandemic had allowed the service to explore the learning and best practice from the crisis to adopt as part of the service review. Additionally, the pandemic also brought some unknowns – specifically the impact on homelessness once the moratorium on evictions had been lifted. The Authority could potentially be facing a significant increase in the number of people and families presenting as homeless from April 2021 onwards and it was important that appropriate contracts were in place to support those in the most need.

Members were advised that the Homelessness service had a range of contracts which enabled the delivery of services to support the homelessness agenda within the borough. The service review had identified those contracts that were due to end and therefore required a decision in terms of future delivery. The service was seeking authorisation to develop, procure and extend those contracts identified as follows:

- Contract for Short Term Accommodation and Support;
- Contract for Accommodation Based Service for People With Alcohol & Substance Misuse Problems/ Provision of a 5 Bed Complex Needs Service for Rough Sleepers/ Contract for Accommodation Based Service for Young People and Care Leavers; and
- Contract for the provision of a Tenancy Support and Compliance Service for Offenders subject to MAPPA and PPO/ Contract for the Provision of a Floating Support and Activities Service for People at Risk of Social Exclusion.

Details of the contracts and proposals going forward, were provided in the report.

In seeking to move towards the proposals as outlined, the commissioners would be seeking to carry out a consultation exercise with the findings and recommendations included in service delivery specifications going forward. Permission was also being sought to carry out a period of public consultation in respect of the changes, to ensure specifically, that the views of service users were taken into account. The proposed public consultation questions appended to the report.

RESOLVED

Subject to public consultation in respect of the proposed changes to service delivery, that the following interim arrangements be approved in principle:

- (i) **Development of a short term accommodation model from current contractual arrangements to an enhanced housing benefit model;**
- (ii) **Tender for a framework to support call off arrangements for specialist accommodation services outside of the enhanced housing benefit model;**
- (iii) **Enter into a contract for the provision of a Tenancy Support and Compliance Service for Offenders subject to MAPPA and PPO where there is no provision in the contract to do so to 30 September 2023; and**
- (iv) **Enter into a contract with preferred provider following the tenders, subject to compliance with the Council's Procurement Standing Orders, to provide a floating support and activities service for people at risk of social exclusion where there is no provision in the contract to do so to 30 September 2022.**

187. LEVELLING UP BIDS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth providing an update on the recently announced national Levelling Up Fund (the Fund).

It was explained that there was an expectation that all bidding authorities consult local Members of Parliament (MP's) and that an MP would back one bid which they saw as a priority. There was also an expectation that local authorities submitting multiple bids spread these fairly and equitably within the authority boundary and across their full range of constituencies targeting pockets of deprivation.

The report outlined a list of potential focus for bids across the three constituencies that had been discussed and agreed with the local MP's. It also considered the round of bidding and process.

Following initial discussions with the relevant MPs it had been agreed that for the constituency of Ashton-under-Lyne a bid to the Fund should be progressed focused on Ashton Town Centre, and for the constituency of Stalybridge & Hyde a bid to the Fund will be progressed for Stalybridge Town Centre. For the constituency Denton & Reddish it is understood that the focus of the bid would be Reddish, promoted by Stockport MBC.

The report further outlined the proposed process for the appointment of specialist external consultancy to support submission of competitive bids to the Fund by Tameside MBC.

RESOLVED

- (i) **That bids for Ashton Town Centre and Stalybridge Town Centre be prepared for submission and referred back for consideration prior to bid submission date of 18 June 2021;**
- (ii) **That the procurement and appointment of specialist external support through STAR to assist in the preparation and submission of two bids for submission into the Levelling Up Fund, be agreed;**
- (iii) **That a budget of up to £0.100m be approved, to appoint the aforementioned external support and this budget is approved for all professional fees and costs associated with the preparation and submission of two bids to the Levelling Up Fund. It is proposed that this budget is financed via the residual balance of Covid grant funding received by the Council from the Government in 2020/21 that will be carried forward to 2021/22; and**
- (iv) **It be agreed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and associated Terms of Reference be entered into with the owners of the Arcades and Ladysmith Shopping Centres in Ashton Town Centre and establish a Working Group with them to progress proposals for a Levelling Up Fund bid.**

188. ST PETERSFIELD FUTURE – COMMISSIONING OF DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

The Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth submitted a report, which provided information on the next steps in the programme for the redevelopment of St Petersfield in Ashton-under-Lyne.

It was explained that St Petersfield was the Boroughs flagship office location at the West End of Ashton Town Centre. It was a key gateway into the town centre and produced footfall to support the current retail offer in Ashton.

The St. Petersfield Masterplan (2018) identified 7 key office development plots, which if delivered would total almost 29,000 square metres of office space, with the capacity to create 1,900 jobs, generating an estimated £1.75m of business rates income at 2018 valuations, and with a GVA of £100m for the borough.

However, since the 2018 Masterplan, the country's economy and working arrangements had changed as a result of the Coronavirus outbreak. People had adapted by working from home rather than commuting to the office and have become more reliant on digital infrastructure. There was speculation as to whether the change in working arrangements would be temporary or would be longer term. Some businesses had already announced they would downsize their physical office space as developments in technology had allowed for efficient home working.

As a result of these changes, it was recommended that the Council appoints a Consultant to undertake a study reviewing the deliverability of Grade A office development at St Petersfield. This study should focus on potential demand for office space in the short and long term and identify a quantum that was deliverable within these timescales.

With the economy currently in an unpredictable state it was appropriate to consider the delivery options for each development parcel considering short- and long-term possibilities. Possible delivery options for the different parcels were outlined in the report. Procuring a Delivery Options Report was recommended to inform decision making as it would highlight the strengths, weaknesses and risk of potential options by an industry expert.

St. Petersfield had several visions for its future laid out since development of the area stalled with the financial crash of 2007/8. Reviews of the initial masterplan were undertaken in 2011 and 2013, with the use of more space in the area for residential proposed.

In 2018, responding to the initial success of the Ashton Old Baths (AOB) redevelopment, the developing demand in the Manchester office market for Grade A space, and the Council's emerging economic strategy, Tameside Council engaged Ryder's Architecture to review the 2013 St. Petersfield Masterplan. Their brief was to produce a vision for the area which would appeal to the city region's fast-growing Digital, Creative and Tech Sector, utilising the borough's newly installed dark fibre network as its underpinning.

Despite the success of AOB, and a hub of digital businesses to the north of Hyde town centre, Tameside is currently underperforming in terms of representation of this sector. Less than 2,000 digital and creative employees were currently based in the borough.

Members were advised that, to complement and advance work undertaken to date on St Petersfield the Council had secured Evergreen Grant Funding of £0.127m to part fund a development prospectus and feasibility works to bring the St Petersfield development to the market. The Grant would be match funded by an additional £0.127m via the Growth Directorate revenue budget (table 1, Section 8 of the report refers) and would be used to fund the tasks detailed in the report. The delivery of the tasks would, in part, bring more certainty to St Petersfield and lead to a more holistic delivery of the development area. Indicative costs for completing the proposed work were provided in the report.

Further details were also given in respect of an estimated revenue sum of £0.020m required in order to carry out interim maintenance of the public realm to the St Petersfield area.

Summary details of the available funding for St Petersfield, including commitments against the funding allocation, were also provided.

RESOLVED

- (i) That consultants be appointed to undertake a study reviewing the deliverability of office development in the area considering both short- and long-term delivery;**
- (ii) That, following the review above, a consultant be appointed to undertake a Delivery Options Report for each Parcel;**
- (iii) That a multidisciplinary team be procured to prepare a Development Prospectus to cover the St Petersfield masterplan area and deliver other tasks associated with the Evergreen Fund;**
- (iv) That the budget sum of £0.127m be approved to finance recommendations 1 to 3 above, which is to be funded via a total available budget of £ 0.327m as set out in table 1 section 8.1 of the report. The £0.127m is to be financed in equal proportions via the Growth Directorate revenue budget and Evergreen grant funding (£0.0635m via each funding source);**
- (v) That the carry forward of £0.200m of Council funding allocated to the Growth Directorate revenue budget in 2020/21 to 2021/22 via Council reserves for the development of St Petersfield as stated in section 8.1, table 1 of the report, be approved. This sum is within the total available budget of £ 0.327m; and**
- (vi) That interim revenue funding (£0.020m) be approved via the aforementioned £0.200m budget in 2021/22 to finance the works stated in section 7 to the public realm in the St Petersfield area whilst a detailed report is prepared considering future management and maintenance arrangements.**

189. AUDENSHAW SCHOOL CONVERSION WORKS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth, explaining that Audenshaw High School increased its published admission number through the statutory consultation process with effect from September 2021, from an intake of 210 to 240 per year and also agreed to take 240 pupils from September 2020. The growth in demand for high school places, was as a result of increased birth rates in the local area and across Tameside.

It was reported that the school was able to accommodate the additional pupils admitted in September 2020 using surplus accommodation, following of the closure of its sixth form provision in June 2018. The sixth form block was therefore refurbished in August 2020, as part of Phase 1 of the expansion works. However, as the block was designed for smaller sixth form groups, three rooms remained undersized and could not accommodate standard sized class groups. Structural internal modelling was required to provide ten standard sized classrooms for general teaching. In addition, there was a requirement to remodel three spaces in the science block to create two additional science laboratories and a new food technology room to enable the increase in pupils to access sufficient facilities for the increased numbers.

The project represented good value for money by remodelling and repurposing existing rooms in the school rather than constructing brand new accommodation. The Executive Cabinet approved a budget of £1,311,000 for the project at its meeting on 29 July 2020.

This report sought permission to enter into a Design and Build Contract with inspired spaces Tameside Limited (LEP) to deliver the project and also enter in a joint Deed of Appointment with the LEP and Currie and Brown who would be the Independent Certifier, for the project.

An executive summary of the independent value for money report required before entering into any contract with the LEP was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

RESOLVED

That the following be approved:

- (i) A Design and Build contract is entered into with the LEP, to deliver the Audenshaw High School Expansion project in the sum of £1,067,161 to remodel the former sixth form block to create ten standard, general teaching rooms and also remodel existing rooms in the science block to create two brand new science laboratories and a new food technology room on the basis of the following:**
 - **The price is inclusive of any cost increases which may be due to Covid 19;**
 - **Design works procured through the Tameside Additional Services contract (TAS) are included in warranties provided by the LEP under the Design and Build Contract, to ensure that the Council is adequately protected ; and**
 - **Liability of the LEP is capped at ten times the value of the works**
- (ii) To enter into Deed of Appointment with the LEP to procure the services of Currie and Brown to fulfil the role of Independent Certifier for the contract in the additional sum of £8,550.**
- (iii) To approve a virement between the unallocated basic need budget and this project for a further £62,448.**

190. URGENT ITEMS

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

191. CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chair announced that this was the last Executive Cabinet meeting of Tom Wilkinson, Assistant Director of Finance, who was leaving the Authority at the end of the month. On behalf of Members, the Chair thanked Mr Wilkinson for all his hard work and commitment and wished him well for his future endeavours.

CHAIR

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EXECUTIVE CABINET

23 June 2021

Commenced: 2.25pm

Terminated: 3.25pm

Present: Councillors Warrington (Chair), Bray, Cooney, Fairfoull, Feeley, Gwynne, Kitchen, Ryan and Wills

In Attendance:

Dr Ashwin Ramachandra	Co-Chair, Tameside & Glossop CCG
Steven Pleasant	Chief Executive & Accountable Officer
Sandra Stewart	Director of Governance & Pensions
Kathy Roe	Director of Finance
Steph Butterworth	Director of Adults Services
Richard Hancock	Director of Children's Services
Ian Saxon	Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods
Jayne Traverse	Director of Growth
Jess Williams	Director of Commissioning
Caroline Barlow	Assistant Director of Finance
Sarah Threlfall	Assistant Director, Policy, Performance and Communication

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by Members.

2. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet meeting held on 28 April 2021 be approved as a correct record.

3. MINUTES OF STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Commissioning Board held on 28 April 2021 be noted.

4. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meetings of Executive Board held on: 14 April, 19 May, 2 June 2021 be noted.

5. 2020/21 FINANCE OUTTURN REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member of Finance and Economic Growth / Lead Clinical GP / Director of Finance. The report was the final report for the 2020/21 financial year which detailed actual expenditure to 31 March 2021.

It was reported that, at the end of an unusual and challenging financial year for the Strategic Commission and ICFT, the final outturn position on 2020/21 budgets presented a broadly balanced position, with a small underspend on Council Budgets. CCG budgets had achieved a balanced position with nil variance. The ICFT were reporting a small deficit. Given the significant pressures and challenges that had been faced over the last 12 months, this position was a significant achievement.

It was explained that COVID continued to place a significant operational strain on the system, while the longer term financial outlook was a cause for concern as the Council contended with the aftermath of the pandemic at the same time as addressing an underlying financial deficit. The financial impacts of COVID had been addressed with significant one-off funding during 2020/21 and, whilst some further additional funding was available to the Council in 2021/22 for ongoing COVID pressures, this was one-off in nature. The longer term impacts of COVID, uncertainty over future local government funding, and a lack of clarity over future operational arrangements for the CCG, present significant barriers to sustainable financial planning.

Members were advised that **Appendix 1** summarised the integrated financial position on revenue budgets as at 31 March 2021. The final outturn position on 2020/21 budgets presented a broadly balanced position, with a small underspend of £102k on Council Budgets. CCG budgets had achieved a balanced position with nil variance against budget. The final outturn position was net of a range of significant under and over spends across a number of service areas. Further detail on budget variances, savings and pressures, COVID grants and expenditure was included in **Appendix 2**.

There was an in year deficit on the Collection Fund for both Council Tax and Business Rates due to the impact of the COVID pandemic, although the Council Tax deficit was less than previously forecast due to significantly improved collection rates in the final quarter of the year. The deficits would need to be funded in over the three financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 and this was reflected in the 2021/22 budget and MTFP approved by Full Council on 23 February 2021. **Appendix 3** provided an update on Council Tax and Business Rates collection performance and the year end position on the Collection Fund.

With regard to the Capital Programme, the approved budget for 2020/21 was £47.448m (after re-profiling approved at P10 monitoring) and outturn for the financial year was £43.593m. There had been delays on a number of schemes throughout the year due to COVID, and scheme budgets had been re-profiled into the 2021/22 financial year. The final capital monitoring report for 2020/21 was appended to the report.

An update was provided on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). It was explained that the Council was facing significant pressures on High Needs funding and started the 2020/21 financial year with an overall deficit on the DSG reserve of £0.557m. The 2020/21 deficit on DSG was £1.686m, mainly as a result of a continued pressure on High Needs but partly offset by surpluses on the other funding blocks. Under DfE regulations the authority had produced a deficit recovery plan which had been submitted to the DfE outlining how the Council expected to recover this deficit and manage spending over the next 3 years.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the outturn position as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted;**
- (ii) That the significant variations and pressures facing Budgets as set out in Appendix 2 to the report be noted;**
- (iii) That the budget virements and reserve transfers set out on pages 36 and 37 of Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;**
- (iv) That the Collection Fund position for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 3 to the report be noted;**
- (v) That the Capital Programme 2020/21 outturn be noted and the re-profiling of capital budgets as set out in Appendix 4 to the report be approved;**
- (vi) That the outturn position in respect of Dedicated Schools Grant as set out in Appendix 5 to the report, be noted.**

(vii) That a Budget turnaround team be created from the Invest to Save ring-fenced allocation to reduce the budget gap and avoid the need to rely on reserves with the detail being set out in an Executive Decision to be brought forward by the Executive Member for Finance & Growth.

6. ONE EQUALITY SCHEME ANNUAL UPDATE 2021

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / CCG Co-Chairs / Assistant Director, Policy, Performance and Communications, providing an update on the annual review for 2021, which had been informed by practical examples and related projects from the past 12 months. The report also provided an update on some key equality and diversity related projects that the Strategic Commission had delivered or been part of during the last 12 months.

Members were advised that the report outlined an update on developments of the One Equality Scheme, as part of the annual review for 2021. It remained important that the case study of projects and examples of best practice were able to provide evidence in line with the schemes agreed and measurable objectives. Annual updates to the One Equality Scheme acted as an ongoing position statement and the approach to equalities. The annual review built upon work outlined in the One Equality Scheme (2018-22) and previous One Equality Scheme Annual Reviews (2019 and 2020); as well as providing new examples and evidence sources of achievements in respect of equality and diversity.

Members were advised of key equality and diversity related projects that the Strategic Commission had delivered or been part of during the last 12 months. These were most notably:

- Covid-19 Equality Impact Assessments;
- Inequalities Reference Group (IRG);
- All Equals Charter;
- Race Equality Change Agents Programme (RECAP) Cohort 2;
- Independent Advisory Group;
- North West Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Strategic Advisory Committee;
- Workforce Race Equality Standards (WRES); and
- Supporting our workforce through Covid-19.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the content of the report be noted;**
- (ii) That the One Equality Scheme Annual Review 2021, as appended to the report, be approved for publication; and**
- (iii) That the content of the equalities update be noted.**

7. OFSTED FOCUSED VISIT TO TAMESIDE CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND RESPONSE

The Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families) / Director of Children's Services submitted a report setting out a brief update on the improvement journey of Tameside's Children's Social Care services, with particular reference to the progress on delivery of the 7 Sustainability Projects, the impact of Covid on the children's systems and the findings of the recent our Ofsted Focused Visit and our proposed response to this and plans to drive further improvement for the children of Tameside.

The report detailed the approach to improvement and specifically outlined the planned refocusing of existing capacity and the additional focussed capacity/investment required to address the issues identified through the Ofsted Focused Visit.

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills was leading Ofsted's work into how England's social care system had delivered child-centred practice and care within the

context of the restrictions placed on society during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. The report was in part to respond to a letter, which was embargoed until the 25 June 2021 when it would be published on the Ofsted website at: [Ofsted | Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council](#) and therefore was exempt from publication with the report. The letter summarised the findings of a focused visit to Tameside children's services on 12 and 13 May 2021. The methodology for this visit was in line with the inspection of local authority children's services (ILACS) framework. However, the delivery model was adapted to reflect the COVID-19 context. This visit was carried out fully by remote means. Inspectors used video calls for discussions with local authority staff, carers, key stakeholders and children. They also looked at local authority performance management and quality assurance information and children's case records.

The report concluded that there was a clear understanding of the issues which faced children's services, the improvements that were needed and plans in place to address these. In order though to deliver these at the pace which children deserve and require, the pace that the Inspectorate will expect and the Local Authority needs, the realignment of existing resources and investment of additional capacity as detailed in the report would be required along with the support of the Budget Turnaround Team.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Ofsted letter published at Appendix 1 (which is embargoed until the 25 June 2021) and summarises the findings of a focused visit to Tameside children's services on 12 and 13 May 2021 be acknowledged and the delivery of the proposals outlined in the report be approved including the Rapid Improvement Plan proposal and fruition of 7 Sustainability projects by way of response to this and to drive further improvement for the children of Tameside; and**
- (ii) That Council be RECOMMENDED to approve the provision of additional budget of £461,410 in year 1 (2021/22) and £504,538 in year 2 (2022/23) and virement of the existing budget of £1,537,224 over two years (2021/23) to deliver the plans set out in the report and more specifically the budget requirements as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.**

8. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER POLICY

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Growth / Director of Growth / Assistant Director of Strategic Property. The report detailed the proposed policy for the implementation of a community Asset Transfer Policy and sought approval to formally implement this Policy.

It was explained the Community Asset Transfer presented local communities with the opportunity to breathe new life into public buildings, to preserve valuable community resources or develop exciting new services for local communities. It provided options for the future use of these assets to enable the continuation of services, which had been challenged because of cuts to funding.

It was stated that the Council currently provided property used for direct community use along with office accommodation for partner VCS organisations. In addition to occupied properties, the Council had a number of land holdings used for community purposes throughout the Borough. A number of these existing leases had or were reaching lease expiry and required a formal lease renewal with tenants in some cases requesting leases of over 25 years to enable them to secure external capital funding.

It was further explained that the lack of a formal policy presented a risk to the Council as it lacked governance, transparency and brought uncertainty to officers and community groups when negotiating lease terms and rentals. In adopting a formal approach, approval to transactions could be obtained and concluded without unnecessary delay.

Members were advised that the proposal to transfer a property to the VCS sector would in most cases be prompted by the Council identifying a property asset that it deemed surplus to its

operational requirements, which it could then be offered for CAT. The Council would review its portfolio to identify assets suitable for transfer under the CAT policy.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Policy for the Community Asset Transfer of Council owned Land and Property Assets, as attached in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;**
- (ii) It be noted that any Community Asset Transfer that does not strictly adhere to the Policy attached to be referred for further consideration via an Executive Decision; and**
- (iii) It be noted that all proposed Community Asset Transfers have been subject to a Ward Member Consultation process in conjunction with the Executive Member for Finance and Growth.**

9. GODLEY GREEN – RESOLUTION IN PRINCIPLE TO USE COMPULSORY PURCHASE POWERS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Housing Planning and Employment / Director of Growth / Assistant Director of Investment, Development and Housing. The report detailed the work necessary for the preparation of a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO).

It was explained that whilst it was hoped that the Council would be able to acquire land by option agreements, the Council must consider using compulsory powers to provide certainty of delivery and to overcome any rights, encumbrances or ownerships that could not be dealt with via private treaty negotiations. The project milestones required that the Council develop a site wide CPO strategy to provide confirmation that all development land could be secured. Should the authority be unable to secure an interest in land by way of private treaty through options agreements, it would need to ensure that the ability to acquire all of the land within the development redline could be achieved through CPO.

It was further explained if the Council did not carry out any preparatory work on the CPO until after planning consent had been granted) this could cause delays to the project milestones and requirements. The Project Team had sought advice from our appointed CPO experts on the options available. Their recommendation were that the Council progress work on the CPO at this point to run in parallel with the planning application, giving the Council the best chance to secure the Order and meet the project milestones.

Members were advised that, in order facilitate the implementation of the masterplan, achieve the project milestones and aid site assembly the Council were seeking a resolution to enable them to carry out all the work necessary to make a CPO. The CPO process now needed to progress to run in parallel with the planning application. This would provide the best chance to secure the successful making and confirmation of the order.

RESOLVED

- (i) That express resolution be given to authorise the progress of any preparatory work required prior to the making of a CPO as necessary to progress the Godley Green project;**
- (ii) It be agreed that all necessary preparatory work be undertaken so as to make a CPO to deliver the project, subject to the final decision to make a CPO being agreed at a later date by Executive Cabinet;**
- (iii) Approval be given to enter into such legal agreements as deemed appropriate, in preparing for a CPO, and prior to the actual making of a CPO; and**
- (iv) It be noted that a resolution is required for the actual making of CPO at the relevant stage if it is considered necessary.**

10. EDUCATION SPECIALIST AND BASIC NEED CAPITAL PROJECTS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Director of Children's Services, providing an update on the Education specialist and Basic Need Capital projects and sought approval to move a number of schemes forward to ensure work can take place over the summer holidays.

It was reported that plans were in place to add an additional 30 school places per year at Rayner Stephens High School from September 2021. The cost of the work was estimated to be £1.3m and a budget of £473,000 had previously been agreed through Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel. It was recommended that an additional £835,000 be allocated to the project from Basic Need Funding. This was to cover the cost of the work and estimated project management costs.

Further, it was explained that the works would be commissioned by the Stamford Park Trust with oversight within the Council from the Capital Projects Team and a grant agreement would be put in place to fund the project. It was recommended that a grant agreement of £1.3m be agreed with the Stamford Park Trust to support this work. Ongoing monitoring of the project would be through the grant agreement and reported to the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.

In regards to the year 12 to 14 provision at Cromwell High School and establishing a sixth form provision. Phase one of the plan involved classrooms that the Schools Library Service had rented from Rayner Stephens being identified as suitable for sixth form accommodation as they were next to existing Cromwell School classrooms. A lease agreement was agreed with Rayner Stephens High School for these rooms and they had been remodelled to allow a pilot sixth form scheme to operate since September 2019. Phase one of the plan had now been completed.

It was anticipated that Phase Two would be completed by September 2021. The High Level Programme of Works and the High Level Cost Plan Summary had been devised by the LEP for Phase Two could be found at Appendix 2 and Appendix 3. It was recommended that a budget of £396,000 should be agreed for this work and that it should be commissioned through the LEP. A budget of £655,000 has previously been recommended by the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel, £154,658 would be used for Phase One of the work, the remaining budget would be £99,342 after the spend incurred for phase one and costs estimated at phase two. Ongoing monitoring of the project would be through the grant agreement and reported to the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.

Members were advised that Oakfield Primary school had been identified as a site where the current resource base provision could be expanded for September 2021. Outline budget costs for the expansion were shown at Appendix 4. It was recommended that budget of £153,000 be agreed for the scheme and a grant agreement be agreed with the Enquire Learning Trust for £150,000. Ongoing monitoring of the project would be through the grant agreement and reported to the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.

It was reported that Greenfield Primary School already operated an unofficial resource base which had space for 10 children. The school had expressed an interest in expanding the current base which would mean they could increase up to 20 children. The school had obtained a quote for £22,080 plus VAT to carry out some remodelling work to expand the resource base. The works would be commissioned by the Victorious Academies Trust with oversight within the Council from the Capital Projects Team. It was recommended that budget of £28,000 be agreed for the scheme and a grant agreement be agreed with Victorious Academies Trust for £26,500.

RESOLVED

It be approved that:

- (i) An additional £835,000 of Basic Need Funding is allocated to the Rayner Stephens High School scheme;**
- (ii) A grant agreement for £1.3m is agreed with Stamford Park Trust to enable Rayner Stephens High School to relocate the science classrooms and laboratories back into**

- the main school building, create a fit for purpose drama space and reconfigure the dining hall and kitchen space to enable 30 additional pupil places per year for at least three years from September 2021;
- (iii) The Council instruct the LEP to commence works at Cromwell High School as outlined in the high level cost plan dated 5 May 2021 to remodel accommodation for use by the sixth form students and the garage is converted to a workshop to a value of £395,850;
 - (iv) An allocation of £153,000 of Basic Need Funding is allocated to the Oakfield Primary School scheme;
 - (v) A grant agreement for £150,000 is agreed with The Enquire Learning Trust to add a modular extension onto the current building at Oakfield Primary School to provide 8 additional resourced pupil places for at least 10 years from September 2021;
 - (vi) An allocation of £28,000 of Basic Need Funding is allocated to the Greenside Primary School scheme; and
 - (vii) A grant agreement for £26,500 is agreed with Victorious Academies Trust to remodel existing internal space to provide 10 resourced pupil places at Greenside Primary School for at least 10 years from September 2021.

11. ADULT COMMUNITY EDUCATION GRANT FUNDING – FUTURE PROVISION

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Director of Growth, which set out a proposed consultation to transfer the Adult Education Service to Tameside College.

Members were advised that Tameside Adult Community Education (ACE) provided skills provision for adults aged 19+. The Provision was based primarily from Stamford Chambers in Ashton Town Centre. The Service was funded with Adult Education Budget (AEB) by Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). ACE normally enrolled 600 individual learners on an annual basis. The impact of COVID19 had meant that learner numbers had fallen as social distancing measures had been introduced in line with health and safety risk assessments. ACE was an Ofsted 'Grade 2 Good provider' and was Matrix accredited. ACE operated on an academic funding year of 1 August -31 July.

ACE had a contract with GMCA until 31 July 2022 and had recently successfully applied to the GMCA Education, Work and Skills Flexible Procurement System enabling the service to bid for future contracts. ACE was well placed to continue to deliver good quality services to Tameside residents.

The proposal for the service would be to begin a consultation process on integrating ACE into Tameside College to enable the service to bid for future contracts from a strengthened position. Tameside College currently deliver over £2m of AEB services and an Ofsted 'good, grade 2' provider. The timeframe for the process was set out further below in next steps with an expectation that any change be completed by January 2022.

RESOLVED

That the proposal for Tameside Council to begin consultation on the transfer of the Adult Community Education Service to Tameside College be approved.

12. HATTERSLEY DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT DEED OF VARIATION 2021

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth, which sought approval for a supplemental agreement to the Deed of Variation July 2015 to allow for deferral of the final Public Realm payment of £1m until 31 December 2021 and to extend the longstop date for Site 28 until 31 December 2022.

Members were advised that BASE Hattersley LLP (Barratt Homes) had requested to defer the final Public Realm payment of £1m from 31 December 2020 until 31 December 2021 and to extend the

drawdown longstop date for Site 28 from 31 December 2021 until 31 December 2022. It was explained the reasons for the request to defer the payment were twofold. There was approximately £2.7m in the Public Realm fund, which was sufficient for the schemes needs. Secondly, it would assist BASE (Hattersley) LLP in managing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on delivery and cash flow.

In respect of the request to extend the longstop date for Site 28 this was due to an issue with the planning application / decision for this site. It was in the process of being resolved but this would take additional time, so a request to extend the drawdown longstop date had been made. Barratts submitted a planning application (Ref. 19/01090/REM) on 17.12.2019, issues arose with this application which would require a revised application to be submitted. This would go through the planning process. These issues had required Barratts to request an extension to the longstop date to allow them time to be able to request the drawdown of the land.

RESOLVED

- (i) That a Supplemental Agreement to the Deed of Variation July 2015 be authorised, to allow for an extension of the draw down longstop date for Site 28 to 31 December 2022; and**
- (ii) That a Supplemental Agreement to the Deed of variation July 2015 be authorised, to allow for the final Public Realm payment to be deferred until 31 December 2021.**

13. LOCK KEEPERS SITE, DROYLSDEN

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth / Assistant Director for Investment Development and Housing, providing recommendations as to the future direction of travel to unlock the development potential of the Lock Keepers Site (The Site) in Droylsden town centre.

Members were advised that the site occupied land of approximately 2 acres in a highly accessible prominent location fronting Manchester Road in close proximity to the Town centre and presented an attractive development opportunity for a high quality/density residential development scheme. The site was immediately adjacent to the existing library, which was shown edged brown on the plan included in Appendix 1. Following the proposed relocation of the library, the two sites could be combined which would present an enhanced development opportunity, which was likely to be of interest to a wide range of potential development partners.

It was reported the site was planned for commercial development under the Development Agreement, however despite extensive marketing no suitable commercial use had been identified for the site. Negotiations had taken place with Watkins Jones regarding the potential for residential development on the site. Watkins Jones had offered to pay some 2½ times far less than the independent Red Book valuation for the site based on a residential layout.

The Director of Growth explained that road access to the site was owned freehold by Watkins Jones and was subject to a S278 Agreement. The Road was constructed several years ago and although it had not yet been formally adopted by the Council, rights of access were reserved at the time of the transfer. Watkins Jones owned two small parcels of land adjoining the Marina which would be desirable, but not essential, to be joined to the main development site. Despite obligations in the Development Agreement, Watkins Jones had not landscaped these areas and it was recommended that following the removal of the Lock Keepers site from the Development Agreement that negotiations were undertaken with Watkins Jones to ensure they fulfilled their obligations to landscape or transfer the land at nil cost to the Council.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the site be withdrawn from the Watkin Jones Development Agreement;**
- (ii) Negotiations be undertaken with Watkin Jones regarding the two parcels of land referred to in Appendix 1 to the report; and**

(iii) That the subject site be formally declared surplus so that a future sale, including the library, which is shortly due to be demolished, can be considered in accordance with the Council's disposal policy

14. HIGH STREET TASK FORCE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth, providing details of the High Street Taskforce programme recently announced by government as part of a package of support to help communities and local government to transform their high streets.

It was explained that, on 19 March 2021, the High Street Task Force (HSTF) was announced by government and would run until 2024. The HSTF provided support to local leaders in town centres and high streets in England. Funded by government, this support included expert advice, training, and data delivered directly to local stakeholders in towns and cities, and a range of resources online that were available to all.

The first 70 local authorities had been selected to enable support to be delivered where it was needed most. Regional indicators of deprivation and inequality had been used, alongside research on the impact of COVID-19 on high street retail, to produce the list of areas that would most benefit from support for their local place making capacity. Hyde Town Centre had been identified as one of the 70 local authority areas. The programme was part of a wider package of proposals declared by the government to support town centres in the wake of the recent pandemic and was linked to the Build Back Better initiative including funding schemes such as the Levelling Up Fund (LUF).

Members were advised that establishing long term partnerships would be a focus for the support and the Task Force would deliver a range of services that were aligned to four objectives and would provide practical support to people and places. These were:

- Boosting Local Authority capacity;
- Building place making skills;
- Coordination; and
- Intelligence and data.

Benefits of being part of the programme included:

- Expert advice on local plans, enabling local authorities to create the best strategies for transformation and investment,
- Facilitation of a local leadership and stakeholder sessions to help build consensus, good will, and momentum behind authorities' plans,
- Training for place leaders and development staff, as well as local stakeholders, based on the latest research on high streets, which could help build capacity for longer-term impact,
- Resources and inspiration for local stakeholders to inform their own action and involvement in place making, and
- Boost trust and confidence in local plans and bids by evidencing adoption of Task Force support and good practice.

Following consultation, the Task Force team had nominated Hyde Town Centre as the area of focus in Tameside. As Hyde Town Centre was identified as one of the first local authority towns to benefit from the programme of support, some initial discussions had taken place with the Task Force in relation to the type and level of support being offered to the Hyde. To help make change happen, Hyde Town Centre would receive a range of tailored support services offered by the Task Force, which may include; targeted expert consultancy, mentoring, visioning or place making workshops, access to local footfall data, and training programmes for place managers and leaders. Hyde Town Centre would benefit from the extra capacity offered as part of the programme and would ensure a joined up approach to the work already taking place including the One Public Estate. It was accepted that all of the town centres would benefit from the HSTF programme as the Council and officers would be able to learn and cascade ideas around the other centres.

Once Tameside had been appointed an advisor from the Task Force team of experts, they would contact the Council to discuss scheduling the first 'Unlocking your Place Potential visit'. From this visit, further tailored support would be programmed in for Hyde. This work would determine the necessary intervention required for the town centre. From this, the Council would seek to prepare an action plan in order to begin to implement recommendations that were identified as a result of this programme of work. There would be a further report to Executive Cabinet outlining the findings of the diagnostic and focus for the action plan.

RESOLVED

- (i) It be agreed to formally participate and engage with the programme and with government delegates responsible for delivering the support; and**
- (ii) It be agreed that the focus of the support will be Hyde Town Centre.**

15. NEW CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE DELIVERY MODEL

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Assistant Director Operations and Neighbourhoods setting out what a future service offer may look like and sought permission to undertake public consultation to fully understand and consider views before implementing any changes.

It was explained that, on 26 August 2015 Executive Cabinet, following a comprehensive review of the Council's face to face Customer Service function, agreed a new model for the service. The review took into account the usage of the service at that time, the likely reduction in the need for the service in the future, the increasing cost to serve and the public's determination in consultation that this was an area where budget cuts could be made.

It was determined that the service offer would consist of Level 2 service (book, pay, request a service and verification of housing benefit documents) which would take place at all libraries in the Borough. Additionally Ashton Customer Services would be retained and continue to offer a reactive drop in Level 2 service and also in-depth housing benefit and council tax support advice (Level 1 service). The service was suspended in March 2020 due to the Covid 19 pandemic and no face to face Customer Service function had been offered since that time. During that period officers had been supporting call centre operators handling customer enquiries via the telephone, web chat or on-line. Officers had also been assisting customers to complete housing benefit/council tax support applications by telephone appointment.

It was now deemed timely to undertake a further review of the service to determine how this might be offered in the future taking into account the changes in peoples' attitudes to technology, the future need for a reactive drop in face to face service and the fact that face to face customer service had always been the highest cost channel with the lowest volume of customers.

The report gave details of the service prior to and during Covid 19. The demand in customer service was examined, which had reduced significantly over the years. The cost of the service was also scrutinised with the cost of each transaction for the face to face customer service function far outweighing the cost of other channels.

Members were advised that it was clear that, with the advent of social trends and technological advancements, the way customers accessed services had changed over recent years. The pandemic had pushed the use of technology to another level and served to create a catalyst for change in peoples' attitudes. Many who would not have previously used technology in any aspect of their lives were now turning to such platforms to order shopping, access services, keep in touch with family/friends etc. Some evidence of this change could be seen following the Council introducing a web chat function in early 2019/20. Since implementation, over 12,000 enquiries had been responded to via this channel. Residents were able to access services on the Council's website for both information and advice but also to complete applications for Housing Benefit, Council Tax

Support, discounts/exemptions and notify of change of circumstances etc. Applications could be completed on all devices e.g. PCs, laptops, tablets and smart phones.

It was fair to conclude that if a customer had accessed a service by an alternative channel whilst face to face customer services had been suspended, and that contact produced the required results to satisfy the enquiry, accessing by that method in the future would be preferable to making the trip to customer services and queuing up at a drop in service with no guarantee of not having a long wait time.

As protectors of public funds it was incumbent upon all Council services to review the service offer from time to time and ensure services were cost effective whilst meeting residents' needs. The Covid 19 pandemic had created a unique circumstance where change had been accelerated at pace and this change had led to many residents becoming less reliant on face to face services. These circumstances should be capitalised upon when determining future service provision rather than simply returning to the previous landscape and it was therefore now time to undertake a further review of the Customer Service provision.

It was explained that the proposed service model for the future would be based on providing the most appropriate access channel according to customers' requirements and would be very similar to the current offer but with the addition of face to face contact where necessary and only for those where other channels would not be suitable. The principles would be:

- not to re-open the expensive reactive drop in Customer Service centre based in Tameside One at Ashton in the previous format;
- retain Level 2 enquiries at all Tameside Libraries;
- promote, encourage and support a digital first model with the expectation that where possible, residents should self-serve utilising the Council website or other technology such as mobile applications (Apps) where available;
- where this was not possible a supported service offer over the telephone, web chat, email etc. to assist customers with their enquiries;
- where more detailed assistance was required, for example completing a housing benefit application, a telephone call back service by appointment would be available; and
- face to face appointments only for the most vulnerable to ensure that residents were able to access services and assistance without disadvantage. Appointments would be bookable by telephone.

There was no doubt that some customers may be more vulnerable and/or may need additional support to access to services or make enquiries. This could be because the enquiry was complex, there were multiple issues or there were additional health problems which affected a person's ability to manage their situation. Any new service model must take into account all residents' needs and therefore some face to face element would be retained. It was proposed that this would be by appointment only rather than drop-in and would be following a triage process to understand the nature of the enquiry and the assistance required.

If the proposed service model was implemented staff levels within the service would need to be reviewed. Sufficient staff would be required to conduct telephone appointments to support people with their enquiries and also to undertake face to face appointments where necessary. It would be necessary to consult with staff and unions to ensure they were fully aware of any new service model and staffing structure.

To determine the impact of such a customer contact model as detailed, it was proposed that public consultation was undertaken for a period of 12 weeks from 28 June 2021 – 19 September 2021 to seek views of residents and others who wish to respond. A full Equality Impact Assessment would be completed to fully understand the impact on the communities and particularly those with a protected characteristic under the Equalities Act 2010 and in particular members wanted it to address access to digital.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the reasons for a review and the proposed new delivery model be considered; and**
- (ii) That the public consultation on the proposed delivery model be undertaken from the 28 June 2021 to 19 September 2021 with the results being presented at Executive Cabinet for further consideration at the end of the year.**

16. STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Employment / Director of Growth. The report detailed the proposals to update the SCI to reflect the change in narrative and terminology around joint planning of the nine boroughs and 'Places for Everyone'.

Members were advised that the current SCI was adopted 2 November 2020 following comprehensive review and a 6 week period of public consultation. Permanent changes were proposed were proposed in the 2020 update, which were reflective of the significant changes in how people are interacting physically at that time.

It was explained that this 2021 update however, represented a technical amendment and followed the decisions of Stockport Council (3 and 4 December 2020) not to approve the submission of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF), following the intended consultation period and not to publish the GMSF 2020. This in effect signalled the end of the GMSF as a joint plan of ten Greater Manchester Boroughs.

It was further explained that the updated SCI was presented for approval to be published which had been prepared to reflect changes in preparing a joint plan of nine boroughs through Places for Everyone. Due to the technical nature of the update, recent comprehensive review following consultation and no statutory or local commitment to do so, no period of public consultation was proposed. The SCI was included at **Appendix 1** and the EIA was included at **Appendix 2**.

RESOLVED

That the publication of the updated Statement of Community Involvement and accompanying EIA as set out at Appendix 1 and 2 of the report, be approved, and bring it into immediate effect.

17. NEW BUILDING FOR HAWTHORNS SCHOOL

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Lifelong Learning, Equalities, culture and Heritage / Director for Children's Services. The report detailed the need to increase places at Hawthorns School, an outstanding school providing specialist education for primary aged children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

It was reported that Hawthorns School was an outstanding primary special school located within the Audenshaw area of Tameside and catered for pupils with a range of complex special educational needs aged between 4-11 years old. The school was an academy and part of New Bridge Multi Academy Trust. As a result of growing pupil numbers and to meet expected need for additional places, there as a need to provide additional accommodation to accommodate both the current number of pupils enrolled at the school and the increases in admissions forecast over the coming years.

The Inclusion Service had commissioned a space utilisation company, Space Solutions, to analyse the existing space in the specialist schools and to advise if the existing provision was fit for purpose. This work highlighted in particular the difficulties currently faced by Hawthorns School. The space utilisation company determined that it was very unlikely that there was scope to increase pupil numbers without significantly extending the building.

Members were advised that a RIBA stage 1 site options appraisal had been undertaken by the LEP and only one Council owned site that was not already committed to disposal or another operational use had been found that could accommodate an outline business case. This was Longdendale playing field, adjacent to the Active Longdendale facility.

The site appraisal looked at three options for the future of school places:-

- Option 1 150 Places (Keep 70 places at Existing Hawthorns School)
- Option 2 220 Places (Move all Hawthorns School to new build)
- Option 3 460 Places through School (Move all Hawthorns School to new build)

The report recommended that the Council should pursue option 2 as outlined in the options appraisal. Option 2 would provide Hawthorns School with sufficient space to accommodate current and future demand for places on one site. The school would be purpose built using the area guidelines for SEND and alternative provision as outlined in the Department for Education's Building Bulletin 104. Further, building on a new site would mean that the build would be completed without interruption for children at the school and the adjacent Aldwyn Primary School where building work is also currently underway.

It was stated option 2 presented opportunities for the school and Trust to work with the Active Longdendale provision. A consultation was underway on the future of a number of Active Tameside sites including Longdendale, the results of the consultation were being analysed and would be presented to Executive Cabinet in July. The development of a new school on the Longdendale playing fields site could present opportunities for the New Bridge Multi Academy Trust to potentially work with the provision and support the development of inclusive learning opportunities in a community environment.

Members were advised that the DfE supported the build of new special schools via the Free Special School applications proposal process. This process was open only to Multi Academy Trusts and other non-Council organisations. This route not only provided capital funding for the build but also unlocked additional revenue funding into the High Needs Dedicated Schools Grant.

Further, conversations had started with DfE to see if the revenue funding could be accessed as the Council's intention was to work with New Bridge Trust and for this school not to become a maintained special school. If these representations were unsuccessful consideration could be given for New Bridge to approach the DfE to see if it could be considered for the Special Free School proposal process, this would put a time delay into the process, which could result in students being placed out of borough whilst the process is progressed.

It was highlighted that without sufficient local provision that the only option for specialist provision would be for pupils to be placed out of borough or access independent settings which would be more costly than an in borough offer. The average cost of an out of borough placement was broadly comparable with Tameside cost, however the average independent placement would cost approximately £34,119, the average out of borough place costing £26,484.

RESOLVED

- (i) That a budget of £13m of Basic Need funding be allocated to the expansion and relocation of Hawthorns School to 220 places on the Longdendale Playing Field site;**
- (ii) That the LEP be instructed to develop the design of the expanded / relocated Hawthorns School to RIBA Stage 3 and carry out site investigations as required to inform the development. With a target of opening in September 2023; and**
- (iii) The issue of revenue funding be pursued with DfE as a matter of urgency.**

18. URGENT ITEMS

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

CHAIR

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DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WORKING GROUP 5 July 2021

Commenced: 4.00pm

Terminated: 4.25pm

Present: Councillors Cooney (In the Chair), Billington, Fairfoull Feeley J. Fitzpatrick, Kitchen, Reid, M Smith, Ryan, Ward and Warrington.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Working Group held on 29 March 2021 be approved as a correct record.

2. TAMESIDE ELECTORAL REVIEW – RESPONSE TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND (LGBCE) WARD PATTERNS AND WARD NAMES PROPOSAL

Members considered a report of the Director of Governance and Pensions which reminded Members that in June 2019 the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) informed Tameside Council they would be undertaking an electoral review of Tameside. The last such review was concluded in 2004. At stage one of the review which concluded in January 2021 the LGBCE proposed 57 councillors for Tameside. At the first part of stage two a full borough wide ward patterns and ward names proposal was submitted to the LGBCE by Tameside Council. The LGBCE published their draft ward patterns and ward names proposal on 1 June 2021 which triggered ten weeks of public consultation (closing on 9 August 2021).

The report noted that the LGBCE ward pattern and names proposal was based in the greater part on the Tameside Council submission. As such Tameside Council broadly supported the proposal outlined by the LGBCE but with some areas of difference where amendments were suggested. Those amendments were based on the original Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021) as a better balance of community identity and electoral equality informed by local knowledge and experience. The amendments were outlined in detail in the relevant sections of the report.

AGREED:

That Council be recommended to endorse the submission.

3. THE 2023 BOUNDARY REVIEW – INITIAL PROPOSALS FOR NEW PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES

Members considered a report of the Director of Governance and Pensions, which informed Members that the Boundary Commission for England had published its initial proposals for new constituency boundaries as part of the 2023 Parliamentary Boundary Review. The proposals and maps for the nine English regions had been published on their website beginning an eight-week public consultation period has commenced, ending on 2 August 2021. This would be the first time the public would get a chance to see what their new constituencies might look like, and give the Commission their views on the proposals.

The Commission's initial outline timetable is planned as follows:

- 5 Jan 2021: Publication of headline electorate figures by ONS, BCE begin development of initial proposals;
- 24 March 2021: Publish complete ward-level electorate figures (i.e. including 'prospective' wards);

- 10 May 2021: Publish 'Guide to the 2023 Review';
- 8 June 2021: Publish initial proposals and conduct eight-week written consultation;
- Early 2022: Publish responses to initial proposals and conduct six-week 'secondary consultation', including between two and five public hearings in each region;
- Late 2022: Publish revised proposals and conduct four-week written consultation;
- June 2023: Submit and publish final report and recommendations.

The proposals contain three constituencies that include Tameside ward. Maps of the proposals were appended to the report. The proposed constituencies for the Tameside area were:

Ashton-under-Lyne Constituency (electorate: 71,840), to include the following wards:

Ashton Hurst	Ashton St Michael's	Ashton Waterloo	Dukinfield
Dukinfield/Stalybridge	Mossley	St Peters	Stalybridge North

Denton and Hyde Constituency (electorate: 71,951), to include the following wards:

Denton North East	Denton South	Denton West	Hyde Godley
Hyde Newton	Hyde Werneth	Longdendale	Stalybridge South

Failsworth and Droylsden Constituency (electorate: 74,818), to include the following wards

Audenshaw	Clayton and Openshaw	Droylsden East	Droylsden West
Failsworth East	Failsworth West	Gorton and Abbey Hey	Miles Platting and Newton (part)

AGREED:

That the report be noted.

4. UPDATE ON MAY 2021 ELECTIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Governance and Pensions, which outlined the administrative issues, which arose during the 2021 Borough Council and GM Mayoral. Members were reminded that the Combined Borough Council and GM Mayoral Elections took place during a period when the coronavirus pandemic continued to have a significant impact, with significant restriction which presented particular challenges for candidates, agents, parties and campaigners in how they prepared for and campaign in elections in May 2021.

For the Borough Council election the government introduced temporary legislation to reduce the number of signatures required on nomination papers from the usual 10 to 2. Beyond this, the usual rules about the completion and submission of nomination papers applied. However, some adjustments were required by both the Returning Officer and candidates and agents to the way that the nominations process were managed in practice to ensure this was done safely.

Each polling station was the subject of a covid health and safety visit and arrangements agreed with Health and Safety and Population Health were put in place. Arrangements were put in place to ensure that polling stations were safe places to vote. Most of the measures put in place were similar to those in place in other public places such as shops and banks, for example wearing face coverings (unless exempt), floor markings to ensure social distancing and the provision of hand sanitiser on entry and exit. There were also screens between staff and voters. In addition voters were encouraged to bring their own pen or pencil for use in polling stations, but pencils were also made available for anyone who needs one. Other measures included restricting the number of people inside polling stations (dependent on the size of the polling station) and to assist with this each polling station had a marshall stationed outside each polling station to manage entry and exit and to advise electors on safety requirements before entering the polling station.

Given that Covid restrictions were still be in place for the elections and there was a possibility of receiving a large number of late postal vote applications by electors wishing to avoid having to go to a polling station an early publicity campaign about alternative ways of voting was undertaken. In line with Government and Electoral Commission guidance we particularly targeted those most at risk, those on the clinically vulnerable lists and those on the electoral register who have indicated that they are over 76 – each of these was sent a letter advising them of their options for voting and including a postal vote application form. In addition we took the opportunity to use Council Tax bills to inform residents of the options for voting and used other, targeted publicity to inform residents that we would make polling stations covid safe and that they have the option to use a postal or proxy vote.

Arrangements were put in place to ensure that postal vote verification and opening was conducted in a covid safe way. Postal vote scanning to check signatures and dates of birth was undertaken at Dukinfield Town Hall in the usual way between 9am and 5pm each day from 24 April to 6 May.

With regard to the opening of returned postal vote envelopes containing ballot papers, candidates and agents were still able to observe this process as a check to help ensure the integrity of the election. However, it was not be possible to undertake this in the same way as usual due to covid restrictions. In order to minimise the number of people in the room at the same time the number of wards opened at the one time was be restricted to five and the number of candidate representatives for each ward will be restricted to 1, with one member of staff opening the postal votes for each ward. This ensured that a candidate is afforded the opportunity to see every ballot paper going into the count.

Given restrictions on numbers of people who could be indoors together it was not possible to undertake the Verification and Count for the May elections in the usual way. To maximise the space available the Count was held at Unit 7, Plantation Industrial Estate with four counters per ward, rather than the usual six, due to social distancing and safety requirements. Given the space available it was necessary to undertake each stage of the verification and count in two parts – 10 wards, followed by 9 wards. The Count is split between the verification and counting of ballot papers. The verification stage had to be undertaken for both the Borough Council and GM Mayoral Elections at the same time and was undertaken from 10pm on Thursday, 6 May 2021. The count stage for the Borough Council elections took place on Friday 7 May. The Count stage for the GM Mayoral Election took place on Saturday, 8 May 2021. It was necessary to put in place safety measures to minimise the risk of spreading covid, these included screens between staff and those observing the election, masks were worn, hand sanitiser used regular and social distancing measures. Given the special circumstances under which the verification and counting of votes took place and the reduced number of counters the Returning Officer determined that for each candidate there would be a maximum of four representatives for each candidate, made up of candidate, election agent, guest and counting agent.

AGREED:

That the report be noted and those aspects of the administration of the election introduced to ensure covid safety inform arrangements for future elections, in particular the arrangements put in place for processing of returned postal votes and the arrangements for the verification and counting of ballot papers.

CHAIR

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Agenda Item 8

- Report to:** COUNCIL
- Date:** 20 July 2021
- Report of:** Cllr Gerald Cooney – Chair of Democratic Processes Working Group / Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment)
- Subject Matter:** **TAMESIDE ELECTORAL REVIEW – RESPONSE TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND (LGBCE) WARD PATTERNS AND WARD NAMES PROPOSAL (1 JUNE 2021)**
- Summary:**
- In June 2019 the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) informed Tameside Council they would be undertaking an electoral review of Tameside. The last such review was concluded in 2004.
- At stage one of the review which concluded in January 2021 the LGBCE proposed 57 councillors for Tameside. At the first part of stage two a full borough wide ward patterns and ward names proposal was submitted to the LGBCE by Tameside Council. The LGBCE published their draft ward patterns and ward names proposal on 1 June 2021 which triggered ten weeks of public consultation (closing on 9 August 2021).
- The attached report is the Tameside Council response to the LGBCE ward patterns and ward names proposal published on 1 June 2021.
- The report notes that the LGBCE ward pattern and names proposal is based in the greater part on the Tameside Council submission. As such Tameside Council broadly supports the proposal outlined by the LGBCE but with some areas of difference where amendments are suggested. Those amendments are based on the original Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021) as a better balance of community identity and electoral equality informed by local knowledge and experience. The amendments are outlined in detail in the relevant sections of the report.
- The report is supported by both the controlling group (the Labour Party) and the opposition (the Conservative party).
- At their meeting on 5 July 2021 the Democratic Processes Working Group endorsed the report and agreed it would be presented to Full Council for final sign off before submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE).
- Recommendations:** Council are recommended to:
1. Endorse the attached report outlining the Tameside Council response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) draft proposals.
 2. Agree the attached report is submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) no later than 9 August 2021.

Financial Implications:
(Authorised by Section 151 Officer)

There are no direct financial implications as a direct result of this report.

Legal Implications:
(Authorised by Borough Solicitor)

The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 sets out the duty placed on the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) to undertake an electoral review of every principal local authority in England 'from time to time' and we are required to conduct a review when the commission determines it is time for a review.

Risk Management:

A separate risk assessment is undertaken as part of the preparations for each election. An assessment of the most recent election informs future planning and assessment of risk.

Links to Corporate Plan:

Indirectly the running of elections helps support all elements of the Corporate Plan in that elected members set the strategic direction of the council.

Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report author Simon Brunet, Head of Policy, Performance and Intelligence by:



Telephone:0161 342 3542



e-mail: simon.brunet@tameside.gov.uk

TAMESIDE ELECTORAL REVIEW

TAMESIDE COUNCIL RESPONSE TO LGBCE DRAFT PROPOSAL – JULY 2021

In June 2019 the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) informed Tameside Council they would be undertaking an electoral review of Tameside. The last such review was concluded in 2004.

At stage one of the review which concluded in January 2021 the LGBCE proposed 57 councillors for Tameside. At the first part of stage 2 a full borough wide ward patterns and ward names proposal was submitted to the LGBCE by Tameside Council. The LGBCE published their draft ward patterns and ward names proposal on 1 June 2021 which triggered ten weeks of public consultation (closing on 9 August 2021).

This report is the Tameside Council response to the LGBCE ward patterns and ward names proposal published on 1 June 2021.

The report is structured as below:

1. Executive summary
2. Approach
3. Denton, Audenshaw and Droylsden (West)
4. Ashton-under-Lyne (North)
5. Dukinfield, Mossley and Stalybridge (East)
6. Hyde and Longdendale (South)
7. Appendix

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Tameside Council notes that the LGBCE ward pattern and names proposal is based in the greater part on the Tameside Council submission. As such Tameside Council broadly supports the proposal outlined by the LGBCE but with some areas of difference where amendments are suggested.

1.2 Tameside Council **supports in full** the LGBCE proposal for the wards listed below.

- Droylsden West
- Denton North East
- Denton South
- Ashton Hurst
- Ashton St. Michael's
- Dukinfield
- Dukinfield Stalybridge
- Mossley
- Longdendale

ELECTORAL REVIEW – REPSONSE TO LGBCE PROPOSAL – JULY 2021

1.3 Tameside Council **supports but with minor amendment** as outlined in this report the LGBCE proposal for the wards listed below.

- Droylsden East – with an amendment so the boundary with Audenshaw runs along Williams Lane to the junction with Ashton Hill Lane and does not go round the back of Willow Fold, Fitzroy Street and King Street as proposed by the LGBCE.
- Audenshaw – with an amendment so the boundary with Denton West is drawn through the middle of Audenshaw reservoir as per the Tameside Council submission. The amendment ensures that Denton railway station remains within Denton wards. In addition, an amendment so the boundary with Droylsden East runs along Williams Lane to the junction with Ashton Hill Lane and does not go round the back of Willow Fold, Fitzroy Street and King Street as proposed by the LGBCE.
- Denton West – with an amendment so the boundary with Audenshaw is drawn through the middle of Audenshaw reservoir as per the Tameside Council submission. The amendment ensures that Denton railway station remains within Denton wards. In addition that the name is not changed to ‘Denton West & Dane Bank’, but remains as ‘Denton West’.
- Stalybridge South – with an amendment to the boundary so that St. Raphael’s primary school remains in Stalybridge South and not Stalybridge North as proposed by the LGBCE.
- Stalybridge North – with an amendment to the boundary so that St. Raphael’s primary school remains in Stalybridge South and not Stalybridge North as proposed by the LGBCE.

1.4 Tameside Council **supports but with more substantial amendment** the LGBCE proposal for the following wards and re-iterates the original submission from the council for these areas which provides a better balance of electoral equality, community identity and convenient local government. Further detail is provided in the relevant sections of this report.

- St. Peter’s
- Ashton Waterloo
- Hyde Newton
- Hyde Godley
- Hyde Werneth

1.5 The response from Tameside Council outlined in this report is **supported by both the controlling group (the Labour Party) and the opposition group (the Conservative Party)**.

2. APPROACH

2.1 Tameside Council welcomes the LGBCE proposals in the greater part as they are based significantly on the Tameside Council submission. This response report reviews the differences between the Tameside council submission and the LGBCE proposals and in doing so it notes which of the differences the council supports, and which it does not. Where the council does not support parts of the LGBCE proposals then the original

ELECTORAL REVIEW – REPSONSE TO LGBCE PROPOSAL – JULY 2021

Tameside Council submission is re-iterated as the most appropriate approach in those specific areas.

- 2.2 Where Tameside Council doesn't agree with parts of the LGBCE proposal that objection is not a criticism, rather it is an attempt to inform a final plan based on the extensive and detailed on the ground local knowledge the council brings to the process.
- 2.3 It is notable that of the three more substantial areas of difference between the Tameside Council submission and the LGBCE proposal (and where the council asks for amendment) two are on the periphery of town centres – Hyde and Ashton. Community boundaries are often more complex in town centres and areas where communities gather whether that be for employment, retail, health, leisure or public transport to name a few. A task made more difficult in the coronavirus pandemic which prevented the LGBCE making on the ground visits to see the environment and speak to the community, but having to rely on a virtual tour.
- 2.4 The areas where the Tameside Council response asks for an amendment to the LGBCE proposals are based on a genuine belief that they provide a better balance between community identity and electoral equality. In cases where community identity on the ground isn't particularly strong then electoral equality has been prioritised, and vice versa. Electoral forecasts are challenging given it is unclear what the potential impact of the coronavirus pandemic will be on the economy and housing growth. With that in mind Tameside council's approach has been to try to avoid electoral equality greater than +/- 5% (without being at the expense of community identity) to provide some flexibility and future proofing.
- 2.5 Tameside Council's response as outlined in this report has been developed in consultation with all elected members and is supported by both the controlling group (the Labour Party) and the opposition group (the Conservative Party).
- 2.6 Tameside Council's response to the LGBCE proposals is summarised at **Appendix 1** and explained in detail in the following sections.

3. DENTON, AUDENSHAW AND DROYLSDEN (WEST)

- 3.1 Tameside Council supports the proposals for the wards in the west area of the borough with two minor amendments. A boundary amendment regarding Audenshaw reservoir and Denton railway station and the name of the Denton West ward.

Droylsden West

- 3.2 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Droylsden West ward.

Droylsden East

- 3.3 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Droylsden East ward with a minor amendment to the boundary. An amendment so the boundary with Audenshaw runs along Williams Lane to the junction with Ashton Hill

Lane and does not go round the back of Willow Fold, Fitzroy Street and King Street as proposed by the LGBCE. North of the canal, Ashton Hill Lane and Williams Lane is the locally recognised and understood boundary between the towns of Droylsden and Audenshaw.

Audenshaw

- 3.4 Tameside Council supports the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Audenshaw ward with two relatively minor exceptions regarding the boundary. The proposed boundary with Denton North East runs the full length of the reservoir along the railway line and then round the bottom of the reservoir site along Manchester Road where it forms the boundary with Denton West. The proposed boundary splits Denton railway station between the Audenshaw ward and the Denton North East ward. Tameside Council would amend the boundary so it is drawn through the middle of the reservoir as per the council submission. The amendment would ensure that Denton railway station is within Denton wards. In addition, an amendment so the boundary with Droylsden East runs along Williams Lane to the junction with Ashton Hill Lane and does not go round the back of Willow Fold, Fitzroy Street and King Street as proposed by the LGBCE. North of the canal, Ashton Hill Lane and Williams Lane is the locally recognised and understood boundary between the towns of Droylsden and Audenshaw.

Denton North East

- 3.5 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Denton North East ward.

Denton South

- 3.6 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Denton South ward.

Denton West

- 3.7 Tameside Council supports the LGBCE boundary proposal for the Denton West ward with a minor amendment. Tameside Council would amend the boundary with the Audenshaw ward so it is drawn through the middle of the reservoir as per the council submission. The amendment would ensure that Denton railway station is within Denton wards.
- 3.8 In addition, the council does not support the proposal to change the name to 'Denton West and Dane Bank', and believes the name should remain as 'Denton West'. While Dane Bank does form a distinct community within the wider ward so do other areas such as the Thornley Park and Shirley Park communities. To highlight one area in the ward name but not others actively prioritises one but excludes the rest whereas a more generic name such as Denton West is more inclusive by its nature.

4. ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE (NORTH)

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4.1 Tameside Council supports the proposals for the wards in the north area but with some more substantial amendments affecting the boundaries of the St. Peter’s ward and the Ashton Waterloo ward. The amendments relate to the ‘St. Peter’s thumb’ area north of the main Manchester to Leeds railway line and currently in the St. Peter’s ward. Tameside Council believes the council submission which split this area between the St. Peter’s ward and the Ashton Waterloo ward provides a better balance of community identity and electoral equality. The table below shows the differences in electoral equality between the current wards, the Tameside Council submission and the LGBCE proposal (all at 2026). Electoral equality of +/-9% for both the Ashton Waterloo ward and the St. Peter’s do not make sense given there is no justifying or strong community identity argument. Nor do changes of +7% to -9% (St. Peter’s ward) and -5% to +9% (Ashton Waterloo ward) between the current ward arrangements and the LGBCE proposal (both at 2026). Again, the community identity factors that are used to explain these significant swings from the current position and the poorer electoral equality compared to the Tameside Council submission are not strong.

Table 1: Comparison of electoral equality in Ashton on 2026

Ward	Current wards (2026)	Proposed wards (2026)	
		TMBC	LGBCE
St. Peter’s	+7%	-2%	-9%
Ashton Waterloo	-5%	+2%	+9%
Ashton Hurst	-1%	-1%	-3%
Ashton St. Michael’s	-3%	-1%	+1%

4.2 While not making a formal proposal the LGBCE report seeks views on the most appropriate ward for the Alt Hill / Park Bridge area. Currently this area is in the Ashton Waterloo ward in that part of the ward which runs around the north of the Ashton Hurst ward. Neither the Tameside Council submission nor the LGBCE proposal suggests a change to this arrangement. Tameside Council included Alt Hill / Park Bridge in the Ashton Waterloo ward on the basis of community identity. The area is part of the wider Medlock Valley that encompasses Daisy Nook to the west and Park Bridge to the east all of which runs across the north of the Ashton Waterloo ward. Elector numbers are small so electoral equality is not a factor here.

St. Peter’s

4.3 Tameside Council supports the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the St. Peter’s ward with an amendment to the area to the north of Ashton town centre (and the Manchester-Leeds railway) which is currently in St. Peter’s. The LGBCE proposal moves this area – aka the ‘St. Peter’s thumb’ - in its entirety into the Ashton Waterloo ward. The submission from Tameside Council only moved part of this area into the Ashton Waterloo ward with the other part remaining in the St. Peter’s ward. Tameside Council would re-iterate this split approach as an amendment to the LGBCE proposal. The current LGBCE proposal for this area and its impact on both the Ashton Waterloo ward and the St. Peter’s ward does not speak well to either community identity or electoral equality.

4.4 On a map the Manchester to Leeds railway line is a distinct physical feature, but to assume this translates into a clear community boundary on the ground is a misread of

the situation. A line running from the south west to the north east from the Charlestown industrial area to King George V playing fields is a stronger community boundary than the railway line. The area to the north west of that line identifies more with the Ashton Waterloo area. Residents from this primarily residential area access services and networks in the direction of Oldham Road (to the west and part of the Ashton Waterloo ward currently). The more mixed residential and services area to the south east of that line is connected to the town centre via the southern end of Henrietta Street (one of the primary routes over the railway line). In addition to the housing in this area to the south east there also some services such as shops, garages and cafes which form the outer edge of the town centre which is in the St. Peter's ward. As such Tameside Council would amend the LGBCE proposal by keeping the area to the south east in St. Peter's.

- 4.5 Tameside Council re-iterates the council submission for the St. Peter's ward as it provides a better balance of community identity and electoral equality whereas the LGBCE proposal is weaker on both counts.

Ashton Waterloo

- 4.6 Tameside Council supports the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Ashton Waterloo ward with an amendment to the area to the north of Ashton town centre (and the Manchester-Leeds railway) which is currently in St. Peter's. The LGBCE proposal moves this area – aka the 'St. Peter's thumb' – in its entirety into the Ashton Waterloo ward. The submission from Tameside Council only moved part of this area into the Ashton Waterloo ward with the other part remaining in the St. Peter's ward. Tameside Council would re-iterate this split approach as an amendment to the LGBCE proposal. The current LGBCE proposal for this area and its impact on both the Ashton Waterloo ward and the St. Peter's ward does not speak well to either community identity or electoral equality.

- 4.7 On a map the Manchester to Leeds railway line is a distinct physical feature, but to assume this translates into a clear community boundary on the ground is a misread of the situation. A line running from the south west to the north east from the Charlestown industrial area to King George V playing fields is a stronger community boundary than the railway line. The area to the north west of that line identities more with the Ashton Waterloo area. Residents from this primarily residential area access services and networks in the direction of Oldham Road (to the west and part of the Ashton Waterloo ward currently). The more mixed residential and services area to the south east of that line is connected to the town centre via the southern end of Henrietta Street (one of the primary routes over the railway line). In addition to the housing in this area to the south east there also some services such as shops, garages and cafes which form the outer edge of the town centre which is in the St. Peter's ward. As such Tameside Council would amend the LGBCE proposal by placing the area to the north west in the Ashton Waterloo ward, but not the area to the south east.

- 4.8 Tameside Council re-iterates the council submission for the Ashton Waterloo ward as it provides a better balance of community identity and electoral equality whereas the LGBCE proposal is weaker on both counts.

Ashton St. Michael's

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- 4.9 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Ashton St. Michael's ward.

Ashton Hurst

- 4.10 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Ashton Hurst ward.

5. DUKINFIELD, MOSSLEY AND STALYBRIDGE (EAST)

- 5.1 Tameside Council supports the proposals for the wards in the east area of the borough with one minor amendment regarding St. Raphael's primary school.

Dukinfield

- 5.2 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Dukinfield ward.

Dukinfield Stalybridge

- 5.3 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Dukinfield Stalybridge ward.

Mossley

- 5.4 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Mossley ward.

Stalybridge North

- 5.5 Tameside Council supports the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Stalybridge North ward with one minor exception regarding the boundary. The proposed boundary places St. Raphael's primary school in Stalybridge North, along with Millbrook primary school on the neighbouring site. Currently, St. Raphael's primary school is in Stalybridge South and Millbrook primary school is in Stalybridge North, an arrangement that works well. Both schools draw pupils from both wards albeit with Millbrook primary school having more pupils from the Stalybridge North ward than St. Raphael's primary school. The pupil roll for St. Raphael's comes from a much wider area than Millbrook primary school, as would be expected with a faith school. Given both schools have links with both wards and communities; relationships are well established between local elected members and the schools; and the existing arrangement works well, Tameside Council does not see a case for change. Tameside Council would prefer the boundary is draw in such a way that St. Raphael's primary school remains in Stalybridge South.

Stalybridge South

- 5.6 Tameside Council supports the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Stalybridge South ward with one minor exception regarding the boundary. The proposed boundary places St. Raphael's primary school in Stalybridge North, along

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with Millbrook primary school on the neighbouring site. Currently, St. Raphael’s primary school is in Stalybridge South and Millbrook primary school is in Stalybridge North, an arrangement that works well. Both schools draw pupils from both wards albeit with Millbrook primary school having more pupils from the Stalybridge North ward than St. Raphael’s primary school. The pupil roll for St. Raphael’s comes from a much wider area than Millbrook primary school, as would be expected with a faith school. Given both schools have links with both wards and communities; relationships are well established between local elected members and the schools; and the existing arrangement works well, Tameside Council does not see a case for change. Tameside Council would prefer the boundary is draw in such a way that St. Raphael’s primary school remains in Stalybridge South.

6. HYDE AND LONGDENDALE (SOUTH)

6.1 Tameside Council supports the proposals for the wards in the south area but with some more substantial amendments affecting the boundaries of the three Hyde wards. The amendments relate to the Kingston area and Christy site (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews). Tameside Council believes the council submission which placed both these areas in Hyde Godley provides a better balance of community identity and electoral equality. The table below shows the differences between the current wards, the Tameside Council submission and the LGBCE proposal (all at 2026). The LGBCE proposal has poorer electoral equality (particularly for Hyde Godley) based on a misunderstanding of community identity. The Tameside Council proposal provided better electoral equality with a greater understanding of community identity. While the identity in one of the areas is not particularly strong in any direction it makes sense then to prioritise equality.

Table 2: Comparison of electoral equality in Hyde in 2026

Ward	Current wards (2026)	Proposed wards (2026)	
		TMBC	LGBCE
Hyde Newton	+20%	-2%	+3%
Hyde Godley	+3%	+1%	-9%
Hyde Werneth	-2%	-3%	+3%

6.2 While not making a formal proposal re name changes the LGBCE report seeks views on a change for the Longdendale ward to Hattersley and the Hyde Newton ward, the Hyde Godley ward and the Hyde Werneth ward to Hyde North, Hyde Central and Hyde South respectively. Tameside Council does not support any names changes of this kind.

6.3 While Hattersley has one of the strongest community identities in the borough, and makes up the greater part of the Longdendale ward, a name change is not appropriate. The Longdendale ward also includes the distinct village communities of Mottram, Hollingworth and Broadbottom. A change of ward name to Hattersley would be seen to exclude those villages, whereas the more generic area name of Longdendale is more inclusive and generally understood to include all the communities of the wider

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area. The Hattersley estate as well as the villages of Mottram, Hollingworth and Broadbottom.

- 6.4 The LGBCE proposal report asks for views as to whether the Newton, Godley and Werneth locality suffixes for the Hyde wards adequately reflect the nature of the communities, and in doing so notes a suggestion from a resident for a potential change to North, Central and South. Tameside Council is of the strong view that Newton, Godley and Werneth are the most appropriate names. They are well understood in the community and provide a geographic hook as to the locality of the ward within the wider town of Hyde. Any change to North, Central and South would lack clarity and cause unnecessary and unhelpful confusion in the community.

Longdendale

- 6.5 Tameside Council supports in full the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Longdendale ward. Although the LGBCE report does not propose a name change it does seek views. The council does not support any name change for the reasons outlined in paragraph 6.3 above.

Hyde Newton

- 6.6 Tameside Council supports the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Hyde Newton ward with an amendment to the boundary regarding the Christy's site (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews).
- 6.7 The Tameside Council submission proposed moving three areas alongside the M67 – collectively called the Godley Brook north community – from the Hyde Newton ward to the Hyde Godley ward. Those areas are Christy's (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews); Clarendon and Danby. The LGBCE proposal moves the latter two but keeps the Christy's site (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews) within the Hyde Newton ward. Tameside Council re-iterates the council submission which moved all three from the Hyde Newton ward to the Hyde Godley ward on the basis of better community identity and improved electoral equality across the three Hyde wards.
- 6.8 The LGBCE report argues that the M67 and an 'industrial area either side of Clark Way' provides a strong boundary meaning those residents on the Christy's site (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews) will identify more with the Hyde Newton ward – i.e. it divides them from the town centre and the Hyde Godley ward. The area either side of Clark Way is relatively small in size and is mixed rather than industrial. It includes car service garages, a restaurant, two small greens and the Grafton Centre one of the largest, if not the largest, community group in Hyde. The area is also the through route to the two access points over the M67 to the bus station and wider town centre. It is the area through which all the Godley Brook north community access the town centre and services such as the bus station, railway station, retail, health and the library. As such it is more a point of interaction rather than division between communities. The current housing on the Christy's site (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews) was built quite recently with new units being constructed now. The housing is marketed to the younger age range with families, and in part on the basis of access to the motorway and Hyde town centre. As such these new residents have a focus to the south (Godley) towards services rather than north (Newton) towards existing established residential communities.

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- 6.9 Tameside Council re-iterates the council submission for the Hyde Newton ward as it provides a better balance of community identity and electoral equality (across all the Hyde wards) whereas the LGBCE proposal is weaker on both counts.

Hyde Godley

- 6.10 Tameside Council supports the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Hyde Godley ward with an amendment to the boundary regarding the Christy's site (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews) and the Kingston area.

- 6.11 The Tameside Council submission proposed moving three areas alongside the M67 – collectively called the Godley Brook north community – from the Hyde Newton ward to the Hyde Godley ward. Those areas are Christy's (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews); Clarendon and Danby. The LGBCE proposal moves the latter two but keeps the Christy's site (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews) within the Hyde Newton ward. Tameside Council re-iterates the council submission which moved all three from the Hyde Newton ward into the Hyde Godley ward on the basis of better community identity and improved electoral equality across the three Hyde wards.

- 6.12 The LGBCE report argues that the M67 and an 'industrial area either side of Clark Way' provides a strong boundary meaning those residents on the Christy's site (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews) will identify more with the Hyde Newton ward – i.e. it divides them from the town centre and the Hyde Godley ward. The area either side of Clark Way is relatively small in size and is mixed rather than industrial. It includes car service garages, a restaurant, two small greens and the Grafton Centre one of the largest, if not the largest, community group in Hyde. The area is also the through route to the two access points over the M67 to the bus station and wider town centre. It is the area through which all the Godley Brook north community access the town centre and services such as the bus station, railway station, retail, health and the library. As such it is more a point of interaction rather than division between communities. The current housing on the Christy's site (Carrfield, Bayleyfield and Zorbit Mews) was built quite recently with new units being constructed now. The housing is marketed to the younger age range with families, and in part on the basis of access to the motorway and Hyde town centre. As such these new residents have a focus to the south (Godley) towards services rather than north (Newton) towards existing established residential communities.

- 6.13 With regards to the Kingston area the LGBCE report argues it is better placed in the Hyde Werneth ward due to the presence of a 'particularly strong' potential boundary along the M67. While this is a strong physical boundary it doesn't by consequence give the area of Kingston any particular connection with the Hyde Werneth ward. The M67 is to the north of the Kingston area, whereas the Hyde Werneth ward is the east. The Kingston area has strong physical boundaries on all sides. The M67 to the north, the River Tame and the Tame Valley to both the west and south, and the Peak Forest Canal and the Rosehill to Manchester railway line to the east. It is these physical boundaries on all sides that means while Kingston is considered part of Hyde, it isn't associated specifically with any particular part of Hyde (Newton, Godley or Werneth). With this in mind it makes sense to place Kingston in the most appropriate place that meets the broad community identity of Hyde and provides for better electoral equality. That place being in the Hyde Godley ward.

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6.14 Tameside Council re-iterates the council submission for Hyde Godley as it provides a better balance of community identity and electoral equality (across all the Hyde wards) whereas the LGBCE proposal is weaker on both counts.

Hyde Werneth

6.15 Tameside Council supports the LGBCE boundary and name proposal for the Hyde Werneth ward with an amendment to the boundary regarding the Kingston area.

6.16 The LGBCE report argues the Kingston area is better placed in Hyde Werneth due to the presence of a ‘particularly strong’ potential boundary along the M67. The Tameside Council submission kept Kingston in the Hyde Godley where it is currently. While the M67 is a strong physical boundary it doesn’t by consequence give the area of Kingston any particular connection with the Hyde Werneth ward. The M67 is to the north of the Kingston area, whereas the Hyde Werneth ward is the east. The Kingston area has strong physical boundaries on all sides. The M67 to the north, the River Tame and the Tame Valley to both the west and south, and the Peak Forest Canal and the Rosehill to Manchester railway line to the east. It is these physical boundaries on all sides that means while Kingston is considered part of Hyde, it isn’t associated specifically with any particular part of Hyde (Newton, Godley or Werneth). With this in mind it makes sense to place Kingston in the most appropriate place that meets the broad community identity of Hyde and provides for better electoral equality. That place being in the Hyde Godley ward.

6.17 Tameside Council re-iterates the council submission for Hyde Werneth as it provides a better balance of community identity and electoral equality (across all the Hyde wards) whereas the LGBCE proposal is weaker on both counts.

7. APPENDIX

7.1 Summary of the Tameside Council response to the LGBCE proposals.

Ward	Name	Boundary	Notes
Droylsden West	Yes	Yes	-
Droylsden East	Yes	Amend	Boundary: Amend re Willow Fold, Fitzroy Street and King Street as per Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021).
Audenshaw	Yes	Amend	Boundary: Amend re Audenshaw Reservoir and Denton Railway station as per Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021). Boundary: Amend re Willow Fold, Fitzroy Street and King Street as per Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021).
Denton West	No	Amend	Boundary: Amend re Audenshaw Reservoir and Denton Railway station as

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			per Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021). Name: Remain as Denton West. Do not add Dane Bank.
Denton South	Yes	Yes	-
Denton North East	Yes	Yes	-
St. Peter's	Yes	Amend	Boundary: Amend re 'St. Peter's thumb' as per Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021).
Ashton Waterloo	Yes	Amend	Boundary: Amend re 'St. Peter's thumb' as per Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021).
Ashton Hurst	Yes	Yes	-
Ashton St. Michael's	Yes	Yes	-
Mossley	Yes	Yes	-
Stalybridge North	Yes	Amend	Boundary: Amend so St. Raphael's primary school is in Stalybridge South.
Stalybridge South	Yes	Amend	Boundary: Amend so St. Raphael's primary school is in Stalybridge South.
Dukinfield	Yes	Yes	-
Dukinfield Stalybridge	Yes	Yes	-
Longdendale	Yes	Yes	Name: Although a name change is not proposed in the LGBCE report it does seek views. Tameside Council does not support any name change (see paragraph 6.3).
Hyde Newton	Yes	Amend	Boundary: Amend so the 'Christy' site is in Hyde Godley as per Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021).
Hyde Godley	Yes	Amend	Boundary: Amend so the 'Christy' site and the 'Kingston' area are both in Hyde Godley as per Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021).
Hyde Werneth	Yes	Amend	Boundary: Amend so the 'Kingston' area is in Hyde Godley as per Tameside Council submission (1 April 2021).

Agenda Item 9

- Report to:** COUNCIL
- Date:** 20 July 2021
- Executive Member:** Cllr Gerald Cooney – Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment)
- Reporting Officer:** Jayne Traverse – Director of Growth
- Subject:** **PLACES FOR EVERYONE PUBLICATION PLAN 2021: A JOINT DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT FOR 9 GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL AUTHORITIES (BOLTON, BURY, MANCHESTER, OLDHAM, ROCHDALE, SALFORD, TAMESIDE, TRAFFORD AND WIGAN)**
- Report Summary:** This report seeks approval to publish the Places for Everyone (PfE) Publication Plan 2021, including supporting background documents, for a period of public consultation in accordance with planning regulations.
- The report also recommends that Full Council approve the submission of PfE to the Secretary of State following the period of public consultation.
- It also recommends publishing an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) to reflect a revised Local and joint plan-making timetable given the transition from GMSF to PfE.
- Recommendations:** It is recommended that Executive Cabinet note that the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 has substantially the same effect on the remaining 9 districts (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan) as the Greater Manchester Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment (GMSF 2020) and :
- (i) Approve Publication of the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021, including strategic site allocations and green belt boundary amendments, and reference to the potential use of compulsory purchase powers to assist with site assembly, and the supporting background documents, pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 for a period for representations of 8 weeks, commencing no earlier than 9 August 2021.
 - (ii) Authorise the Director of Growth, in consultation with the Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment), to approve relevant Statement of Common Ground(s) required on this and other planning matters, pursuant to the National Planning Policy Framework 2019;
 - (iii) Agrees the updated timetable for the production of the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021, as presented to and agreed by the Joint committee, and Tameside Local Plan by publishing and bringing into effect in accordance with the date of this decision the updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) as at Appendix 1.

It is recommended that Full Council:

- (iv) Approve Submission of the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 to the Secretary of State for examination following the period for representations.

Corporate Plan:

Places for Everyone's vision is to support the achievement of the vision set out in the Greater Manchester Strategy and deliver sustainable inclusive growth across the nine boroughs. In doing so it seeks to make this one of the best places in the world to grow up, get on and grow old, strategically complementing and assisting in the delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan themes of starting well, living well and ageing well.

Policy Implications:

Places for Everyone is a joint Development Plan Document for nine boroughs, which has been prepared in accordance with the legislative requirements set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Upon adoption, PfE will provide a policy framework to guide investment and development decisions and be material in the determination of planning applications.

PfE is a statutory plan, which seeks to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, delivering economic, social and environmental benefits together in a mutually reinforcing way. It is informed by an Integrated Assessment, which includes Impact Assessments for both Equalities and Health and a Habitats Regulations Assessment, undertaken in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).

An updated LDS is required to ensure the plan is brought forward in accordance with the timetable presented, as required by Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

The approval of any plans or documents identified within the LDS will remain, at the appropriate time, decisions for Executive Cabinet and in some instances, Full Council.

**Financial Implications:
(Authorised by the statutory
Section 151 Officer & Chief
Finance Officer)**

There are no financial implications arising from the report at this stage. The related impact on the Council's financial resource base will be reported to Members at a later date following the period of representations as stated in the recommendations.

**Legal Implications:
(Authorised by the Borough
Solicitor)**

Members will recall considering the publication and consultation on the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework in November 2020, which has now been superseded by the Joint Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021. It is intended that the resolutions being sought in this report will replace those recommendations made in November 2020.

The legislative and constitutional requirements for the preparation of a joint Development Plan Document (DPD) in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 ("2004 Act") and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 ("2012 Regulations") have been complied with. The joint DPD will be submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination (s20 of the 2004 Act) along with the documents prescribed by Regulation 22 of the 2012 Regulations. Prior to submission to the Secretary of State, the joint DPD must be published and

representations invited, pursuant to Regulation 19 and Regulation 20 of the 2012 Regulations. Failing to prepare the joint DPD in accordance with the 2004 Act and the 2012 Regulations, would mean any subsequent attempt to adopt the plan would be susceptible to challenge. Formal consultation on the proposal is due to take place between dates agreed at the meeting of the newly established Joint Committee.

The Council consulted on a revised draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) for which consultation expired on 1 October 2020 and approved a technical update, 23 June 2021. This is the document which sets out how the Council will consult people when it prepares planning documents and determines planning applications. Consultation on earlier drafts of the GMSF generated significant interest and comments received are detailed within a Statement of Consultation which accompanies and has informed the Places for Everyone 2021 documentation.

The Equalities Impact Assessment which accompanies the SCI has identified concerns about an over reliance on internet communication to consult with the public. Without or the reduced use of traditional physical engagement methods, such as, pamphlets, letter drops, door canvassing, information in public buildings and workshops in communities; due to COVID19 restrictions, could lead to certain groups becoming disenfranchised. For example older people and people on lower incomes may be less likely to take part in the consultation. Section 3.4 of the report sets out some potential steps to mitigate these concerns in respect of the Places for Everyone consultation.

The Council's ability to comply with its Equalities Duties and carry out a meaningful consultation on the Places for Everyone will need to be kept under review, in light of possible changes to local COVID restrictions during the consultation period. The Places for Everyone Publication Plan will be subject to examination in public.

Therefore relevant governance and consultation processes will and should be subject to greater legal scrutiny; including any proposed delegations.

Risk Management:

There are a number of risks associated with plan making activities and Places for Everyone, alongside failure to publish an up to date LDS. Namely:

- (i) If the jointly prepared Development Plan Document is not taken forward in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), any subsequent attempt to adopt the plan may be susceptible to challenge.
- (ii) If the LDS is not updated, communities and interested parties (including the Planning Inspectorate) may not be aware of, or be able to keep track of progress of plan making activities and the Council may fail to comply with the requirements of Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

Access to Information:

Places for Everyone will be issued for public consultation and accessible via a range of consultation methods including being

made available via the Council and on Combined Authority websites.

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/placesforeveryone>

The above website will be updated following nine districts approval processes and the consultation portal (<https://www.gmconsult.org/>) will become live at the start of the formal consultation.

The updated LDS is available at Appendix 1

Background Information:

Places for Everyone and other relevant background papers can be accessed via the links below:

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/placesforeveryone>

<https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=412>

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Graham Holland



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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In 2014, following AGMA Executive Board recommendation¹, Tameside Council resolved to work collaboratively with the other Boroughs of Greater Manchester and the Combined Authority on the production of Greater Manchester's Plan for Homes, Jobs, and the Environment, also known as the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF). The GMSF was a Development Plan Document that had been prepared together by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, comprising of the Mayor of Greater Manchester and the leaders of all ten of Greater Manchester's local councils.
- 1.2 Up until December 2020, the GMSF had been prepared as a Joint Development Plan Document of the ten Greater Manchester local authorities. And on the 30 October 2020, the AGMA Executive Board² agreed to recommend the GMSF 2020 to be approved for consultation and submission. At Executive Cabinet³ (2 November 2020) and Full Council Meetings⁴ (3 November 2020), Tameside resolved to approve that plan, for publication and onward submission to the Secretary of State. The GMSF 2020 had reached the Regulation 19 (Publication) stage of the process, however, Stockport Council subsequently resolved not to submit the GMSF 2020 following the consultation period and not to publish it for public for consultation. The decisions of Stockport's Cabinet (4 December 2020) and Council (3 December 2020) therefore signalled the end of the GMSF as a plan for the 10 authorities.
- 1.3 However, S.28 (6)-(9) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and regulation 32 of the Town and Country Planning Local Plan Regulations apply where one authority withdraws from an agreement to prepare a joint Development Plan Document (DPD). Together they enable a joint plan to continue to progress in the event of one of the authorities withdrawing, provided that the plan has "substantially the same effect" on the remaining authorities as the original joint plan.
- 1.4 Consequently, on the 11 December 2020, a report was considered by AGMA Executive Board⁵ and agreement reached in principal to the preparation of a joint plan of the remaining nine boroughs (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan). Following that meeting, officers were asked to consider the impact of the withdrawal of Stockport and the extent to which the joint Places for Everyone (PfE) plan could take advantage of the provisions set out in paragraph 1.3 above. And proceed to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, the publication stage, rather than have to go back to an earlier (Regulation 18) informal stage of consultation.
- 1.5 The 'Publication stage' is a formal consultation on the draft joint DPD undertaken in accordance with regulation 19 of the Local Planning Regulations. It is a statutory stage that provides an opportunity for organisations and individuals to submit their final views on the content of the plan.
- 1.6 On the 12 February 2021, a report was considered by AGMA Executive Board⁶ and agreement reached that each of the of the nine Councils take forward recommendations through their relevant processes, to approve the making of an agreement with the other eight Councils to prepare a Joint DPD, PfE. Boroughs were also asked to agree the membership of a new joint committee and delegate authority to that committee to prepare the plan. At

¹ <https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/CeListDocuments.aspx?Committeeld=365&MeetingId=2277&DF=28%2f11%2f2014&Ver=2>

² <https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=383&MId=4187>

³ <https://tameside.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MId=5052&Ver=4>

⁴ <https://tameside.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=160&MId=5269&Ver=4>

⁵ <https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=383&MId=4221>

⁶ <https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=383&MId=4332>

Council⁷ (23 February 2021) and Executive Cabinet⁸ (24 March 2021) Tameside agreed those recommendations.

- 1.7 PfE is clearly key for Tameside and the other eight boroughs in creating the foundations for the scale of growth and ambition envisaged. It will be part of the Council's Development Plan and alongside the strategic sites will provide a framework of policies to be used in the day-to-day determination of planning applications, but it remains a high-level strategic plan and does not cover everything. Local plans and Supplementary Planning Documents will continue to be important to take forward the strategic policies and priorities of PfE and interpret these at a more detailed local level, sustaining areas of local distinctiveness and quality in Tameside.

2. PREVIOUS CONSULTATION AND PROCEDURES

- 2.1 Four consultations took place in relation to the GMSF, which have in turn informed the preparation of PfE. The first in November 2014 was on the scope of the plan and the initial evidence base, the second in November 2015 was on the vision, strategy and strategic growth options, and the third and fourth in 2016 and 2019 on draft versions of the plan.
- 2.2 The first draft of the GMSF was published for consultation on 31 October 2016, ending on 16 January 2017 and generated significant interest with over 27,000 responses received. Consultation on the last version of the plan, the 2019 revised Draft GMSF, took place between 21 January and 18 March 2019 and over 17,000 responses were received.
- 2.3 Since the fourth and most recent consultation on the GMSF, further work was undertaken to analyse the responses, develop and refine the evidence base and prepare a further version of the plan which was the GMSF Publication Draft 2020 (GMSF 2020), as previously presented and approved by Executive Cabinet⁹ (2 November) and Council Meetings¹⁰ (3 November). However, the withdrawal of Stockport Council in December 2020 prevented GMSF 2020 proceeding to Regulation 19 Publication stage and instead, work was undertaken to prepare PfE 2021.
- 2.4 As provisions exist that where a local planning authority withdraws from a joint plan and that plan continues to have substantially the same effect as the original joint plan on the remaining authorities, s28(7) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 provides that any step taken in relation to the plan must be treated as a step taken by the remaining authorities for the purposes of the joint plan. On this basis, it is proposed, as presented to the Joint Committee (20 July 2021), to proceed directly to Publication stage under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) England Regulations 2012 rather than take a backward step to an earlier consultation stage.
- 2.5 A Statement of Consultation accompanies the PfE 2021 to enable people to see how their comments, in relation to the previous GMSF consultations have been considered and how the plan has been changed as a result, or why in some instances comments have not resulted in changes. This next consultation is the 'Publication' stage for the jointly prepared PfE 2021 and its background information. It is undertaken in accordance with the relevant national regulations (in this case, regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012).
- 2.6 The publication plan is the version that the nine boroughs consider sound. At this stage, whilst anyone can make a representation on any matter, only those relating to 'soundness'

⁷ <https://tameside.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=160&MId=6914&Ver=4>

⁸ <https://tameside.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MId=5057&Ver=4>

⁹ <https://tameside.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MId=5052&Ver=4>

¹⁰ <https://tameside.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=160&MId=5269&Ver=4>

will be taken into account by the Inspector(s). The term 'sound' is used to describe a Local Plan that has been prepared in accordance with what Government expects of local planning authorities. As set out in paragraph 35 of the National Planning Policy Framework, plans are sound if they are;

- a) Positively prepared – providing a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area’s objectively assessed needs 19 ; and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development;
- b) Justified – an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence;
- c) Effective – deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground; and
- d) Consistent with national policy – enabling the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in this Framework.

2.7 Inspectors also consider submissions concerning legal compliance issues, for example the Integrated Assessment, the Habitats Assessment Regulation and the Duty to Co-operate.

2.8 On completion of the proposed PfE Publication in late 2021, a post-consultation report will be prepared and then the plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination in early 2022. This is known as the ‘Submission’ stage, undertaken in accordance with regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Whilst anyone can make a representation on any matter, as set out above, it is important to note that only those relating to the four tests of soundness will be taken into account by the Inspector(s). If major new issues arise at the Publication stage there would likely need to be further consultation prior to any submission of the plan.

2.9 An Examination in Public then takes place, at which a Planning Inspector(s) will consider the joint DPD and representations made in respect of it and determine whether the DPD is capable of being adopted, either with or without amendments. Assuming that the document is capable of adoption, whether with or without amendments, the ultimate decision to adopt must be taken by each of the Full Councils of the 9 participating local authorities.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1 The consultation will be carried out in line with the requirements of each district’s Statement of Community Involvement, the document which sets out how the Council will consult people when it prepares planning documents and determines planning applications. The challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic have been significant over the past 12-18 months and government guidance continues to have implications for how the public can and should be engaged.

3.2 This will be no different through this next consultation phase. However, the government has also been clear that the challenge presented by the virus is not a sufficient reason to delay plan preparation. Therefore, a range of activities and reasonable steps have been considered to ensure a broad spectrum of the community are engaged through publishing the plan and the achievement of a consultation in a safe and broadly consistent way across the nine boroughs.

3.3 Government also issued emergency legislation¹¹, originally due to expire 31 December 2020 but extended to 31 December 2021, to remove the need for hard copies of plans to be

¹¹ Town and Country Planning (Local Planning, Development Management Procedure, Listed Buildings etc.) (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020

available in locations such as town halls or libraries and advised local authorities to review their Statement of Community Involvement to ensure that consultation can take place in a COVID-compliant way. To reflect this advice, the Council revisited its Statement of Community Involvement and following a period of consultation adopted a revised Statement in November 2020. More recently, the Statement has received a further minor update to reflect the change in plan making narrative from GMSF to PfE (approved 23 June 2021).

3.4 Effective community engagement must be promoted by methods which are reasonably practicable and government guidance strongly encourages the use of online engagement methods. Engagement strategies continue to be developed for the PfE 2021 consultation, which will consider the use of virtual exhibitions, digital consultation tools, social media and other online resources. However, reasonable steps also need to be taken to ensure that sections of the community that don't have internet access are involved and therefore alternatives are also being considered. This could include:

- Engaging sections of the community that do not have internet access through representative groups via the Council's Partnership Engagement Network;
- Providing telephone information lines or a call back facility;
- Placing of site notices adjacent to both allocations for development and sites for further protection;
- Provision of socially distanced drop in information sessions;
- Provision of display material prominently in public locations; and
- Provision of hard copy or take away material within libraries.

3.5 It is important to note while news continues to be changeable regarding the prevalence of the virus within the borough and across Greater Manchester, there continues to be the potential for uncertainty around the type of restrictions which may or may not be in place at the time of the consultation. Scenarios therefore continue to be developed jointly with the Council's Policy and Communications teams to respond to the different levels of social distancing and public interaction which may be possible at the time of any future consultation.

4. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PLACES FOR EVERYONE 2021 AND GMSF 2020

4.1 The text of the GMSF 2020 has been revised following the withdrawal of Stockport. The Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 (PfE 2021) is available via the web link at the front of this report. The revisions to PfE 2021 (as compared to GMSF 2020 and reported to the Joint Committee 20 July 2021) fall into 5 broad categories:

(i) As a direct result of the withdrawal of Stockport Council from GMSF

Policies relating specifically to Stockport Council's area have been removed (e.g. strategic allocations). Housing and employment land requirements and supply have been recalculated to reflect the withdrawal of Stockport Council, the change in the Plan period and the outcome of Duty to Co-operate discussions with Stockport to date, as has the extent of the proposed release of Green Belt in the remaining nine districts. The plan period has been updated from 2020-2037 to 2021-2037; and references to 'Stockport' 'Greater Manchester', 'Greater Manchester Spatial Framework' and 'GMSF' have been deleted and/or replaced where appropriate.

Information presented in the Plan relates to the nine participating boroughs where appropriate and possible to do so. In some instances (such as air quality), information cannot be disaggregated from the Greater Manchester level, or it is not appropriate to do so as it is referring to the wider Greater Manchester area, including Stockport. In these instances it is legitimate to present the information for Greater Manchester.

(ii) As a direct result of changes to government policy since October 2020

Government published the revised methodology for calculating Local Housing Need (LHN) on 16 December 2020. The methodology for all of the Greater Manchester Authorities other than Manchester City Council was largely unchanged, however the new methodology resulted in a 35% uplift for the Manchester City Council area. The revised LHN methodology states that the 35% uplift is to be met within the district and not redistributed. As PfE 2021 has not been through the Publication Stage it is not subject to transitional arrangements and is required to take into account the standard methodology for calculating Local Housing Need published by Government on 16 December 2020. This resulted in the Manchester LHN increasing by 914 homes per annum or almost 15,000 homes over the plan period which has been reflected in Manchester City Council's housing land target in PfE 2021.

(iii) As a direct result of new evidence/information being made available since October 2020

The evidence base underpinning the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 builds on that compiled for GMSF 2020. Addenda have been produced where appropriate to outline the additional work which has been undertaken to take account of the changes between GMSF 2020 and Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 and the passage of time.

(iv) Clarification of policy wording

This category includes minor changes to a limited number of policies as a result of ongoing collaboration with statutory consultees, and to provide more clarity regarding implementation.

(v) Minor typographical changes

This category relates to the correction of spelling and grammatical errors only.

5. ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES

5.1 The revisions set out above have been reviewed in order to consider their impact on the effect of the PfE 2021 on the remaining nine authorities, compared to the GMSF 2020. The assessment of the effect of the changes as reported to the Joint Committee (20 July 2021) are set out below:

(i) As a direct result of the withdrawal of Stockport Council from GMSF

The effect on the remaining nine districts of the removal of the Stockport allocations and associated references is minimal.

The withdrawal of the Stockport allocations did not result in the need for the remaining nine districts to amend the distribution of their objectively assessed housing and employment needs. Therefore the spatial strategy for the remaining nine districts will have substantially the same effect as the GMSF 2020 would have had on the nine remaining districts.

The withdrawal of Stockport in December delayed publication of the plan under Regulation 19. The PfE Plan period has therefore been revised to 2021 to 2037, from 2020 to 2037 (that of GMSF 2020). As a result, the overall (and individual) housing and employment land targets have been amended and the ability of the land supply to meet these revised targets has consequently altered. Whilst a small number of changes have been made to allocations in Oldham and Salford, as a result of this, the resultant spatial strategy will have substantially the same effect as the GMSF 2020 would have had on the nine remaining districts.

The proposed Green Belt release in PfE 2021 equates to 1,754 hectares, equating to 3.3% of the current Green Belt covering the 9 districts. GMSF 2020 proposed Green

Belt release of 1,940 hectares, which equated to a 3.3% reduction in the extent of the Greater Manchester (all 10 districts) Green Belt.

In light of the above, it is considered that the revisions which fall into this category (as a direct result of the withdrawal of Stockport) would result in a plan which has substantially the same effect on the participating nine districts as GMSF 2020.

(ii) As a direct result of changes to government policy since October 2020

A higher annualised plan figure for Manchester City than in the GMSF 2020 (2,951 vs 3,527) has been introduced within PfE 2021 as a result of the revised LHN. Through this process Manchester City Council has identified sufficient land in the urban area to meet its increased need and consequently remove a very small Green Belt housing site. This remains consistent with the GMSF 2020 spatial strategy which concentrated growth in the centre of the conurbation. Manchester City's increased LHN, and therefore its PfE 2021 housing target, helps to maintain a consistent spatial strategy, between the two plans, despite Stockport's withdrawal. And results in a Plan with substantially the same effect as the GMSF 2020 on the nine districts.

(iii) As a direct result of new evidence/information being made available since October 2020

The types of changes outlined above, which fall into this category have arisen out of the need to maintain an up to date evidence base, despite the passage of time since the GMSF 2020 and similarly the need to have continuous dialogue with key stakeholders on matters of strategic importance. The effect of the proposed amendments on the overall strategy and objectives of the plan have substantially the same effects on the participating nine districts as GMSF 2020.

(iv) Clarification of policy wording

Minor changes to policies, referred to above, have been made to assist interpretation of the policies. It is not considered that they impact on the overall objectives of the policies or specific allocations. Therefore, the effect of the policies on the remaining nine districts remains substantially the same as they did in GMSF 2020. However, they make the plan less ambiguous, in line with NPPF.

(v) Minor typographical changes.

This category relates to the correction of spelling and grammatical errors only and therefore result in a plan which has a substantially the same effect on the participating districts as GMSF 2020.

- 5.2 Having considered the impact of the five different categories of changes above, it is necessary to consider if their cumulative impact would result in a plan which has substantially the same effect on the participating nine districts as GMSF 2020. In this context, it is important to note that, as with the above assessment, "substantially the same effect" does not mean "the same effect". It allows for flexibility to address the fact that the plan now covers a different geographical area, with consequently different levels of needs and resulting changes to allocations.
- 5.3 The changes made between GMSF 2020 and PfE 2021 are not insignificant in numerical terms, indeed all sections of the plan have seen some form of change. However, in determining the cumulative impact of these multiple changes, it is important to consider what impact they have had on the overall Vision, Objectives and Spatial Strategy of PfE 2021 compared to GMSF 2020, particularly for the decision maker in implementation terms.
- 5.4 As set out above and presented to the Joint Committee (20 July 2021), the resultant impact of the changes on the overall strategy of the joint plan and its effect on the remaining nine districts is limited.

- 5.5 On this basis, officers have concluded, as presented to and agreed by the Joint Committee (20 July 2021), that PfE 2021 has substantially the same effect on the 9 boroughs as the GMSF 2020 and it is recommend that the plan proceeds to a Publication stage (Regulation 19) consultation.
- 5.6 As appended to the report to the Joint Committee, Leading Counsel has provided a note confirming the relevant statutory provisions and endorsing the approach and conclusions of officers that the plan has substantially the same effect.

6. PLACES FOR EVERYONE PUBLICATION PLAN 2021 CONTENT

6.1 PfE 2021 provides an important opportunity to create the conditions for inclusive economic growth, provide opportunities for provision of much needed homes and protect, and enhance the natural environment. The Plan is not being prepared in isolation. It is supported by the Transport 2040 Delivery Plan, which outlines the interventions required to achieve the transport vision for the city region and is one of a suite of strategic documents setting out how Greater Manchester can achieve the ambition set out in the Greater Manchester Strategy. It sits alongside the Local Industrial Strategy, Housing Strategy, 5 Year Environment Plan, Digital and Cultural Strategies. Places for Everyone is a joint development plan document for nine of the Greater Manchester boroughs, to manage growth, so that the city region is a better place to live, work and visit. It:

- sets out how they should develop up to the year 2037,
- identifies the amount of new development that will come forward in terms of housing, offices, and industry and warehousing, and the main areas in which this will be focused,
- identifies the important environmental assets which will be protected and enhanced,
- allocates sites for employment and housing required outside of the urban area,
- supports the delivery of key infrastructure, such as transport and utilities,
- defines a new Green Belt boundary for the 9 boroughs.

6.2 Spatial Strategy

The spatial strategy seeks to deliver sustainable, inclusive growth with the following spatial elements;

- Significant growth in jobs and housing at the core – continuing development in the ‘core growth area’ encompassing the city centre and beyond to the Etihad in the east, through to the Quays, Trafford Park and Port Salford in the west. The majority of commercial employment growth is proposed in this area and around 50% of overall housing supply is found here and in the wards immediately surrounding it.
- Boosting the competitiveness of the northern districts – provision of significant new employment opportunities and supporting infrastructure and a commitment that collectively the northern districts meet their own local housing need
- Sustaining the competitiveness of the southern districts – supporting key economic drivers, for example around Wythenshawe hospital and the Airport, realising the opportunities offered by national infrastructure investment, e.g. HS2, whilst recognising the important green infrastructure assets in the area.

6.3 Jobs

6.4 Economic prosperity is central to the overall strategy. It is essential to raising incomes, improving health and quality of life, and providing the finances to deliver better infrastructure, services and facilities in Tameside. In the face of the uncertainty brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a need to continue to invest in the borough to drive its recovery.

- 6.5 The Greater Manchester Independent Prosperity Review: One Year on 2020 indicated that Greater Manchester was the most economically diverse city region economy with world-class strengths in advanced materials and health innovation. There is however a growing body of evidence that indicates the worst effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have amplified pre-existing patterns of not only health, but also economic inequality. With some of the most deprived areas of the country located within the borough, growing inequalities is a significant area of concern and has a major impact on quality of life for many Tameside residents. As emergency support schemes from government are withdrawn, Tameside, as part of Greater Manchester, has the opportunity to lead with the 'levelling up' agenda helping to deliver a more successful North of England and aiding the long-term economic success of the country as a whole.
- 6.6 This Plan supports high levels of economic growth across Greater Manchester and seeks to put in place the measures that will enable such growth to continue in the even longer-term. However, delivering these high levels of growth means that there will be need to continue to invest in the sites and critical infrastructure required to make this a more attractive place for businesses to invest, bringing high-value, well paid jobs, and invest in skills and business. In pursuit of this, the plan sets a target across Greater Manchester over the plan period of;
- at least 1,900,000 sq.m. of new office floorspace and
 - at least 3,330,000 sq.m. of industrial and warehousing floorspace.
- 6.7 As in GMSF 2020, a large share of development in Tameside within PfE 2021 is expected to be accommodated on sites within the existing urban area. However, in support of the Plan and the priorities and economic ambitions identified within the borough's Inclusive Growth Strategy, one site, Ashton Moss West continues to be identified as a Green Belt deletion and allocated for employment uses. The use classes prescribed have more recently been brought up to date in line with government changes to the Use Classes Order and overall development yields for the site have been reduced from around 175,000 square metres of potential floorspace to around 160,000 square metres, which follows further analysis of potential development constraints.
- 6.8 **Homes**
- 6.9 Greater Manchester is facing a housing crisis and the impact of Covid 19, with potential increases in unemployment, will exacerbate this. Although boroughs have built more houses in recent years, wages have not been keeping pace with property price increases and affordability issues have intensified. Additionally the construction of new housing is also an important part of the economy, providing large numbers of jobs and often securing the redevelopment of derelict and underused sites as identified on the Council's Brownfield Land Register.
- 6.10 Applying the Governments current standard methodology means that around 10,300 (10,305) homes are required per annum across the nine boroughs, equating to just under 165,000 (164,880) new homes over the plan period. The plan also supports Greater Manchester's commitment to deliver more affordable housing, 50,000 units over the plan period, including 30,000 for social or affordable rent.
- 6.11 As in GMSF 2020 and detailed below a large share of housing development in Tameside within PfE 2021 is expected to be accommodated on sites within the existing urban area. However, in support of the Plan and the priorities and ambitions identified within the borough's emerging Housing Strategy, two sites, one at Godley Green Garden Village and one at the South of Hyde continue to be identified as Green Belt deletions and are allocated for residential uses, effectively topping up the baseline land supply.

- 6.12 Godley Green continues to be identified as having potential to accommodate around 2,350 new homes, although not all are envisaged to be delivered within the plan period, and South of Hyde around 440 new homes.
- 6.13 The 2019/20 baseline land supply, prepared for the proposed GMSF 2020, continues to be utilised to support PfE 2021. This shows that between 2020-2037 Tameside's existing land supply (6,347 units), the majority of which are on brownfield sites (5,017 units), will be where the bulk of development is brought forward. To top this up a small windfall allowance (576 units) and strategic sites (1,558 units) are included, giving a total 2020-2037 supply of 8,481 units. It is estimated that first year completions (of circa 281 units in 2020/21) mean a remaining total supply of 8,200 units exists over the plan period. The plan maintains a strong focus on directing new development toward sites within the existing urban area, which are often sustainable locations, close to facilities and served by existing infrastructure. Maximising the use of land in such locations as presented within the Council's Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment¹², helps reduce the need to make use of Green Belt land for development.
- 6.14 Alongside the identification of the three strategic allocations for growth, 12 sites continue to be identified for further protection through being added to the Green Belt, as set out below.
- 6.15 PfE 2021 also continues to set a housing target for the borough over the revised plan period 2021-2037. This represents a revised annual average target of 485 units, compared to 475 proposed in GMSF 2020. In addition, the plan continues to take a stepped approach to the phasing of this across three time slices. Initially setting an annual target of 299 units before stepping to 485 and then to 591 units respectively.
- 6.16 **Green Belt**
- 6.17 All three of Tameside's strategic sites maintain the same level of land to be taken out of the Green Belt (known as Green Belt deletions). This is mirrored through allocation boundaries that remain the same as were proposed in GMSF 2020, which included the addition of a small parcel of non-Green Belt land at the South of Hyde site. This is adjacent to Hilda Road and is to facilitate access to the eastern parcel of land from the A560.
- 6.18 Alongside the identification of three sites for development purposes, PfE 2021 also identifies a number of sites to be protected and added to the Green Belt (known as Green Belt additions).
- 6.19 The existing Green Belt in Tameside extends to approximately 5,071 hectares and a further 75.19 hectares of land in the borough, across 12 sites, have been identified within the Publication plan to be designated as such. Initially 17 sites had been proposed within the 2019 GMSF and a further three sites were put forward through the 2019 consultation, Following further analysis of the proposed additions, there are now 12 sites taken forward as follows:
- Fox Platt, Mossley;
 - Cowbury Green, Long Row, Carrbrook;
 - Woodview, South View, Carrbrook;
 - Manor Farm Close, Waterloo, Ashton-under-Lyne;
 - Ridge Hill Lane, Ridge Hill, Stalybridge;
 - Yew Tree Lane, Dukinfield;
 - Hyde Road, Mottram;
 - Ashworth Lane, Mottram;
 - Broadbottom Road, Broadbottom;

¹² <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/Planning/Strategic-Housing-Land-Availability-Assessment>

- Cemetery Road, Denton;
- Ardenfield, Haughton Green, Denton; and
- Horses Field, Dane Bank, Denton

6.20 This means that the overall net change in Green Belt for the borough is a 2.7% reduction, this is comparative to an initial net reduction in 2016 within Tameside of 8.3%, and an overall net reduction across the nine boroughs by 3.3% in PfE 2021.

6.21 Evidence

6.22 A comprehensive evidence base was assembled to support the policies and proposals in the GMSF 2020 and over the course of time there has been substantial work to strengthen this, being added to significantly in direct response to the 2019 consultation comments. This evidence base also remains the fundamental basis for PfE 2021 and has remained available on the Combined Authorities website since October 2020. In addition to responding to 2019 consultation comments, it has been reviewed and updated in light of the change to PfE 2021 and, where appropriate addendum reports have been produced. The evidence based documents which have informed the plan will be available in advance of the formal consultation commencing.

6.23 Alongside the summary of further evidence as set out below, a key supporting document will be a strategic Statement of Common Ground. This will set out the key matters between the nine authorities, agreeing on the distribution and quantum of development contained within the Publication Plan. There may be need for additional Statements of Common Ground to deal with specific matters linked to the proposed site allocations and these will be the responsibility of the relevant local authority to draw up if required.

6.24 It will also deal with any matters with other organisations, including Stockport as one of our neighbouring local authorities, that need to be agreed to enable the Plan to be submitted next year. The position between Stockport and the remaining 9 Greater Manchester authorities has evolved from December 2020 when all 10 were co-operating on the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, to the more recent position where, in March 2021, the 9 remaining local authorities agreed to produce a joint plan (Places for Everyone) following the Stockport decision to withdraw from the joint plan to prepare its own local plan.

6.25 In the light of this it has been necessary to 'reset' the Duty to Co-operate arrangements. The outcome of the GMSF work was an agreed approach to the scale and distribution of development and a number of housing and employment allocations to ensure that the overall Vision and Objectives of the Plan were met. Whilst the outcome of the spatial strategy was some individual districts not meeting their LHN and some exceeding theirs, the extent to which districts were meeting need was never a defining factor in determining distribution. No district was identified as having 'unmet' needs as overall Greater Manchester was meeting its collective LHN and supporting the spatial strategy. At this point in time, the 9 districts do not have an understanding of what the Stockport land supply position is, and the assumptions underpinning Stockport's assessment of it and until this assessment is carried out it is too early to be able to have conclusive discussions on potential distribution of development needs. Duty to cooperate discussions with Stockport continue

6.26 Additionally, as part of the development of GMSF 2020 an Integrated Assessment was undertaken, incorporating the requirements of:

- Sustainability Appraisal (SA): mandatory under section 19 (5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): mandatory under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (which transpose the European Directive 2001/42/EC into English law).

- Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA): required to be undertaken for plans, policies and strategies by the Equality Act 2010.
- Health Impact Assessment (HIA): there is no statutory requirement to undertake HIA, however it has been included to add value and depth to the assessment process.

- 6.27 The Integrated Assessment contributed to the development of the GMSF through an iterative assessment process, which reviews the draft policies and the discrete site allocations against a framework of questions. Consultation is a significant part of developing the Integrated Assessment, and the opinions and inputs of stakeholders have been sought on it in the past and will continue to be sought through the next consultation.
- 6.28 Given the conclusion reached above, that PfE 2021 has substantially the same effect as the GMSF 2020 would have had on the nine districts, enabling the application of S.28(6)-(9) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and regulation 32 of the Town and Country Planning Local Plan Regulations, it follows that PfE should be considered as, in effect, the same Plan as the GMSF, albeit without one of the districts (Stockport). Therefore “the plan” which is being assessed is one and the same. Its content has changed over time through the iterative process of plan making, but its purpose has not. In view of this, the environmental assessments carried out at previous stages remain valid (including their scope). That said, addendum reports have been prepared to assess the impact of the changes between GMSF 2020 and PfE 2021 against the Integrated Assessment framework and these are available alongside the GMSF 2020 IA documentation.
- 6.29 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) has also been prepared, which refers to several distinct stages of Assessment which must be undertaken in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) to determine if a plan or project may affect the protected features of a habitats site before deciding whether to undertake, permit or authorise it.
- 6.30 All plans and projects (including planning applications) which are not directly connected with, or necessary for, the conservation management of a habitat site, require consideration of whether the plan or project is likely to have significant effects on that site. If a proposed plan or project is considered likely to have a significant effect on a protected habitats site (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects) then an Appropriate Assessment of the implications for the site is required.
- 6.31 As was the case with GMSF, PfE 2021 is regarded as a Plan which is considered likely to have significant effect on one or more European protected site and has therefore been informed by an HRA with mitigation measures identified as appropriate.
- 6.32 Additionally, in relation to evidence, significant work has progressed in relation to transport matters and in particular the issue of congestion, which many previous respondents referred to as an area of concern requiring further investigation and consideration. Each of the three strategic allocations in Tameside is now accompanied by a Locality Assessment, which considers transport matters in detail and identifies potential mitigation. The assessment has been reviewed in 2021 to ensure it remains fit for purpose in light of updated modelling. In addition, the 2040 Transport Strategy Delivery Plan accompanied by a Local Implementation Plan continues to identify priorities for transport investment in Tameside, aligning these with growth priorities.
- 6.33 Preliminary Ecological Appraisals have also been undertaken for each of the proposed strategic allocations. The appraisals respond to biodiversity concerns raised through the 2019 consultation, identify important habitat, species and ecological designations and also provide a baseline for further monitoring while identifying where further assessment may be required.

- 6.34 Historic Environment Assessments have also been undertaken across the three strategic allocations, identifying matters of built heritage and archaeological consideration. Again, these assessments respond to consultation comments, provide a baseline for further work and identify a range of positive opportunities which, masterplans could explore and policies have sought to incorporate. Additional dialogue with Historic England following the proposed GMSF 2020 has led to further minor amendments in PfE 2021, in particular to the South of Hyde policy in relation to the historic environment.
- 6.35 Further analysis was also undertaken of potential constraints across the three strategic allocations following discussions with a range of utility providers, alongside the development of other evidence to support GMSF 2020 and which continues to substantiate PfE 2021. This evidence primarily relates to Green Belt harm, flood risk and viability. As an output from this combined work, all three strategic allocations in Tameside are shown to be able to deliver viable schemes.
- 6.36 A narrative for each site that draws together the above relevant detail is presented, within a site allocation topic paper for each site, to help draw together the many strands of thematic evidence.
- 6.37 While the above points provide a summary of those which are likely to be of particular interest and importance to the Borough, PfE 2021 continues to also set out a range of other thematic planning policies, which will become material planning considerations as part of the borough's Development Plan, against which Development Management decisions will be made. These thematic policies are wide ranging in subject matter and provide scope to prepare future Supplementary Planning Documents to assist local interpretation. Following adoption of PfE, each borough will update their own Local Plan, because as a high level strategic plan, PfE does not cover everything that a district local plan would, and work has already started to review which policies within Tameside's existing planning framework are likely to be replaced by content within the Places for Everyone. As appended to the Joint Committee report, which policies within each Council's Plans, including those of the Councils Unitary Development Plan are expected to be replaced by PfE 2021 are identified within a schedule.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 In 2014 the Council resolved to work collaboratively with those in Greater Manchester to prepare jointly a strategic planning document for the city region, the GMSF. While recent decisions mean this is now a joint plan of nine boroughs, Places for Everyone 2021 is considered to have substantially the same effect as GMSF 2020, as previously presented to Members for consideration. It is proposed therefore to continue to proceed to Publish the plan at the next consultation stage, which represents a move toward the culmination of the plan making process, prior to submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination.
- 7.2 The plan, alongside thematic policy content, identifies three strategic sites in Tameside for growth and twelve sites for further protection as additions to the designated Green Belt. Alongside this, it also seeks to provide the borough with an up to date housing target, the strategic context for the borough's Local Plan and updated development management policies to be used in the determination of planning applications.

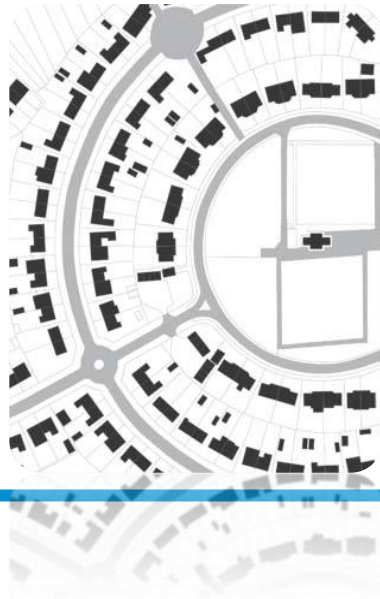
8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 As set out at the front of the report.

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Local Development Scheme

July 2021



Introduction

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended, requires local planning authorities to prepare, maintain and publish a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The purpose of the LDS is to inform the public about the current planning policies for Tameside as well as to set out timescales for preparing new policy so that people are aware of the main opportunities to be involved in the plan making process.

The Council prepared its first LDS in 2007, and issued updates in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2017 and 2020

This 2021 LDS, which supersedes the most recent version, sets out a work programme for the Council over the period 2021 – 2025.

Tameside's local planning framework

Current development plan

The following documents currently form Tameside's development plan:

- the saved policies from the Tameside Unitary Development Plan 2004 (saved from 18 September 2007);
- the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document (adopted April 2012);
- the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Document (adopted April 2013); and
- the Policies Map.

Saved Unitary Development Plan policies

Tameside Council adopted its Unitary Development Plan (UDP) on 17 November 2004. Under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and following approval from the Government Office for the North West on 18 September 2007, Tameside Council 'saved' the policies in the UDP, securing their continued use, until such time that they are replaced. Since then several saved UDP policies have been superseded, following adoption of the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document and the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Document. Details of the saved and replaced UDP policies can be found within the Authority's Monitoring Report.

Supplementary Planning Documents

Six Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) currently provide further detail, interpretation and guidance to the policies within the Unitary Development Plan.

Other Planning Documents

Tameside's current planning framework also includes its Statement of Community Involvement, which sets out how the Council will involve people in preparing and revising planning documents and making decisions on planning applications. The scale and nature of the participation typically varies according to the stage and type of document being produced, or the application being considered, more detail to which is given within the Statement of Community Involvement itself.

Neighbourhood Plans

Tameside Council currently has no adopted neighbourhood plans as defined under the Localism Act 2011.

The Proposed Development Plan for Tameside

This section of the LDS sets out the timetable and intended content in the preparation of emerging planning policies. The main priority for the Council over the period of this LDS is the adoption of the jointly prepared Places for Everyone Plan and to commence review of and replace any remaining UDP policy content through a new Local Plan. The need for further planning policy may be identified in the future, which will be incorporated into reviews of this LDS.

Places for Everyone

Nine of Greater Manchester's authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan) are working on the production of a joint development plan document titled 'Places for Everyone' which will provide the overarching framework to strategically manage sustainable growth and development across the boroughs up to 2037.

Principally, Places for Everyone (formerly the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework) will identify the housing numbers and employment floorspace needs and associated infrastructure requirements, as well as identifying key allocations and broad opportunity areas where this growth should be focused, including allocating sites for employment and housing outside the urban area and defining a new Green Belt boundary across the nine boroughs. Further information on the preparation process for Places for Everyone can also be found on the GM Consultation hub page.

Local Plan

The Tameside Local Plan is intended to replace the remaining saved policies of the UDP that will not have already been replaced by other Development Plan Documents prepared and adopted. Review of the UDP had previously commenced, with the aim of replacing it with a Core Strategy and Development Management Policies, Development Plan Document by 2014/2015. This timetable and planning content was however superseded by the collaborative work being undertaken by all of the Greater Manchester authorities, initially in the form of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF), but now taken forward by nine GM boroughs through Places for Everyone.

It is the intention of the Council to prepare its plan in conformity with Places for Everyone, tracking its production but also allowing a significant enough gap to be able to incorporate its policy direction as this emerges and also reflect on the government's recently announced intention to bring forward a Planning Bill over the course of the next parliament.

The intention is that the Tameside Local Plan will at a local level set out a complementary vision, strategy and range of policies to Places for Everyone, to guide development in the borough. Setting out broad locations and specific allocations of land for different purposes and through designations it will show areas where particular considerations will apply, alongside overarching and criteria based policies, all to be taken into account in development management decision making. The intended form and content of the plan however is likely to need to be reviewed following the government's announcement to bring forward legislation and regulation expected to introduce a revised framework for preparing plans.

Policies Map

The purpose of the Policies Map is to spatially reflect development plan policies across Tameside in accordance with adopted Development Plan Documents. The current policies map (which was adopted at the time of the adoption of the UDP), was updated when the Greater Manchester joint waste and minerals Development Plan Documents were separately adopted and will be updated again on adoption of Places for Everyone.

Supplementary Planning Guidance and Documents

In addition to the Local Plan, local authorities can prepare Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) to add further detail to and aid in the interpretation of existing policy. They can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or provide guidance on particular issues. New SPDs may be developed against 'saved' policies of the Tameside UDP or against new policies, once they are adopted, contained in either Places for Everyone or the Local Plan.

However, once existing policies are superseded, the SPD which relate to them will no longer be treated as material planning guidance, as the policy basis for them will have been removed. New SPD's will therefore need to be prepared to reflect the new policy framework within Places for Everyone and the Local Plan.

It is not currently the intention to develop new SPD at this time.

Schedule of Proposed Local Development Documents							
Document	Status	Coverage	Consultation	Publication	Submission	Examination ¹	Adoption
Places for Everyone ²	Joint Development Plan Document	Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan	Consultation on first Draft GMSF October 2016 – January 2017 Consultation on Second Draft GMSF January – March 2019	Summer/Autumn 2021	Early 2022	Spring/Summer 2022	Summer/Autumn 2023
Tameside Local Plan	Development Plan Document	Tameside	Regulation 18 Notification January – March 2017 Integrated Assessment Scoping Report Consultation April 2017 Issues and Options 1 st Draft Plan Summer 2022 Preferred Options 2 nd Draft Plan Summer 2023	Summer 2024	Autumn 2024	Winter 2024	Spring 2025
Policies Map	Development Plan Document	Tameside	The Policies Map will be developed in line with the timescales of other DPD. It will be amended and incorporate relevant policies as necessary upon adoption of DPD.				

¹ Dates following submission are provided indicatively, as the timetable beyond is largely determined by the Planning Inspectorate.

² Formerly the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework.