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EXECUTIVE CABINET

Day: Wednesday
Date: 26 October 2022
Time: 1.00 pm
Place: Tameside One, Market Square, Ashton-Under-Lyne, OL6 6BH

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive any apologies for the meeting from Members of the Executive Cabinet.	
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest from Members of Executive Cabinet.	
3.	MINUTES The Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 28 September 2022 to be signed by the Chair as a correct record (Minutes attached).	1 - 10
4.	MONTH 5 INTEGRATED FINANCE REPORT To consider the attached report of the First Deputy, Finance, Resources and Transformation / Director of Finance.	11 - 24
5.	SOCIOECONOMIC DUTY To consider the attached report of the Executive Member (Education, Achievement and Equalities)/Assistant Director (People and Workforce Development).	25 - 38
6.	ASHTON TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER To consider the attached report of the Executive Member, Towns and Communities / Assistant Director, Operations and Neighbourhoods.	39 - 88
7.	FAMILY HUBS AND BEST START FOR LIFE PROGRAMME To consider the attached report of the Deputy Executive Leader, Children and Families / Assistant Director of Early Help and Partnerships.	89 - 100
8.	REPLACEMENT OF BOYDS WALK (CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES PROVISION) To consider the attached report of the Deputy Executive Leader, Children and Families / Director of Children's Services.	101 - 158

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Carolyn Eaton, Principal Democratic Services Officer, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
9.	ENERGY UTILITIES FRAMEWORK PURCHASE AGREEMENT THROUGH STAR PROCUREMENT	159 - 176
	To consider the attached report of the First Deputy, Finances, Resources and Transformation / Director of Place.	
10.	ASHTON PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY UPDATE	177 - 182
	To consider the attached report of the Executive Member (Towns and Communities)/Director of Place.	
11.	TAMESIDE UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND SME WORKSPACE OVERVIEW	183 - 188
	To consider the attached report of the Executive Member (Inclusive Growth, Business and Employment)/Director of Place.	
12.	URGENT ITEMS	
	To consider any additional items the Chair is of the opinion shall be dealt with as a matter of urgency.	
13.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	To note that the next meeting of Executive Cabinet is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 23 November 2022.	

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Carolyn Eaton, Principal Democratic Services Officer, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

EXECUTIVE CABINET

28 September 2022

Commenced: 1.00pm

Terminated: 1.35pm

Present: Councillors Cooney (Chair), Choksi, Fairfoull, Feeley, Jackson, North, Sweeton, Taylor, Ward and Wills

In Attendance:	Sandra Stewart	Chief Executive
	Kathy Roe	Director of Finance
	Stephanie Butterworth	Director of Adult Services
	Alison Stathers-Tracey	Director of Children's Services
	Julian Jackson	Director of Place
	Debbie Watson	Director of Population Health
	Tim Bowman	Director of Education
	Caroline Barlow	Assistant Director of Finance
	Jordanna Rawlinson	Head of Communications
	Tom Hoghton	Policy & Strategy Service Manager

Apologies for absence: Cllr Kitchen (ex officio)

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by Cabinet Members.

49. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the joint meeting of the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 24 August 2022 be approved as a correct record.

50. STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel meeting held on 22 September 2022. Approval was sought of recommendations of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel arising from the meeting.

RESOLVED

- (a) The minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 22 September 2022 be noted; and
- (b) That the following recommendations be approved:

PLACE CAPITAL PROGRAMME - UPDATE REPORT

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve that an order for Welsh slates (£150,000) be made via the LEP Additional Services Contract to be used on Stalybridge Civic Hall in advance of the build contract for the work being finalised due to the current 33 week lead time for delivery.

OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to APPROVE:

- (i) The inclusion of the 2022/23 Highway Maintenance grant (via GMCA) funding allocation of £3,536,000 to the Council's capital programme; and**
- (ii) The allocation of £133,000 from the Dukinfield Cremator scheme existing contingency budget to undertake design work and listed building approval for essential repairs to the chapel roof and steeple at Dukinfield Crematorium as set out in section 2.26 of the report.**

GODLEY GREEN PLANNING APPLICATION

RECOMMENDED

That a recommendation is made to Full Council that the Council's Speakers Panel consider the Godley Green planning application instead of Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring because the Council is promoting the application and it would be preferable to have a separation of roles to avoid either an appearance or challenge of bias and/or predetermination.

51. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Climate Emergency Working Group held on 7 September 2022 be noted.

52. CONSOLIDATED 2022/23 REVENUE MONITORING STATEMENT AT 31 JULY 2022

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy, Finance, Resources and Transformation / Director of Finance, which reflected actual expenditure to 31 July 2022.

It was explained that, from a healthcare commissioning perspective, the report looked at 9 months of expenditure based on indicative ICB plans (for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 March 2023). Month 4 was the first month in which the ICB had been operational. As such, final approved delegated budgets at locality level had not yet been confirmed. Work was ongoing to finalise budgets, but in the meantime the report presented indicative locality budgets. Plans for Tameside were submitted for a delivery of £595k surplus in 22/23. At M4 it was assumed that the plan would be delivered, which was in line with wider ICB reporting for M4. But £7.977m of savings delivery was required to execute the plan, which represented a significant risk.

As highlighted in the month 2 report, the Council was facing significant and growing inflationary pressures across a number of areas, combined with demand pressures in Adults and Children's services, resulting in a substantial forecast overspend by 31 March 2023 of £12.305m. This represented a £545k improvement since Month 3, driven largely by Children's Social Care. But significant work was still required to balance the financial position in 2022/23.

Members were advised that ongoing demand and cost pressures on Council budgets would have implications for the 2023/24 budget and work was in progress to identify mitigations for 2022/23, whilst planning for 2023/24.

RESOLVED

That the forecast outturn position and associated risks for 2022/23 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted.

53. EQUALITIES STRATEGY

The Executive Member, Education, Achievement and Equalities / Assistant Director, People and Workforce Development submitted a report seeking permission to consult on a new Equalities Strategy with the existing one expiring this year.

It was explained that, under the Equality Act 2010 the Local Authority had a duty to publish one or more specific and measurable equality objectives, and subsequently at intervals of no more than four years.

Members were advised that the draft Strategy had been developed using an LGA self-assessment tool, advice from an independent review of the approach to Equalities in Tameside Council, consultation with the Partnership Engagement Network, reports delivered through the Inequalities Reference Group and a review of equalities data available within the Local Authority.

It was proposed that the draft Strategy form the basis of an Action Plan owned and delivered by an Officer Group which would report to the Health & Wellbeing Board.

It was proposed that the draft Strategy be taken through a six-week consultation exercise.

A copy of the draft strategy was appended to the report.

RESOLVED

That the consultation plan for the proposed strategy, as appended to the report, be approved.

54. TRANSFORMING ADULT SOCIAL CARE IN TAMESIDE – PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF CARE: PHASE 2

A report was submitted by the Executive Member, Adult Social Care, Homelessness and Inclusivity / Director of Adults Services, which sought approval of the proposed delivery model/service arrangements for Adult Social Care in Tameside from 1 April 2023 onwards. This was to ensure the Council's ability to deliver the new burdens placed on the Council through the Adult Social Care reforms. It will be phased over a two year period (2023/24 & 2024/25).

The report had a key focus on the delivery of the 'Commissioning of Care and support' and aligned to the following key aims of Adult Social Care reforms:

- Reform how people in England pay for their care so no one needed to pay more than £86,000 for their personal care costs, alongside more generous means-tested support for anyone with less than £100,000 in chargeable assets;
- Ensure that self-funders could access the same rates for care costs in care homes that local authorities pay, ending the unfairness where self-funders had to pay more for the same care, whilst ensuring local authorities moved towards paying a fair cost of care to providers;
- Ensure fees for care were transparent to allow people to make informed decisions;
- Improve information and advice to make it more user-friendly and accessible, helping people to navigate the care system and understand the options available to them; and
- Provide information and advice that was accurate, up to date and in formats that were tailored to individual needs.

This meant that from October 2023 every person who needed care and support would have a care account that would track his or her means tested contributions to the cost of that package of care to a maximum contribution of £86,000 over their lifetime, and pay the same care fees as the Local Authority. To determine a person's contribution both a care assessment and a financial assessment were required. This included those who currently self-fund care and support.

The current position was outlined and it was explained that Adult Care currently supported 6,417 individual service users who were in receipt of an adult social care service provision, including the

community response service. It was also noted that there had been a 12% increase in requests for support from adult care services between 2020/21 and 2021/22. At the time of writing the report, since April 2022 there were 1,016 people who had an open contact with an adult social care service where work was ongoing to determine a suitable outcome for them.

Appendix 1 to the report demonstrated the current demand for adult social care services in Tameside.

Future delivery model/options were explored, including the key functions required in the service configuration from 1 April 2023 to meet the increased demand and new burdens outlined in the report.

The report concluded that the introduction of the 10 year strategy for Adult Social Care had been largely welcomed and did reflect many of the challenges that had been exacerbated locally through the course of the pandemic. It would touch on all those who interacted with adult social care, whether that was those who drew on support and care, unpaid carers, the care and support workforce, care providers both large and small and for and not for profit, local authorities, voluntary organisations to name but a few.

It was an opportunity to have a major impact on outcomes for individuals and demonstrated improvement in corporate priorities whilst delivering on the new burdens required.

The recommendation in the report was based on giving the local authority the best chance to achieve a greater level of improvement against key priorities and was based on evidence of good practice across the country.

However, there continued to be a risk to the local authority that the funding indicated to meet the new burdens was likely to be insufficient in future years and this would need to be built into a review of the medium term financial strategy following the outcome of the fair cost of care exercise.

RESOLVED

- (i) That approval be given to the increased capacity required in Adult Social Care and relevant corporate services to deliver the intentions of 'The People at the Heart of Care' reforms. Proposals are backed by the new Health and Social Care Levy announced in September 2021, of which £5.4 billion is being invested into adult social care over the next 3 years. Beyond the next 3 years, an increasing share of funding raised by the levy will be spent on social care in England; and**
- (ii) That approval be given to begin the full redesign of Adult Social Care, as set out in the report, to ensure appropriate service arrangements are in place from 1 April 2023.**

55. UPDATE SCHOOLS STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Education, Achievement and Equalities / Director of Education, which outlined the rationale and the ambition of the updated Schools Strategy in Tameside.

The report celebrated the success of Tameside's current Strategy and explored the impact of the Schools White and Green Papers and Tameside's response to them, a response which would build on existing strengths and successes and on the existing Schools Strategy as well as on the strengthened partnerships developed with schools and between schools over the last four years.

Whilst the current schools strategy continued to be fit for purpose. It was contended that the following actions were required to update it.

Supporting every Tameside school to join a local MAT at pace, strengthening existing MATs and maintaining our current strong relationships and partnerships with the school system. This would require the local authority to work with its school and MAT leaders to ensure a network of local MATs which were sustainable and successful. There were enough strong, local MATs operating in

Tameside already but there was a requirement to act quickly to support the growth of these MATs in a way that supported the Council's ambitions for children and in a way which supported families. Further details were provided in an appendix to the report.

There was a need to shore up and formalise expectations for MATs working effectively in and with Tameside.

There should be a reaffirmation of the commitment, made in the Schools Strategy in 2018, to focus on creating a school-led system which recognised that the capacity and expertise to improve schools existed in the school system and recognised that the accountability for school outcomes lie with school leaders. It should be re-asserted that the Council's offer to schools - its services, and support - must create the conditions in which good school leaders could run good schools.

The Council needed to develop a clear strategic and proactive plan to manage fluctuation in pupil numbers in a fully trust-led system.

There was an established commitment to enhanced partnership work with Stockport around education services and ensuring that the collaborative advantage of the partnership was maximised and taken maximum advantage of the efficiencies it could deliver. Collaboration opportunities with the three other Greater Manchester Priority Education Investment Areas: Salford, Oldham and Rochdale should also be explored, to share learning and efficiency of process.

The report concluded that the school system in England would become a fully trust-led system, with all schools becoming academies in a strong multi-academy trust by 2030. Priority EIAs would move to this first and at pace.

Tameside must have a clear voice in determining the future of all Tameside's schools and must be concerned with the long-term sustainability and viability of its schools.

In implementing the strategy it was clear that the structure and form of the schools system would change and the interaction between a fully trust-led system and Council services would be different.

There were enough strong trusts already in the Borough, rather than establishing new Trusts or attracting existing Trusts into the area, work was required to strengthen local trusts rather than fragment the system.

Embracing the change and moving at pace to establish a fully trust led system, as outlined in the report, offered the best opportunity to ensure that the schools system worked for all children and had the capacity needed to improve outcomes.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the revised School Strategy be approved, in light of the DfE's White Paper and implications for local Government in line with national changes;**
- (ii) That, at this stage, it be agreed that the Council does not need to express an interest in establishing a local authority MAT;**
- (iii) It be agreed that officers would continue to negotiate with DfE officials to establish plans for a fully trust-led system at pace, subject to the necessary due diligence required and a further report advises of the same, particularly the financial impact on the council relating to traded services; and**
- (iv) That such conversions can only take place where the cost of conversions are fully met by the DfE and schools.**

56. SEND GREEN PAPER, WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ACTION UPDATE AND BUSINESS PROCESS REVIEW UPDATE

The Executive Member, Education, Achievement and Equalities / Director of Education submitted a

report, which gave an overview of the response to the SEND Green Paper, an update on the progress of the Written Statement of Action including an updated position on the resources required to deliver the plan and a summary of the SEND Assessment Team Business Process Review and recommended next steps.

Members were advised that between 18 and 22 October 2021, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) conducted a joint inspection of the local area of Tameside to judge the effectiveness of the area in implementing the special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) reforms as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014.

The findings report was received and published 11 January 2022, and available publically. A link to the report was provided.

The outcome of the inspection was that a Written Statement of Action (Written Statement of Action) was required because of significant areas of weakness in the area's practice. The initial Written Statement of Action was submitted on 12 April 2022, but unfortunately was not accepted. In a feedback session, Ofsted advised how to improve the plan, emphasising the need to ensure the Written Statement of Action contained more measurable metrics and outcomes and that the outcomes clearly demonstrated how our work would have a positive impact on children and families. The Written Statement of Action was redrafted with the guidance and submitted on 17 June 2022. The second iteration was accepted on 1 July 2022. The local area were praised for the clear improvements noted in the second draft.

On 23 March 2022, a report was presented to Executive Cabinet, asking that the Strategic Commissioning Board and Cabinet:

- Agree that the draft Written Statement of Action could be shared with DfE and NHS Improvement Advisors for final comment.
- Agree that a recommendation be made to Council for an additional investment of £275k
- Agree that a report be presented to the Strategic Commissioning Board seeking permission for an additional investment of £820k to provide adequate therapy provision and address waiting times for services including physiotherapy, occupational health and speech and language.

A commitment was also made to return with a further report following the submission of the Written Statement of Action outlining what, if any, further resource commitment was required to deliver the plan. The report set out the identified additional resource required to deliver the Written Statement of Action and a full breakdown of all resources required, those already agreed and allocated from the CCG and TMBC, along with the additional resource requested via the report was appended to the report.

In total, the request was for additional funding to deliver the Written Statement of Action, £62,700 of which was required as a one off cost in the first year, with the remaining £30,950 recurring annually.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the updates be noted;**
- (ii) That the requested resources, as outlined in section 2 of the report, be approved; and**
- (iii) That the improvements to be followed, as set out in the recommendations in the SEND Assessment Team Business Process Review at Appendix 3 to the report, be noted.**

57. STAYING PUT POLICY

A report was submitted by the Deputy Executive Leader, (Children and Families) / Assistant Director, Children's Social Care, which gave details of the Staying Put Policy.

It was explained that Staying Put was about care leavers continuing to live with their foster carers when they reached the age of 18. The Council recognised the benefit that a Staying Put arrangement

could have to young people, allowing them to remain in stable and secure homes and when they were ready and able, make the transition to independence.

The Council was committed to ensuring it met its obligations to care leavers in Staying Put arrangements and their former foster carers and required a clear, transparent Staying Put policy in order to do so effectively and consistently.

It also needed to ensure that it offered a financial model that remunerated Staying Put carers fairly and appropriately. The report put forward a draft revised Staying Put policy to address this need. It sought agreement to consult with the wider public, foster carers, current Staying Put carers and young people to inform the draft policy before implementation.

RESOLVED

- (i) The draft Staying Put Policy, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved in principle; and**
- (ii) That consultation on the draft Staying Put Policy, as detailed in the report, be approved.**

58. CHANGING PRACTICE WITHIN TAMESIDE TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED IN OR AT RISK OF INVOLVEMENT IN CRIME

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families) / Assistant Director, Early Help and Partnerships providing details about an opportunity for the local authority with the Tameside Pupil Referral Service (TPRS) to enter into a partnership with SHiFT, a national charity that aimed to shift practice to improve outcomes for young people who were involved in or at risk of involvement in crime and/or risk taking behaviours, with the support of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Violence Reduction Unit. The report set out the opportunity this presented for Tameside and its young people along with anticipated outcomes of the programme and the financial implications.

It was explained that SHiFT would draw on its experience of mobilising and supporting two, and soon to be three, Practices across London, to develop a Practice of multi-skilled professionals (four Guides, one Lead Guide, and one Practice Coordinator) that would be carefully tailored to meet the local needs of Tameside's young people. Operating in partnership with the TPRS, SHiFT Tameside, would be positioned as an agile 'insider-outsider' – positioned closely enough to have influence, but enriched and supported by the national SHiFT team to drive creativity, innovation and system change.

The key aspirations for the Practice were that it would provide outstanding support for the most vulnerable children in Tameside, transforming outcomes through the provision of intensive, therapeutic support from a Guide who worked with the young person with determination, love and creativity across all aspects of their life, resetting the foundations with them to achieve their aspirations and flourish.

SHiFT intended to make Tameside a beacon of excellence in Manchester, with the aspiration to scale the Practice further across Greater Manchester, drawing on the support of the Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit.

The report concluded that the opportunity presented to Tameside by the VRU was welcomed and the services involved in working with the young people welcomed the chance to try new ways of working. This was a good opportunity for Tameside to draw down £405k of additional funding to match the £126,500 investment from the TPRS.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the collaboration between Tameside and SHiFT be endorsed, noting that Tameside will be the first LA outside of London to engage with the programme;**
- (ii) It be noted that public sector funding for the programme will be provided by the GM Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) and the Tameside Pupil Referral Service; and**
- (iii) That quarterly updates be received by the Executive Cabinet.**

59. PLACES FOR EVERYONE – AUTHORITY FOR EXAMINATION IN PUBLIC

The Executive Leader / Director of Place submitted a report seeking approval to authorise to agree such modifications to the Submitted Places for Everyone as may be appropriate, to make the Plan sound (and capable of subsequent adoption) that arose through the independent examination (Examination in Public).

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Director of Place, in consultation with the Executive Leader, be authorised to prepare and agree proposed main modifications to Places for Everyone, as may be necessary to make the plan sound;**
- (ii) That the Director of Place be authorised to prepare and agree to minor modifications to Places for Everyone, as may be necessary;**
- (iii) That the Director of Place be authorised to prepare and agree Statements of Common Ground in discharging the general planning duties of the Council, as required; and**
- (iv) That the intentions regarding communication during the course of the Examination as set out in the report, with both the Leader of the Council and the wider Cabinet, be noted.**

60. EXTENSION REQUEST: PROJECT MANAGED CHILDREN'S SOCIAL WORK TEAM

The Deputy Executive Leader, Children and Families / Assistant Director, Children's Social Care submitted a report, giving information in respect of the Project Managed Children's Social Work Team.

It was explained that the Managed Project Team was agreed by Executive Cabinet on the 23 March 2022 in response to increasing demand and an acute staffing situation in the Children in Need/Child Protection Service. Approval was made for 6 months at a cost of £250K.

Members were advised that the Team commenced on the 11 April and was due to end on the 23 September 2022. The extra capacity the team had brought had relieved pressure on existing teams, allow existing work to be progressed whilst allowing the service to recruit to unfilled vacancies through agency and permanent staff. The majority of permanent staff recruited were newly qualified ASYEs (Assessed and Supported Year in Employment) and had a reduced case load. During the past 5 months, existing work had been able to progress and caseloads for existing staff had reduced. Morale and confidence in the Service had improved and there had been less turnover in staff.

During the Ofsted Visit at the end of April 2022, although the Project Team had just started, Inspectors reported the Team was likely to support improvements in social work practice, staff morale and partnership working.

RESOLVED

That, having considered budget implications balanced against maintaining and sustaining Service Improvement to date, it be agreed that the Contract be extended by up to a maximum of 6 months.

61. VARIATION TO CONTRACT TO INCREASE RATES - FRAMEWORK OF CONTRACTORS TO PROVIDE ADAPTATIONS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

A report was submitted by the Executive Member, Adult Social Care, Homelessness and Inclusivity / Director of Adult Services, which explained that the revised rates for works within the above contract were varied in August 2021 after the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic, Brexit and global shipping costs.

Members were advised that, over the past 12 months the cost of materials in the building industry had continued to rise due to a sharp increase in energy costs and a continuing rise in imported materials and components required in many of the adaptations carried out for residents. The potential to lose

contractors who could deliver adaptations was great and the available options would increase pressure on existing staff and extend delivery times. Contractors were once again struggling to make a reasonable profit and pay reasonable wages to their staff.

If the rates paid to contractors were not increased, it would affect the Council's ability to deliver adaptations to residents in a timely manner resulting in their care and support needs going unmet. The likelihood was that those people would continue to require support from the Council.

RESOLVED

That approval be given under Procurement Standing Orders 9.3.1 to agree a 10% increase on the rates contained within the framework contract.

62. URGENT ITEMS

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

63. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

It be noted that the next meeting of the Executive Cabinet is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 26 October 2022.

CHAIR

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Report To: EXECUTIVE CABINET

Date: 26 October 2022

Executive Member / Reporting Officer: Cllr Jacqueline North –First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation)
Kathy Roe – Director of Finance

Subject: STRATEGIC COMMISSION AND NHS INTEGRATED CARE FOUNDATION TRUST FINANCE REPORT
CONSOLIDATED 2022/23 REVENUE MONITORING STATEMENT AT 31 AUGUST 2022

Report Summary: This is the fourth financial monitoring report for the 2022/23 financial year, reflecting actual expenditure to 31 August 2022. Tameside Council (TMBC) forecasts are for a full 12 months, but only 9 months of budgets are included for the Tameside Locality of the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (ICB). The Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust (ICFT) position looks at Year To Date only.

Reporting for TMBC and ICFT continues as usual, but the CCG position has been replaced by budgets delegated to the Tameside Locality by the Greater Manchester ICB. The report no longer includes any health spend relating to Glossop, where commissioning responsibility was transferred to Derbyshire.

Month 5 is the second month in which the ICB has been operational. As such final approved delegated budgets at locality level have not yet been confirmed. Work is ongoing to finalise budgets, but in the meantime this report presents indicative locality budgets for the nine months 1 July 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Plans for Tameside locality were submitted for delivery of a £595k surplus in 22/23. At this stage we assume that this plan will be delivered, which is in line with wider ICB reporting for Month 5. The plan to deliver a surplus requires savings of £7.8m to be found, and whilst there is risk of achievement, it is currently expected that Tameside will be on target, however work continues to ensure that savings identified become recurrent.

As highlighted previously, the Council is facing significant and growing inflationary pressures across a number of areas, combined with demand pressures in Adults and Children's services, resulting in a significant forecast overspend by 31 March 2023 of £11,117k. This represents a £1,188k improvement since M4, driven largely by additional investment income resulting from increases to interest rates.

Ongoing demand and cost pressures on Council budgets will have implications for the 2023/24 budget and work is in progress to identify mitigations for 2022/23, whilst planning for 2023/24 and beyond.

Recommendations: That Executive Cabinet be recommended to:

- (i) Note the forecast outturn position and associated risks for 2022/23 as set out in **Appendix 1**.
- (ii) Note the position on the Integrated Commissioning Fund,

including the transaction of the risk share as part of the section 75 agreement, as set out in **section 3**.

- (iii) Approve the expenditure of £30K to refresh of Grant Thornton financial data work to inform priority areas of focus for services for budget reductions.

Policy Implications:

Budget is allocated in accordance with Policy

Financial Implications:

(Authorised by the Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)

This report provides the 2022/23 consolidated financial position statement at 31 August 2022 for the Strategic Commission and ICFT partner organisations.

The Council set a balanced budget for 2022/23 in February 2022. This was achieved through the utilisation of one-off funding, very challenging savings targets and an increase in Council Tax. The budget assumed limited pay inflation, no general inflation and funded known demographic and cost pressures in Adults and Children's Social Care, but with a challenging savings target for Children's Services.

Since setting the Council Budget in early February 2022, the economic landscape has changed adversely, with significant inflationary pressures impacting both generally and in specific service areas. These changes present both cost pressures and challenges in delivering savings and additional income targets, presenting risks to the delivery of a balanced position in 2022/23.

2022/23 will be a year of significant change in the NHS, with the formation of Integrated Care Boards which replaced CCGs from 1st July. For Tameside registered patients, responsibilities have transferred to the Greater Manchester ICB. While commissioning responsibility for patients in Glossop has transferred to Derby & Derbyshire ICB, resulting in an alignment of healthcare commissioning footprints to those of the Local Authority, enabling more joined up health and social care services in the future. Due Diligence is still ongoing with colleagues in Derbyshire to ensure a safe transition of services, while calculating a true and fair split of resources between GM and Derbyshire in line with previously agreed principles.

It should be noted that the Integrated Commissioning Fund (ICF) for the Strategic Commission is bound by the terms within the Section 75 and associated Financial Framework agreements.

Legal Implications:

(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

The Local Government Act 1972 (Sec 151) states that "every local authority shall make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs..."

Revenue monitoring is an essential part of these arrangements to provide Members with the opportunity to understand and probe the Council's financial position.

Members will note that the current outturn position is currently predicting a forecast net deficit of £11.117m on Council budgets. As the council has a legal duty to deliver a balanced budget by the end of the financial year Members need to be content that there is a robust plan in place to ensure that the council's final budget position will be balanced. Ultimately, failure to deliver a balanced budget can result in intervention by the Secretary of State.

In addition the council has a statutory responsibility to ensure that

it operates with sufficient reserves in place. The legislation does not stipulate what that level should be, rather that it is the responsibility of the council's 151 officer to review the level of reserves and confirm that the level is sufficient. Reserves by its very nature is finite and so should only be drawn down after very careful consideration as the reserves are unlikely to be increased in the short to medium term.

Given the inherent conflict of the Director of Finance it is important that any transactions in the s75 pooled budget between and across the two organisations is signed off by the external auditors.

Risk Management:

Associated details are specified within the presentation.

Failure to properly manage and monitor the Strategic Commission's budgets will lead to service failure and a loss of public confidence. Expenditure in excess of budgeted resources is likely to result in a call on Council reserves, which will reduce the resources available for future investment. The use and reliance on one off measures to balance the budget is not sustainable and makes it more difficult in future years to recover the budget position.


Background Papers:

Background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting :

Caroline Barlow, Assistant Director of Finance, Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

 e-mail: caroline.barlow@tameside.gov.uk

Amanda Fox, Deputy Chief Finance Officer, Tameside Health Locality

 Telephone:0161 342 5626

 e-mail: amanda.fox12@nhs.net

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Monthly integrated finance reports are usually prepared to provide an overview on the financial position of the Tameside economy.
- 1.2 The report includes the details of the Integrated Commissioning Fund (ICF) for all Council services and the Tameside Locality of the Greater Manchester Integrated Commissioning Board (ICB). The gross revenue budget value of the ICF for 2022/23 is reported at £664 million. This includes a full 12 month of expenditure for the Council, but only 9 months for the ICB.
- 1.3 Please note that any reference throughout this report to the Tameside economy refers to the three partner organisations namely:
 - Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust (ICFT)
 - Tameside Locality as part of GM ICB (ICB)
 - Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (TMBC)

2. FINANCIAL SUMMARY (REVENUE BUDGETS)

- 2.1 This is the financial monitoring report reflecting actual expenditure to 31 August 2022. TMBC forecasts are for a full 12 months, but only 9 months of budgets are included for the ICB. The ICFT position looks at Year to Date only.
- 2.2 From a healthcare commissioning perspective this report looks at 9 months of expenditure based on indicative ICB plans (for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 March 2023). Month 5 is the second month in which the ICB has been operational. As such final approved delegated budgets at locality level have not yet been confirmed. Work is ongoing to finalise budgets, but in the meantime this report presents indicative locality budgets. Plans for Tameside were submitted for a delivery of £595k surplus in 22/23. At M5 we assume that this plan will be delivered, which is in line with wider ICB reporting for M5. The plan to deliver a surplus requires savings of £7.8m to be found, and whilst there is risk of achievement, it is currently expected that Tameside will be on target, however work continues to ensure that savings identified become recurrent.
- 2.3 As highlighted in previous finance reports this year, the Council is facing significant and growing inflationary pressures across a number of areas, combined with demand pressures in Adults and Children's services, resulting in a substantial forecast overspend by 31 March 2023 of **£11.117m**. This represents a £1,188k improvement since M4, driven largely by additional investment income resulting from increases to interest rates.
- 2.4 Significant work is still required to balance the financial position in 2022/23. Work is in progress to identify mitigating savings to reduce the forecast overspend on Council budgets, and address the forecast budget gap for 2023/24 and beyond. This is being done in the context of growing inflationary pressures, including significant energy cost and pay inflation, with no indication that any additional funding will be provided either in 2022/23 or the next two financial years
- 2.5 Further detail on the financial position can be found in **Appendix 1**.

3. INTEGRATED COMMISSIONING FUND (SECTION 75 AGREEMENT)

- 3.1 Since 2016/17, the Council and the former Tameside and Glossop CCG, have been parties to a section 75 agreement to pool resources for Health and Social Care in the Tameside locality. Upon creation of the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (ICB) from 1 July 2022, the section 75 agreement has novated to the ICB.

- 3.2 The Section 75 agreement includes a risk share arrangement, which enables each organisation to make additional contributions into the pooled budget in agreement with the other party. The making of additional contributions, up to a maximum amount of £5 million per annum, then places an obligation on the other party to increase its contribution to the same value in future years.
- 3.3 In 2020/21 and 2021/22 the CCG agreed to increase its contribution to the pooled budget. This agreement was reported to Executive Cabinet and Strategic Commissioning Board in March 2021 and March 2022 respectively. These additional contributions enabled the Council to reduce its contribution in these years, and set aside the funding into reserves to enable reciprocation with additional contributions into the pooled fund during 2022/23 and 2023/24.
- 3.4 The Council will transact additional contributions to the Tameside Locality of the Greater Manchester ICB in month 6 of 2022/23 of £3.5m to support winter pressures and reduce delayed discharges. In addition, an amount of £2.060m will be transacted over the next two years to support additional investment in ISCAN Therapies (Integrated Services for Children with Additional Needs) in Tameside, supporting the written statement of action in response to the SEND inspection.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 As stated on the front cover of the report.

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Tameside Strategic Commission

Finance Update Report
Financial Year 2022/23
Month 5 – 31st August 2022

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Kathy Roe
Asif Umarji

Period 5 Finance Report

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This report covers spend across the Tameside Strategic Commission (Delegated Tameside Locality budgets from Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (ICB), Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (TMBC)) and Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care Foundation Trust (ICFT).

Forecasts reflect a full 12 months for TMBC, but only 9 months for the ICB for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 March 2023. It does not incorporate financial data for Tameside & Glossop CCG, which ceased to exist on 30 June 2022. The CCG closedown position has been reported separately.

The report does not capture any health spend relating to Glossop, where commissioning responsibility was transferred to Derby & Derbyshire ICB from 1 July 2022.

Finance Update Report – Executive Summary

Tameside & Glossop CCG formally closed down on 30th June 2022, with responsibilities transferring to either Greater Manchester ICB or Derby & Derbyshire ICB. As such the scope of this report is different to that of previous months.

Reporting for TMBC and ICFT continues as usual, but the CCG position has been replaced by budgets delegated to the Tameside Locality by GM ICB. The report no longer includes any health spend relating to Glossop, where commissioning responsibility was transferred to Derbyshire.

Month 5 is the second month in which the ICB has been operational. As such final approved delegated budgets at locality level have not yet been confirmed. Work is ongoing to finalise budgets, but in the meantime this report presents indicative locality budgets.

Plans for Tameside were submitted for delivery of a £595k surplus in 22/23. At M5 we assume that this plan will be delivered, which in line with wider ICB reporting for M5. The plan to deliver a surplus requires savings of £7.8m to be found, and whilst there is risk of achievement, it is currently expected that Tameside will be on target, however work continues to ensure that savings identified become recurrent.

As highlighted previously, the Council is facing significant and growing inflationary pressures across a number of areas, combined with demand pressures in Adults and Children’s services, resulting in a significant forecast overspend by 31 March 2023 of £11,117k. This represents a £1,188k improvement since M4, driven largely by additional investment income resulting from increases to interest rates.

Ongoing demand and cost pressures on Council budgets will have implications for the 2023/24 budget and work is in progress to identify mitigations for 2022/23, whilst planning for 2023/24.

ICB Locality Position

Final delegated budgets for localities are not yet in place. As such indicative budgets have been reported, with an assumption that we will deliver a £595k surplus as per plan (and consistent with wider ICB reporting for M5).

Council Financial Position

(£11,117k)

The forecast overspend on Council budgets has improved by £1,188k since M4, driven largely by additional investment income resulting from increases to interest rates. However there is still significant work required to balance the 22/23 position.

ICFT Position

(£1,616k)

YTD adverse variance to plan, driven by a shortfall against efficiency target and continued pressures within Urgent and Emergency care and delayed discharges.

Forecast Position £000's	Forecast Position			Variance		Gross Position	
	Budget	Forecast	Variance	Previous Month	Movement in Month	Expenditure Budget	Income Budget
ICB Expenditure	82,539	82,539	0	0	0	82,539	0
TMBC Expenditure	208,609	219,726	(11,117)	(12,305)	1,188	582,295	(373,686)
Integrated Commissioning Fund	291,148	302,265	(11,117)	(12,305)	1,188	664,834	(373,686)

Finance Update Report – Executive Summary

Forecast Position £000's	Forecast Position (Net)			Net Variance		Gross Position	
	Budget	Forecast	Variance	Previous Month	Movement in Month	Expenditure Budget	Income Budget
Mental Health	6,475	6,475	0	0	0	6,475	0
Primary Care	36,441	36,441	0	0	0	36,441	0
Continuing Care	9,266	9,266	0	0	0	9,266	0
Community	30,357	30,357	0	0	0	30,357	0
Adults	43,731	46,447	(2,716)	(2,716)	0	103,772	(60,041)
Children's Services - Social Care	56,785	58,248	(1,463)	(1,160)	(303)	68,877	(12,092)
Education	7,129	8,370	(1,241)	(1,729)	487	33,250	(26,121)
Individual Schools Budgets	0	0	0	0	0	132,259	(132,259)
Population Health	14,072	13,925	147	147	0	16,290	(2,218)
Place	58,424	66,327	(7,903)	(7,903)	0	123,218	(64,794)
Governance	9,099	9,021	79	72	6	71,446	(62,347)
Finance & IT	9,759	9,489	269	194	75	11,411	(1,652)
Quality and Safeguarding	154	154	0	0	0	397	(243)
Capital and Financing	4,513	2,998	1,515	593	922	8,680	(4,167)
Contingency	(151)	(346)	195	195	0	7,291	(7,442)
Corporate Costs	5,093	5,092	1	1	0	5,403	(310)
Integrated Commissioning Fund	291,148	302,265	(11,117)	(12,305)	1,188	664,834	(373,686)
ICB Expenditure	82,539	82,539	0	0	0	82,539	0
TMBC Expenditure	208,609	219,726	(11,117)	(12,305)	1,188	582,295	(373,686)
Integrated Commissioning Fund	291,148	302,265	(11,117)	(12,305)	1,188	664,834	(373,686)

Integrated Commissioning Fund – M5 ICB Locality Budgets

Tameside Locality

Month 5 is the second month in which the ICB has been operational. As such final approved locality delegated budgets have not yet been confirmed. Work is ongoing to finalise budgets, but in the meantime this report presents indicative locality budgets. Plans for Tameside assumed delivery of a £595k surplus in 22/23. At M5 we assume that this plan will be delivered, which is in line with wider ICB reporting for M5.

The plan to deliver a surplus requires savings of £7.8m to be found, and whilst there is risk of achievement, it is currently expected that Tameside will be on target, however work continues to ensure that savings identified become recurrent.

More detailed variance analysis will be available from M6. On the basis that spend from April – June has been already been reported in CCG closedown accounts, ICB budgets cover 9 months from July 2022 – March 2023.

Greater Manchester Integrated Care

Overall, NHS GM is reporting being on plan both YTD and forecast, delivering a surplus of £10.6m (YTD) and £63.6m (FOT), including the impact of Q1 delivery in the 10 CCGs.

The key risk to the forecast financial position is the delivery of £188.8m of efficiencies, with a potential under delivery of £61m, when schemes have been subject to risk stratification

The main pressures within the financial position relate to higher than budgeted activity within the private sector and higher volumes and average cost per case than budgeted for mental health placements.

The Month 5 forecast is for a significant overspend of £11,117k by the end of the financial year.

The overall forecast outturn on Council budgets has improved by **£1,188k** since period 4, and is a net movement reflecting a £0.303m adverse movement on Children's Social Care due to a high cost placement, combined with a reduced forecast overspend on SEN Transport of £487k, additional investment interest of £922k as a result of increases to interest rates, and a small increase to forecast staffing underspends as a result of vacancies in the Governance and Finance & IT Directorates.

Children's Social Care overspend: The Directorate forecast position for Children's Social Care as at period 5 is an overspend of (£1,463K); an adverse increase of (£303K) since period 4. The overspend is primarily driven by expenditure on external placements. The increase in forecast overspend is mainly due to a residential placement breakdown for a complex young person; which has been partially offset by reductions in the number of young adults in placements paid for by Children's Social Care. The reduction in over 18s is due to a number of young adults moving into TYPs properties, young people moving to university, and a case transitioning to adults.

Education: The forecast overspend as at period 5 is £1,241k; a favourable movement of £487k since period 4. The overspend is primarily driven by the costs of SEN Transport which continue to be reviewed. The routes have been retendered and implementation of new contracts has commenced in the Autumn Term. Costs are being avoided as a result of this, which has reduced the forecast overspend. The service continues to face demand pressures and therefore the forecast may continue to change throughout the next two terms. The position will continue to be closely monitored and an update provided later in the Autumn Term.

Capital and Financing: The forecast underspend on Capital and Financing budgets has increased since period 4 due to an increase in the forecast level of investment income due to increases in interest rates. The period 5 forecast for investment income is based on current interest rate levels and forecast cash balances. Any further increases to the Bank of England base rate in future months is expected to increase the level of forecast income.

Finance Summary Position – T&G ICFT

Income & Expenditure summary	Current month				Year to date			
	Plan	Actual	Variance	%	Plan	Actual	Variance	%
	£000s				£000s			
Operating income from patient care activities	21,789	21,854	65	0.3%	108,940	109,806	865	0.8%
Other operating income	1,118	1,308	190	17.0%	5,607	6,575	968	17.3%
Operating income	22,907	23,162	255	1.1%	114,548	116,381	1,833	1.6%
Of which COVID-19 Reimbursement	220	189	(31)		1,163	1,116	(46)	
Agency pay	(676)	(1,115)	(439)	(65.0%)	(3,424)	(4,848)	(1,424)	(41.6%)
All other employee expenses	(16,556)	(16,610)	(53)	(0.3%)	(81,915)	(82,922)	(1,007)	(1.2%)
Operating non pay	(6,307)	(6,537)	(230)	(3.6%)	(31,685)	(32,825)	(1,140)	(3.6%)
Total operating surplus / (deficit)	(632)	(1,099)	(467)	(2.0%)	(2,476)	(4,214)	(1,738)	(1.5%)
Non operating items	(562)	(529)	32	5.8%	(2,788)	(2,690)	98	3.5%
Surplus / (deficit) before impairments and transfers	(1,194)	(1,628)	(435)	(1.9%)	(5,265)	(6,904)	(1,640)	(1.4%)
Technical adjustments	15	20	5	33.3%	77	101	24	31.2%
Adjusted financial performance surplus/(deficit)	(1,179)	(1,608)	(430)	(1.9%)	(5,188)	(6,803)	(1,616)	(1.4%)
<i>I&E margin including COVID-19 Reimbursement</i>	(5.1%)	(6.9%)	(1.8%)		(4.5%)	(5.8%)	(1.3%)	

Trust Efficiency Programme	1,113	779	(334)	(30%)	4,906	3,352	(1,555)	(32%)
Of which recurrent	30%	22%	(8.4%)		22%	15%	(7.0%)	
Efficiencies as a % of Operating Expenditure	4.4%	3.0%	(1.4%)		3.9%	2.6%	(1.3%)	

Capital Expenditure	1,136	211	(925)	(81%)	2,862	2,003	(859)	(30%)
CDEL	361	109	(252)	(70%)	792	291	(501)	(63%)
PDC	775	102	(673)	(87%)	2,070	1,712	(358)	(17%)

Cash and Equivalents	23,666	25,382	1,716	7.2%
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Trust Financial Summary – Month 5

At month 5, the Trust reported a deficit of £1.608m against a planned deficit of £1.179m which is an adverse variance of £430k

YTD the Trust is reporting an overspend against plan of £1.616m



The main driving factors behind the overspend position are unachieved TEP and continued pressures within Urgent and Emergency care and delayed discharges.

Efficiency target:

The Trust has set an efficiency target for 2022/23 of £13.628m. In month 5, the Trust delivered efficiencies equating to £739k against a plan of c.£1.113k which is an underachievement of c.£334k. YTD the Trust has delivered c£3.352m – an underachievement of c.£1.555k versus plan.

The Trust continues to review and challenge its efficiency programme and new ideas to close the gap are being worked through with a view to deploying additional efficiency schemes in future months.

Agenda Item 5

Report to :	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date :	26 October 2022
Executive Member:	Councillor Leanne Feeley – Executive Member (Education, Achievement and Equalities)
Reporting Officer:	Tracy Brennand – Assistant Director (People and Workforce Development)
Subject :	SOCIOECONOMIC DUTY
Report Summary :	This report sets out the local and national context, policy recommendations, case studies, key terms and other considerations with a view to adopting the socioeconomic duty in Tameside, in line with work taking place in other local authorities in Greater Manchester and across England.
Recommendations :	Board is asked to approve the proposed plan for submission to the Executive Cabinet, with the intention of securing support to implement the socioeconomic duty in Tameside as part of our wider Poverty Strategy.
Links to Corporate Plan:	Achieving many of the objectives and priorities of the Corporate Plan is dependent on meeting the needs of local residents, including tackling inequality, increasing well-being and improving outcomes. Successful implementation of the socioeconomic duty will be critical to achieving these objectives.
Policy Implications :	There may be policy implications as this Plan will impact on service delivery and outcomes for residents and businesses. Where there are new impact reports these will be brought forward by the relevant lead service areas.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	There are no direct financial implications in this report but there may be subsequent financial implications as a result of activity associated with the socioeconomic duty and principles contained within. Where this is the case, further reports will be brought forward for approval.
Legal Implications : (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	The legal implications are set out in the main body of the report for consideration.
Risk Management :	Failure to address the inequalities of outcome which results from socioeconomic disadvantage, including long-term systemic issues of deprivation and short term issues of immediate financial crisis, have the potential to create significant wellbeing risks for individuals and families as well as organisational risks in terms of additional demands in other high cost specialist services.
Access to Information :	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Tom Hoghton – Policy & Strategy Service Manager  Telephone:0161 342 3542  E-mail: tom.hoghton@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The “socioeconomic duty” is contained in Section 1 of the Equality Act 2010 and requires public bodies to, *“when making decisions of a strategic nature about how to exercise its functions, have due regards to the desirability of exercising them in a way that is designed to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socioeconomic disadvantage”*. (The key terms for this definition can be found in **Appendix 4**)
- 1.2 In practical terms, according to Greater Manchester Poverty Action, the socioeconomic duty “asks public bodies to consider how their decisions and policies could increase or decrease inequality that results from socio-economic disadvantage”.
- 1.3 Despite the Equality Act coming into force on 1 October 2010, successive governments have declined to implement the socioeconomic duty in England as a statutory requirement. However, the socioeconomic duty was introduced in Scotland in April 2018 as the “Fairer Scotland Duty” and in Wales in March 2021.
- 1.3 In recent years, Wigan, Trafford and Salford councils have joined a number of local authorities outside GM, including Newcastle City Council and the North of Tyne Combined Authority, in taking steps to introduce the socioeconomic duty in their areas.

2. LOCAL AND NATIONAL POVERTY STATISTICS

- 2.1 In recent years the rise of poverty has emerged as a major policy issue. This has made adopting the socioeconomic duty and other anti-poverty measures a matter of urgency. (**Appendix 2** contains a number of local and national statistics that highlight this). However, the key issues for consideration are:
- Tameside has the 5th best male Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy in Greater Manchester, but the 9th best female Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy. Life Expectancy (at birth) in Tameside is 77.57 years for men and 80.7 years for women, while Healthy Life Expectancy (at birth) is 61.9 years for men but only 58.3 years for women.
 - In the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation, Tameside is ranked as the 28th most deprived of 317 Local Authority districts in England, and the 5th most deprived local authority in GM. Within Tameside, 11 of the borough’s 141 lower layer super output areas (LSOAs) are also within the most deprived 5% of such areas nationally.
 - The Trussell Trust end of year data for 1 April 2020 to March 31st 2021 shows that their foodbanks in Tameside have given out the 4th most parcels in GM. This equates to 11.1% of their total food parcels for Greater Manchester, 10.6% of their parcels for adults in GM, and 12% of their parcels for children in GM.
 - According to the Resolution Foundation, the real incomes of the poorest quarter of households nationally are set to drop by 6% in 2022/23, putting an extra 1.3 million people, including 500,000 children, into absolute poverty. This will be the first recorded incident of a rise in absolute poverty in Britain outside of a recession.

3. CONCLUSIONS

- 3.1 While the precise details of implementation of the socioeconomic duty can vary, research by a number of organisations has identified key practical steps in all cases. (A complete breakdown of what each recommendation involved can be found in Appendix 1 and Appendix 3 contains a number of case studies of how other local authorities have implemented aspects of these in a real-world setting).

Short-Term Recommendations - Simple measures that can be implemented quickly.

1. Identify Senior Members and Officers to take on the role of “Designated Leads” of the Socioeconomic Duty.

2. Integrate Socioeconomic Disadvantage into Equality Impact Assessments using appropriate proxy indicators and review processes
3. Consolidate existing poverty-related data held by the Council and partners

Long-Term Recommendations – More involved measures that will require an element of discretion.

4. Develop internal guidance and training for officers to consider how they can meet the Socioeconomic Duty at a service delivery level, on a day-to-day basis, outside of formal Equality Impact Assessments
5. Collaborate with residents, civil society and voluntary and community sector organisations to build awareness and understanding of the Socioeconomic Duty and people’s lived experience of socioeconomic disadvantage
6. Embed accountability for the implementation of the Socioeconomic Duty through monitoring, evaluation, and sharing of best practice.
7. Deliver the Living Wage for all council staff and contracted employees, and introduce mechanisms to promote uptake of the Living Wage among other local employers

4. BENEFITS OF ADOPTING AND IMPLEMENTING THE SOCIOECONOMIC DUTY

4.1 Successfully implementing the socioeconomic duty in Tameside will deliver a number of benefits, including but not limited to:

- Reducing the inequalities of outcome which result from socioeconomic disadvantage.
- Supporting coordination and partnership working, both within the Council between service areas and externally with partners in the public, private, community and voluntary sectors.
- Raising awareness of existing socioeconomic inequalities in Tameside within the Council and among our partners.
- Securing a widespread commitment from council services to consider their impact on local socioeconomic inequalities while carrying out their day-to-day functions.
- Actively encouraging the participation of low-income residents in decisions that affect them, especially in the context of any proposed cuts or changes to services.
- Achieving greater consistency in practice in both the short-term and in the long-term across political administrations and turnover of staff.
- More rigorous and systematic approaches to Equality Impact Assessments and general assessments of policy and practice.
- Strengthening data gathering and analysis practices, especially in the context of Equality Impact Assessments, thereby strengthening the council’s evidence base and accountability to residents and partners.
- Supporting the effective and efficient allocation of limited resources in medium and long-term planning.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 As set out at the front of the report.

APPENDIX 1

Recommendations for Implementing the Socioeconomic Duty in Tameside

A number of organisations, including GMPA, Just Fair and the Equalities and Human Rights Commission, have conducted extensive research on the implementation of the socioeconomic duty in Scotland, Wales and parts of England. While the precise details of implementation can vary depending on the priorities and existing structures of individual local authorities, the following recommendations have been identified as key practical steps in all cases:

1. Identify Senior Members and Officers to take on the role of “Designated Leads” of the Socioeconomic Duty.

Strong and visible leadership has been highlighted as vital to facilitating a broader cultural shift that embeds the priority to tackle socioeconomic disadvantage at all levels of decision-making within the organisation.

The nominated Designated Lead(s) should take responsibility for communicating, clearly, consistently and across all other briefs, why implementation of the Socioeconomic Duty is a priority. Consideration must also be given to preventing siloing and making sure that the Designated Leads provide a forum through which different parts of the council can engage with the Socioeconomic Duty.

In other councils that have successfully implemented the socioeconomic duty, the identity of the Designated Lead(s) varies depending on the council’s organisation and priorities. To give two examples, in Trafford Council the responsibility is assumed by the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Strategic Partnerships and the Assistant Director for Strategy and Resources. In Salford Council this is taken on by the Lead Member for Inclusive Economy, Anti-Poverty and Equalities, and officer actions around poverty and the socioeconomic duty are coordinated by a Principal Policy Officer (Poverty and Inequality) and allocated to the relevant Senior Officer as required.

The end goal should be to embed a commitment to the Socioeconomic Duty that can survive changes in political administration, council leadership, corporate strategy, and national policy agendas.

2. Integrate Socioeconomic Disadvantage into Equality Impact Assessments using appropriate proxy indicators and review processes

At present Tameside Council uses “Low Income Households” as a category within Equality Impact Assessments. However, this could be strengthened by introducing a number of other proxy indicators to more accurately consider the impact on people vulnerable to socioeconomic disadvantage. These could include, but may not be limited to:

- People living in deprived areas.
- People in low paid employment or households of low income.
- People facing barriers to gaining employment, such as low levels of educational attainment.
- Looked after children.
- People facing multiple deprivation through a combination of circumstances such as poor health or poor housing/homelessness.

In order to accurately measure the impact of the project, policy or proposal on socioeconomic disadvantage within Tameside, further reassessment should take place at an agreed and appropriate future point. These reviews will be subject to a scrutiny process within the council and, where appropriate, may result in further mitigating action and consultation with residents.

3. Consolidate existing poverty-related data held by the Council and partners

The use of quantitative data is essential to developing a clear success criteria and measures so that the impact of the socioeconomic duty on inequality of outcomes can be collected and monitored.

Given the range of data collected by councils and their partners (particularly the Department for Work and Pensions and housing associations), more could be done to identify residents vulnerable to socioeconomic disadvantage by consolidating existing poverty-related data. Appropriate datasets could include, but may not be limited to:

Possible Metric	Data Owner
Missed Council Tax payments in last 12 months	Local Authority
Late Council Tax payments in last 12 months	Local Authority
No. of historic applications to Local Welfare Assistance Scheme (regardless of success)	Local Authority
Income Level (if disclosed)	Local Authority/Housing Provider
Family size/status	Local Authority/Housing Provider
Housing status (social rented, private rented, owned)	Local Authority/Housing Provider
Known rent or mortgage arrears	Local Authority/Housing Provider
Energy rating of home	Local Authority/Housing Provider
Historic consultations with council's welfare rights team	Local Authority
Historic consultation with Housing Association money management team	Housing Provider
Historic applications for insolvency	Local Authority
Time on Universal Credit (if applicable)	Local Authority/Housing Provider
Frequency of changes to Universal Credit (if applicable)	Local Authority/Housing Provider
Food Referrals made	Local Authority/Housing Provider
Real Living Wage Accredited Employers	Local Authority
People Paid Below Real Living Wage	Local Authority
Credit Union Membership	Local Authority
Eligibility for Free School Meals	Local Authority
GP Records	GP/CCG

Since the Socioeconomic Duty is not a statutory obligation in England, many of the national-level levers to tackle poverty are not readily available. This makes it especially important to identify what can be measured and monitored locally to evidence progress being made in tackling socioeconomic disadvantage and reducing inequalities of outcome.

4. Develop internal guidance and training for officers to consider how they can meet the Socioeconomic Duty at a service delivery level, on a day-to-day basis, outside of formal Equality Impact Assessments

Along with leadership from senior members and officers, meeting the Socioeconomic Duty will also require a broader cultural shift within the organisation that will embed the priority of tackling socioeconomic disadvantage within individual services on a day-to-day basis. The intention is to foster collective responsibility for the Duty among all staff members, and promote greater focus on change to outcomes rather than the decision-making process.

This could be facilitated in the first instance by using internal communications such as the Chief Executive's Brief, staff portal and LiveWire to promote information and awareness raising on anti-poverty initiatives locally and nationally, make principled arguments about why implementing the Socioeconomic Duty is the right thing to do, and challenge unconscious bias, negative attitudes and stereotypes often aimed at people living in poverty.

On a longer time scale, collaboration with Workforce Development could lead to information about the Socioeconomic Duty being embedded into the council's staff induction and training processes. Individual departments could also be equipped with a set of bespoke questions to informally assist them in implementing the socioeconomic duty at service delivery level. This framework from Denbighshire County Council is a potential example of this approach:

- Stage 1 (Planning)
 - Is this decision a strategic decision?
- Stage 2 (Evidence)

- What evidence do we have about socioeconomic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome in relation to this decision?
 - Have we engaged with those affected by the decision?
 - Have we considered communities and places of interest?
- Stage 3 (Assessment and Improvement)
 - What are the main impacts of the proposal?
 - How can the proposal be improved so it reduces inequalities of outcome as a result of socioeconomic disadvantage?
 - Have we considered communities and places of interest?
- Stage 4 (Strategic Decision Making)
 - This stage is for senior decision makers (For example: Cabinet, Senior Leadership Team, Members, board executives and committee members) to confirm that due regard has been given.
 - They must be satisfied that we have understood the evidence and the likely impact, and have considered whether the policy can be changed to reduce inequality of outcome as a result of socioeconomic disadvantage.
- Stage 5
 - This stage is how the process of evidencing and recording how “due regard” has been given. At this point changes to the decision should be made and recorded.

5. Collaborate with residents, civil society and voluntary and community sector organisations to build awareness and understanding of the Socioeconomic Duty and people’s lived experience of socioeconomic disadvantage

The Duty recognises that the best expertise and experience about how to tackle poverty and inequality is often held by those in our communities who live with the reality of socioeconomic disadvantage. Participative consultation and engagement allows officers and residents to find new and sustainable ways to develop strategies to tackle highlighted issues together by combining lived experience, statistical analysis and policy knowledge through collaboration and co-production.

It is essential that this collaboration involves a more in-depth approach than simply gathering as many stories or “case studies” as possible. Instead, meaningful involvement is delivered by understanding the collective experience of those experiencing socioeconomic disadvantage and ensuring that it is accurately and truthfully represented. This will include involving people from the outset, committing to processes rather than one-off events, and exploring how diverse forms of expertise are best incorporated into policymaking.

In Tameside there are a number of organisations that could assist in facilitating this collaborative approach, including the Tameside Poverty Truth Commission, We Shall Overcome, Tameside Poverty Action Group, Citizens Advice Bureau, food banks and other religious or community groups. Efforts should be made to broaden and deepen our collaboration with these partners and stakeholders, particularly through existing forums such as the Partnership Engagement Network, Community Champions and Inequalities Reference Group, with a view to building understanding, awareness and engagement with the Socioeconomic Duty.

6. Embed accountability for the implementation of the Socioeconomic Duty through monitoring, evaluation, and sharing of best practice.

Successful implementation of the Socioeconomic Duty on an ongoing basis requires a robust monitoring and evaluation process, including explicitly identifying the tackling of socioeconomic disadvantage as a priority in all strategic plans, building transparent and accountable consideration of socioeconomic disadvantage into annual budget setting and all decision-making processes (including scrutiny arrangements), and a systematic assessment of impact using both quantitative and qualitative data with appropriate tracking and review. This should be supported by working internally and with partners to highlight best practice and areas where further improvement may be necessary.

Internally, it should be established at the earliest possible stage what changes the adoption of the

Duty should bring about in Tameside Council. This document could then be referred back to at regular intervals to assess whether these changes have happened and if they are being sustained. The initial suggestion would be every 6 months – with the possibility of scaling back once the Duty is appropriately embedded.

In addition, a number of local authorities who have either implemented the Socioeconomic Duty (Newcastle, Salford) or are interested in doing so (Stockport) have expressed a desire to meet to learn and share best practice. This could be facilitated through informal meetings between officers, or through existing structures such as the GM Local Authority Officers Forum.

The public must also be assured that implementation of the Socioeconomic Duty is not just a publicity activity, but has led to meaningful change and is being taken seriously. This could be achieved by an external communications campaign to raise awareness of the duty and what it means for residents, along with making our plan for implementation and any subsequent assessments as described above publically viewable.

Since the Socioeconomic Duty is not a statutory obligation in England, a new accountability mechanism should also be set up to allow local organisations and residents to challenge decisions that they believe fail to comply with the Duty, and provide access to justice and redress if this is proven to be the case.

7. Deliver the Living Wage for all council staff and contracted employees, and introduce mechanisms to promote uptake of the Living Wage among other local employers

Tameside Council has implemented the Living Wage for directly employed staff and is currently looking into seeking accreditation with the Living Wage Foundation, which also requires having a plan in place to pay all contracted staff a living wage.

There is an important connection between voluntary implementation of the Living Wage by local authorities and their commitment to the Socioeconomic Duty, both being levers for promoting fairness and equality. Increasing requirements for pay transparency and action to tackle pay inequality has also shown that the Living Wage particularly benefits low-paid, part-time, women, and ethnic minority employees.

As well as benefitting significant numbers of employees, Tameside Council's influence as a major employer makes the Living Wage a key policy lever to reduce the prevalence of in-work poverty within the borough.

Mechanisms that the Council could undertake to increase the number of Living Wage employers locally include raising awareness of the benefits of paying the Living Wage, offering support to help cover the accreditation costs for local SMEs, or explicitly giving weight to the Living Wage at the tender evaluation stage of procurement as a valid Social Value consideration or as a method of achieving financial Best Value.

APPENDIX 2

Local Context: Poverty in Tameside

- Tameside as a borough faces significant issues with poverty that make adopting the socioeconomic duty and other anti-poverty measures an urgent issue.
- As with the rest of the country, Covid-19 has had a major impact on every aspect of life, particularly on income, health and wellbeing. There are limitations on the data available when trying to understand the full impact of Covid-19 on poverty in Tameside, though it is fair to state that pre-existing inequalities have been greatly exacerbated by the global pandemic.
- In the Index of Multiple Deprivations 2019, Tameside is ranked as the 28th most deprived of 317 Local Authority districts in England. Tameside is the fifth most deprived authority district in Greater Manchester, with Manchester, Rochdale, Salford, and Oldham also in the most deprived 10% of authorities nationally. Within Tameside, 29 of the borough's 141 lower layer super output areas (LSOAs) are within the most deprived 10% of such areas nationally, with 11 of these within the most deprived 5% nationally.
- Data taken from July 2020 to June 2021 shows that 4.1% of the general population in Tameside are unemployed, for Great Britain this number is 4.8%. 7% of residents with disabilities are unemployed. Men with disabilities more likely to be unemployed than non-disabled men, the difference (5.9%) being much more notable than the difference between disabled and non-disabled women (0.8%).
- 75% of white residents are in employment compared to 70.1% of ethnic minority residents, and 55% of people with disabilities/health conditions lasting over 12 months are in employment. Tameside has a 50.8% employment rate for men of working age with an Equality Act core or work-limiting disability. This rises to 57% amongst women. The lowest discrepancy in employment between genders is found in the mixed ethnic group (1.2%), with the largest discrepancy in the Pakistani/Bangladeshi group (28.7%) The cumulative population from ethnic minority communities makes up 13.8% of Tameside's general population.
- 88.3% of men in employment are employed full time, compared to 70.9% of women. Men are also more likely to be both in full time employment and working a greater number of hours.
- Tameside's average net household income (after housing costs) is £23,670. This is slightly below the GM average of £24,862 and eighth (from highest to lowest) in GM. Within Tameside, the highest net household income (after housing costs) can be found in Stalybridge South at £29,100; and the lowest in St Peter's at £17,100.
- As of April 2020, 8.1% of the borough's population are claiming Universal Credit, with 36.2% of claimants in Tameside being in employment. By gender, 10.1% of men and 6% of women are claimants.
- Disability Living Allowance Cases in Payment, as of May 2021, show that the most claimants are in MSOA E02001248 (Hyde Newton, with 404) and the fewest are in E02001242 (Audenshaw, with 113). To break this down by gender, men make up 3,393 (53.2%) and women 2,985 (46.8%) of the total. Similarly for Cases with Entitlement, as of May 2021, the same MSOAs are the highest and lowest with 408 and 113 respectively, and the breakdown by gender is almost identical (53.3% male, 46.7% female).
- The most recent available data from 2019-2020 shows that the highest percentage of child poverty in Tameside can be found in St Peters (52%) and the lowest in Denton West (23.1%). According to DWP statistics the number of children in Tameside in absolute and relative low income families has been growing since the 2015/16 financial year until the 2019/20 financial year where there is a slight decline. This data does not take into account the full impact of the pandemic.

- In non-working families, it is more likely for lone-parent households to have children in relative poverty, whereas in working families it is more likely for couple households. As of October 2021, there are 9,676 pupils in Tameside claiming free school meals. This number is lowest in Denton West at 177 (1.8%) and highest in St Peters at 944 (9.8%)
- According to the ONS, the number of people in the borough aged 16-64 without any academic qualifications has been trending steadily downwards since 2017, however the most recent available data is from Jan-Dec 2020, so the impact of the pandemic cannot yet be fully seen. The percentage of people of working age with no qualifications has decreased from 9.2% in 2016 to 7.5% in 2020. This compares to 7.5% in England, and 9.4% in Greater Manchester. When compared by gender, 8.25% of men have no academic qualifications in comparison to 7.25% of women.
- 10.7% of households in Tameside face fuel poverty, defined as having required fuel costs that are above the national median level and, were they to spend that amount, being left with a residual income below the poverty line. This is below the North West and England averages of 14.5% and 14.8% respectively. The highest percentage of fuel poor households can be found in LSOA Katherine/Police Station in St Peters (23.8%), and the lowest is in Little Moss (East) in Droylsden East (6.8%).
- Residents are more likely to be fuel poor when living in private rented households (26.8%), in comparison to social housing (18.4%) and owner occupied homes (8.2%). In terms of household composition, lone parent households are most likely to be fuel poor (28%), whereas a household of a couple under sixty with no dependent children is the least likely to be fuel poor (5.6%). Fuel poverty among ethnic minority communities in the borough is at 19.8%, while fuel poverty among White communities is 12.6%.
- Data provided by the Economic Social Research Council shows that households in West Park in St Peter's are at the highest risk of food poverty in Tameside, and Mottram Road (Middle)/Woodlands in Stalybridge South in the least likely. For those over 65, food insecurity is most prevalent in Dukinfield Stalybridge (45.99%) and lowest in Hyde Newton (26%).
- The Trussell Trust end of year data for April 1st 2020 to March 31st 2021 shows that their foodbanks in Tameside have given out the fourth most parcels in Greater Manchester. This equates to 11.1% of their total food parcels for Greater Manchester, 10.6% of their parcels for adults in GM, and 12% of their parcels for children in GM.
- The recently released (January 2022) government statutory homelessness statistics for July-September 2021 show that there are 186 households assessed as homeless in Tameside; this makes up 6.1% of Greater Manchester's total. Single adult males make up the largest percentage of these 186 households, with male single parents with dependent children being the lowest.
- Life Expectancy (at birth) for men is 77.57, with Healthy Life Expectancy for men being 61.9. For women Life Expectancy (at birth) is 80.7, however Healthy Life Expectancy is only 58.3.
- In comparison, male LE and HLE for England is 79.63 and 63.36 respectively, and the female expectancies are 83.21 and 63.88. In Greater Manchester these numbers for men are 77.99 and 60.86, and 81.48 and 60.76 for women. Tameside has the 5th best male Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy in Greater Manchester, but the 9th best female Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy.

National Context: The Cost of Living Crisis

- The national context, particularly the cost of living crisis, has further intensified the need to develop better ways of combating poverty and socioeconomic disadvantage in Tameside. The cost of living has been increasing across the UK since early 2021. In March 2022 inflation also reached its highest recorded level since 1922, further affecting the affordability of goods and services for households.

- According to the Resolution Foundation, the poorest quarter of households are set to see their real incomes drop by 6% in 2022/23. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation estimate that 19% of the incomes of low-income families could be spent on energy costs in 2022/23.
- Low-income households spend a larger proportion than average on energy and food, and will therefore be relatively more affected by increases in prices. In 2019/20, 13.8% of spending among households in the bottom tenth of incomes was on food and non-alcoholic drink compared to 8.5% with incomes in the top tenth (This does not include spending in restaurants or in pubs and bars).

In regards to energy, households in the lowest income group spent 7.1% of their overall spending on electricity and gas, compared to 2.5% for households in the highest income group. Due to energy prices rising particularly quickly, the Institute for Fiscal Studies estimated in January that the lowest-income tenth of households will face around 1.5% more inflation than the highest income tenth. Research by the Resolution Foundation estimated in April 2022 that a £600 increase in annual energy bills would lead to households in the bottom tenth of income seeing the proportion of total spending going on energy bills rising from 8.5% to 12%. This is three times the proportion for households in the top income group.

- As a result of this, the Resolution Foundation estimates that an extra 1.3 million people will fall into absolute poverty in 2023, including 500,000 children. An individual is defined as living in absolute poverty if they live in a household with income less than 60% than median income in 2010/11, adjusted for inflation. This will be the first recorded incident of a rise in absolute poverty in Britain outside of a recession.

Relative poverty is projected to rise to the highest level since the 1990s, with a third of children in relative poverty by 2026/27. As a result of national insurance contribution increases and a real decrease in the value of benefits, The Joseph Rowntree estimates that relative poverty will rise by 600,000 in 2022/23.

APPENDIX 3

Case Studies

Leadership on Financial Inclusion – City of York Council

- York's Financial Inclusion Steering Group has been in place since 2012. The Leadership Group retains Executive Member and senior officer engagement and includes key representatives from the voluntary and community sectors.
- A wider networking group is in place with the inclusion of other council and external partners.
- The Group is the driving force behind the implementation of the Council's commitments as set out in their Financial Inclusion Policy and Action Plan, supporting the City's Economic Strategy.
- The Group distributes funding and grants for crisis loans and financial inclusion initiatives. The allocations for 2022/23, which amount to £157,000, can be found on their website [here](#).
- A thematic approach acknowledges the multi-faceted nature of financial inclusion, with a focus on mental health in 2018.

Promoting the Living Wage – Cardiff Council

In 2012 Cardiff Council started paying its entire workforce the Living Wage. Since gaining accreditation in 2015, the Council has actively promoted the Living Wage across Cardiff. In 2017-18, Cardiff Council was awarded the title of Living Wage for Wales Champion as a result of this work. Actions include:

- Displaying the Living Wage logo in all council buildings and on the Council jobs page.
- Flying 40 Living Wage flags, sourced from another Living Wage Employer, from Cardiff Castle's ramparts during Living Wage Week
- Amending tender documentation to ask tenderers a range of questions on fair work practices including encouraging payment of the Living Wage
- Publicising a blog from the Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation and Performance, Chris Weaver, about the Council being named the Living Wage for Wales Champion 2017-18
- Developing and then circulating a Living Wage leaflet to businesses in Cardiff and handing out at Economic Development Business Forum meetings
- Making a video with Living Wage Employers and employees to promote the benefits of paying the real Living Wage
- Embedding the Living Wage into the Council's key strategic documents including "Capital Ambition", the five year plan for Cardiff, and the "Socially Responsible Procurement Policy" which sets out the Council's values and principles
- Establishing and marketing a Living Wage Accreditation Support Scheme to 4,000 business to encourage more SMEs to pay the Living Wage by covering their accreditation costs for 3 years
- Publicising the fact that 2,200 full and part-time Council staff get an annual pay uplift, at a cost of around £1 million
- Putting Living Wage advertisements on bin lorries.

Impact on Welfare and Social Security Benefits and Advice Provision – Newcastle City Council

- The need to understand and, where possible, address the impact of welfare reform on residents was cited by some authorities as a driver for using the socioeconomic duty.
- Newcastle City Council have examples of how assessing the impact of council budget proposals has shaped their approach to mitigating benefit cuts.
- Adopting the socioeconomic duty through the use of integrated impact assessments has directly influenced spending priorities, resulting in continued funding for the Council's Welfare Rights Service.
- The assessment process and work on financial inclusion means the authority has clear sight of the amount of resources Welfare Rights advice has secured for residents and households in the city, together with a full understanding of the negative impacts should the service be reduced or withdrawn.
- Newcastle also emphasised the importance of investing in information-sharing across the authority, and with partners, to build a picture of residents' financial circumstances, noting that

its joined-up approach has prevented escalating debts from pushing people into crisis.

- One such scheme has been delivered by Citizens Advice offering advice in GP surgeries, and its success has resulted in it being considered as part of the organisation's core service provision review.

Joining Up the Data – Bristol City Council

- The “Fair and Inclusive” strategic priority in Bristol City Council has been emphasised in the development of various initiatives, such as an Inclusive Economic Development Strategy, the “One City Plan”, a “collaborative partnership approach to how we work in the city” and “One Public Estate”.
- The One City Plan seeks to strengthen the sharing and use of data across the city, utilising the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, the Quality of Life survey with residents, and the Open Bristol Data platform.
- A partnership has been formed with the Thriving Places Index, which brings together 48 local level indicators to give an overall assessment of the wellbeing of citizens and communities in terms of sustainability, local conditions, equality and other domains.
- These are based on data drawn from the Office for National Statistics, Public Health England and the Index of Multiple Deprivation. Unemployment, overwork and deprivation all feature within the six indicators in the “Work and Economy” domain.
- Bristol City Council is considering the socioeconomic duty as part of a review of equalities practice, echoing the approach of a number of other councils to better understand and address the needs of communities.

Poverty Truth Commission – Salford City Council

The Salford Poverty Truth Commission (PTC) was launched in July 2016 and consisted of 15 people with personal experience of poverty and 15 people in business or public life, whose positions might enable them to make changes happen.

After 15 months of work, in October 2017 the findings of the PTC were shared at a public event: Salford Poverty Truth Commission – Our Story So Far. People from across Salford and around the country gathered at the The Sanctuary, Salford Quays to hear first-hand stories of how the PTC has influenced and inspired change in Salford.

Through listening to the voices and strong evidence of those with first-hand experience, working closely with the council to influence key parts of the Tackling Poverty Strategy, and altering the way that the council speaks with, writes to and meets with residents, the Salford PTC has inspired the organisation to:

- Review its debt recovery and income collection systems to ensure they are as sensitive as possible and do not create further hardship, distress or difficulty for vulnerable people.
- Stop using enforcement agents when recovering debts from the most vulnerable residents who receive a council tax reduction, adopting the Local Government Association's and Citizen Advice Bureau's “Collection of Council Tax Good Practice Protocol”.
- Launch new face-to-face coffee drop-in sessions for people seeking help and advice on debt.
- Rewriting its standard letters to prevent “brown envelope syndrome” (a common term for people being scared to open official letters out of fear that it contains bad news).
- Give full Council Tax exemptions for Salford care leavers.
- Waive the £11 charge for copies of birth certifications for homeless people, enabling them to more easily obtain the official identification they need to access benefits.

Some of these measures are now being discussed across Greater Manchester and in London.

APPENDIX 4

Key Terms

The socioeconomic duty aims to ensure that **strategic decisions** are carefully thought through so that they are effective as possible in tackling socioeconomic disadvantage and reducing inequalities of outcome. Such decisions may only be taken annually or, in other cases, they will come up more often. The duty applies to both new strategic decisions and when reviewing previous strategic decisions.

These are some examples of strategic decisions public bodies may make:

- Medium to long term plans (Corporate Plans, Development Plans, Service Delivery and Improvement Plans)
- Changes to and development of public services
- Strategic financial planning
- Major procurement and commissioning decisions
- Strategic policy development

“**Due regard**” is an established legal concept in equalities law, by which public bodies must give weight to a particular issue in proportion to its relevance. Decision makers within public bodies must be satisfied that the evidence and likely impact of a policy on reducing inequality of outcomes as a socioeconomic disadvantage has been considered.

Socioeconomic disadvantage is defined as living in less favourable social and economic circumstances than others in the same society. This can be disproportionate in both “communities of interest” – those who share an identity (For example: lone parents, carers, common language or one or more of the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act 2010) – and “communities of place” – those who share a geographical location where they work, reside, visit or otherwise spend a substantial portion of their time. Socioeconomic disadvantage can also be increased further when intersectionality is considered.

Inequality of outcome relates to any measurable difference in outcome between those who have experienced socioeconomic disadvantage and the rest of the population. Examples of socioeconomic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome include:

Socioeconomic Disadvantage	Inequality of Outcome
Area deprivation	Education
Low or No Wealth	Health
Socioeconomic Background	Employment
Low or No Income	Justice and Personal Security
Material Deprivation	Living Standards
	Participation in Decision-Making, Communities and Accessing Services

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Report to:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date:	26 October 2022
Executive Member:	Councillor Vimal Choksi – Executive Member (Towns and Communities)
Reporting Officer:	Emma Varnam, Assistant Director, Operations & Neighbourhoods
Subject:	ASHTON TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER
Report Summary:	This report seeks to introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order as set out in Appendix 2 for the area shown in Appendix 1 , which has been designed to help address anti-social behaviour in Ashton town centre.
Recommendations:	That the proposed public space protection order be adopted for Ashton Town Centre.
Corporate Plan:	Adoption of the proposed PSPO contributes to the corporate priority of living well
Policy Implications:	The proposed PSPO supports the five objectives contained within the Tameside Community Safety Strategy 2022-2025, specifically in relation to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer)	<p>The report sets out details for the implementation of a Public Space Protection Order in Ashton town centre.</p> <p>Any financial implications arising from the implantation of the order will be financed by the existing 2022/23 revenue budget of the Community Safety service within the Place Directorate.</p> <p>An example of related expenditure includes (but is not restricted to) additional signage that details activities which are restricted and the financial penalties that will be imposed for breaching the order.</p> <p>It is advised that a report is presented to Members at a later date that details the impact of the order and if there has been a reduction in the levels of anti-social behaviour in the town centre.</p>
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	<p>There has been a good level of response to the consultation undertaken under Section 72 of the Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime & Policing Act 2014 (the 'Act'). An overwhelming majority (93.3%) support the making of a Public Space Protection Order.</p> <p>Members must be satisfied on reasonable grounds that two conditions set out in Section 59 of the Act are met.</p> <p>The first condition is that—</p> <p>(a) activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or</p>

(b) it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

The second condition is that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities—

(a) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,

(b) is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and

(c) justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

When deciding whether to make a Public Spaces Protection Order under Section 59 of the Act, a local Authority must have particular regard to the rights of freedom of expression and freedom of assembly set out in articles 10 and 11 of the European Convention on Human Rights. The Local Government Association has also produced useful guidance in February 2018, *Guidance for Councils on Public Spaces Protection Orders* to which the Council, in conducting the exercise, should have regard before making the order which can be found here:

[Public spaces protection orders: guidance for councils \(local.gov.uk\)](https://www.local.gov.uk/public-spaces-protection-orders-guidance-for-councils)

PSPOs can be challenged under the Act on the grounds that the local authority did not have the power either to make the Order or include particular prohibitions or requirements, or that proper processes had not been followed as prescribed by the legislation. Challenges must be made to the High Court within six weeks of the Order being made, and by an individual who lives in, regularly works in or visits the restricted area. The High Court can uphold, quash or vary the PSPO and may decide to suspend the operation of the PSPO pending the verdict. As with all orders and powers, the making of a PSPO can be challenged by judicial review on public law grounds within three months of the decision or action subject to challenge.

Carrying out an EIA on both the order itself and the consultation process was recommended to comply with the requirements of the public sector equality duty. Full and separate consideration should be given to the effect of the prohibitions on those directly and indirectly affected. Annual monitoring of the impact and effectiveness of the PSPO is welcomed given the notable concerns identified at 5.6 of the report. Performance management will also be important when considering any extension beyond the initial three-year period of duration or variation to the Order.

The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014 sets out the minimum publication requirements. A local authority must publish the order on its website; and erect sufficient signage on or adjacent to the public place to which the order relates drawing attention to the fact that an order has been made and its effect.

Risk Management:

Local authorities can be subjected to a legal challenge on the introduction of a PSPO, but the risk of a challenge has been minimised through a comprehensive public consultation and consideration of an equality impact assessment.

Access to Information:

Appendix 1:	A copy of the map covered by the order
Appendix 2:	draft copy of the Public Spaces Protection Order
Appendix 3:	Equality Impact Assessment has been completed to consider the impact of the order and mitigations put in place to support the community
Appendix 4:	Written responses to consultation
Appendix 5:	response to the consultation from the Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor the Rt. Hon Baroness Beverley Hughes
Appendix 6:	Equality Impact Assessment relating to the consultation on the PSPO

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Dave Smith, Partnerships Manager



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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced a number of tools and powers for use by Councils, and partners, to address anti-social behaviour (ASB) in their respective areas. Public Space Protection Orders are one of these tools.
- 1.2 Section 59 of the Act gives Councils the authority to implement Public Space Protection Orders in response to particular issues affecting their communities, provided certain criteria and legal tests are met.
- 1.3 Councils can use Public Space Protection Orders to prohibit specified activities, and/or require certain things to be done by people engaged in particular activities, within a defined public area. Public Space Protection Orders differ from other tools introduced under the Act as they are council-led, and rather than targeting specific individuals or properties, they focus on the identified problem behaviour in a specific location.
- 1.4 The legislation provides for restrictions to be placed on behaviour, which apply to everyone in that locality, with the possible use of exemptions. Breach of a Public Space Protection Order without a reasonable excuse is an offence punishable by:
 - i. A £100 fixed penalty notice
 - ii. A fine of up to level 3 (£1000) on the standard scale on conviction
- 1.5 Orders can be introduced in a specific public area where the local authority is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the following conditions have been met;
 - The behaviour has had, or is likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;
 - The behaviour is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature;
 - The behaviour is, or is likely to be, unreasonable; and
 - The order justifies the restrictions imposed.
- 1.6 Councils can issue a Public Space Protection Order after consultation with the Police, Police and Crime commissioner, the owner of the land in the restricted area and any other community representatives they see fit.
- 1.7 It is recognised that the Equality Act 2010 places a legal obligation on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; to advance equality of opportunity; and to foster good relations between persons with different protected characteristics.

2. ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE TOWN CENTRE

- 2.1 In March 2020, the UK entered a national lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In the subsequent two years, lockdowns were lifted, then re-imposed; social restrictions lessened and re-imposed. The impact of this period has had significant effects on individuals, business and town centres. During the periods of lockdown, anti-social behaviour activity naturally decreased in Ashton Town Centre. However, as restrictions lifted and the town centre became busy again, a subsequent rise of reports of anti-social behaviour occurred.
- 2.2 As a rise in anti-social behaviour was occurring, Greater Manchester Police and Tameside Council began receiving complaints from members of the public. The complaints related to intoxicated individuals consuming alcohol & other substances and causing a nuisance.
- 2.3 The reports of anti-social behaviour received by Tameside Council have come from members of the public, constituents reporting to the office of the Right Honourable Angela Rayner MP and from local businesses, who have also complained to Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham on these matters.

- 2.4 It is clear that the groups of people engaged in anti-social behaviour in Ashton town centre are having a detrimental effect on the town as whole. Members of the public have voiced their concerns around the plight of the town. Local business owners are aggrieved & have stated that the anti-social behaviour is a contributory factor to potential customers not visiting the town centre.
- 2.5 Between April 2021 and February 2022, Greater Manchester Police recorded 78 crimes on Ashton Town Centre that contain an anti-social behaviour element. It is important to note that these are reports which have been 'crimed' in line with National Crime Recording Standards. Consideration should also be given to the fact that not all instances of individuals loitering in the town centre or causing a nuisance are reported to the police.

Type	Number of Incidents
Public Order	18
Violence without injury	19
Violence with injury	9
Possession of Drugs	19
Criminal Damage and arson	7
Business and community burglary	1
Possession of weapon	1
Stalking and harassment	1
Misc crimes against society	2
Trafficking of Drugs	1

3. THE PROPOSED PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

- 3.1 The proposal for consideration is the introduction of a Public Spaces Protection Order, which would be applicable to the proposed restricted area identified in the map attached to the order. A copy of the map covered by the order is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 The order would prohibit the following activities:
- the consumption of alcohol or the possession of an open alcohol container;
 - the use or possession of other intoxicating substances as defined by the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016;
 - discarding a hypodermic needle or syringe
 - urination or defecation;
 - health and/or safety risks including obstruction of doorways and stairwells and;
 - the erection of temporary structures within the restricted area.
- 3.3 The order will also require the provision of information upon request by an authorised person reasonably suspected of breaching any of the prohibitions or requirements in this order within the restricted area.
- 3.4 The order would require clear signage to be placed at every point of access to the relevant restricted area, detailing those activities, which are restricted & outlining the penalties for breaching the order (£100 fixed penalty or £1,000 fine following summons).
- 3.5 In addition to the signage, the Council, in partnership with GMP, will develop a communications strategy which ensures that the order is publicised very clearly in local and social media to ensure maximum public awareness of the order.
- 3.6 The order would be enforced by officers from Greater Manchester Police (both police officers and police community support officers) and any appeal would be through GMP's own appeals system.

- 3.7 A draft copy of the Public Spaces Protection Order is attached at **Appendix 2**.
- 3.8 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed to consider the impact of the order and mitigations put in place to support the community. This EIA is attached at **Appendix 3**.
- 3.9 A further Equality Impact Assessment relating to the consultation on the PSPO is attached at **Appendix 6**.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Section 72 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 provides that Local Authorities must engage in a consultation process prior to the introducing a Public Spaces Protection Order.
- 4.2 Local Authorities are obliged to consult with;
- The local chief officer of police
 - The police and crime commissioner
 - Owners or occupiers of land within the affected area where reasonably practicable
 - Appropriate community representatives
- 4.3 On the 18 August 2022, the Executive Cabinet Member for Town & Communities – Councillor Vimal Choksi MBE gave notice of decision to commence a 6-week public consultation period.
- 4.4 The consultation period commenced on Monday 22 August 2022 and closed on Monday 3 October 2022. The consultation was held on Tameside Councils 'Big Conversation' website. As part of the consultation process, businesses in Ashton-under-Lyne town centre received hand-delivered letters inviting them to make comment on the consultation. There were numerous public notices placed around the town centre informing of the consultation with a QR code taking people directly to the online consultation page.
- 4.5 The consultation was also advertised via Tameside Councils social media platforms and through the Tameside Independent Advisory Group, a forum with many community representatives.

5. CONSULTATION RESPONSE

- 5.1 482 people responded to the consultation with a written comment. Those written comments are attached at **Appendix 4**.
- 5.2 Of these responses 90.3% (or 9 out of 10 people) supported the introduction the Public Space Protection Order.
- 5.3 3.1% (or 3 in every 100) were opposed to the Public Space Protection Order.
- 5.4 6.6% provided a response, which neither supported nor opposed the introduction of the Public Space Protection Order, but passed comment.
- 5.5 40 people completed the consultation, but provided no written response.
- 5.6 Of those in favour of the Public Space Protection Order being introduced, 10.8% raised some notable concerns on a number of thematic areas:

- Comments were made around policing the PSPO, specifically because of a perceived lack of visible policing in the town centre
- Concern was expressed that the PSPO may push the problems in to other areas in the borough.
- Some respondents expressed concern that the PSPO targeted individuals who are vulnerable & in need of support, rather than enforcement.
- Reference is made to the potential for victimising those who are jobless, homeless or substance abuse misusers, many of whom may not be able to pay an imposed fine.

5.7 As a result of these comments, the Community safety & Homelessness Service will conduct an annual review of the impact of the PSPO covering its effectiveness in tackling ASB as well as the potential impacts suggested by some of the respondents.

5.8 Tameside Council also received a response to the consultation from the Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor the Rt. Hon Baroness Beverley Hughes who provided her support for the proposals to introduce the Public Space Protection Order as proposed. A copy of this letter is attached at **Appendix 5**.

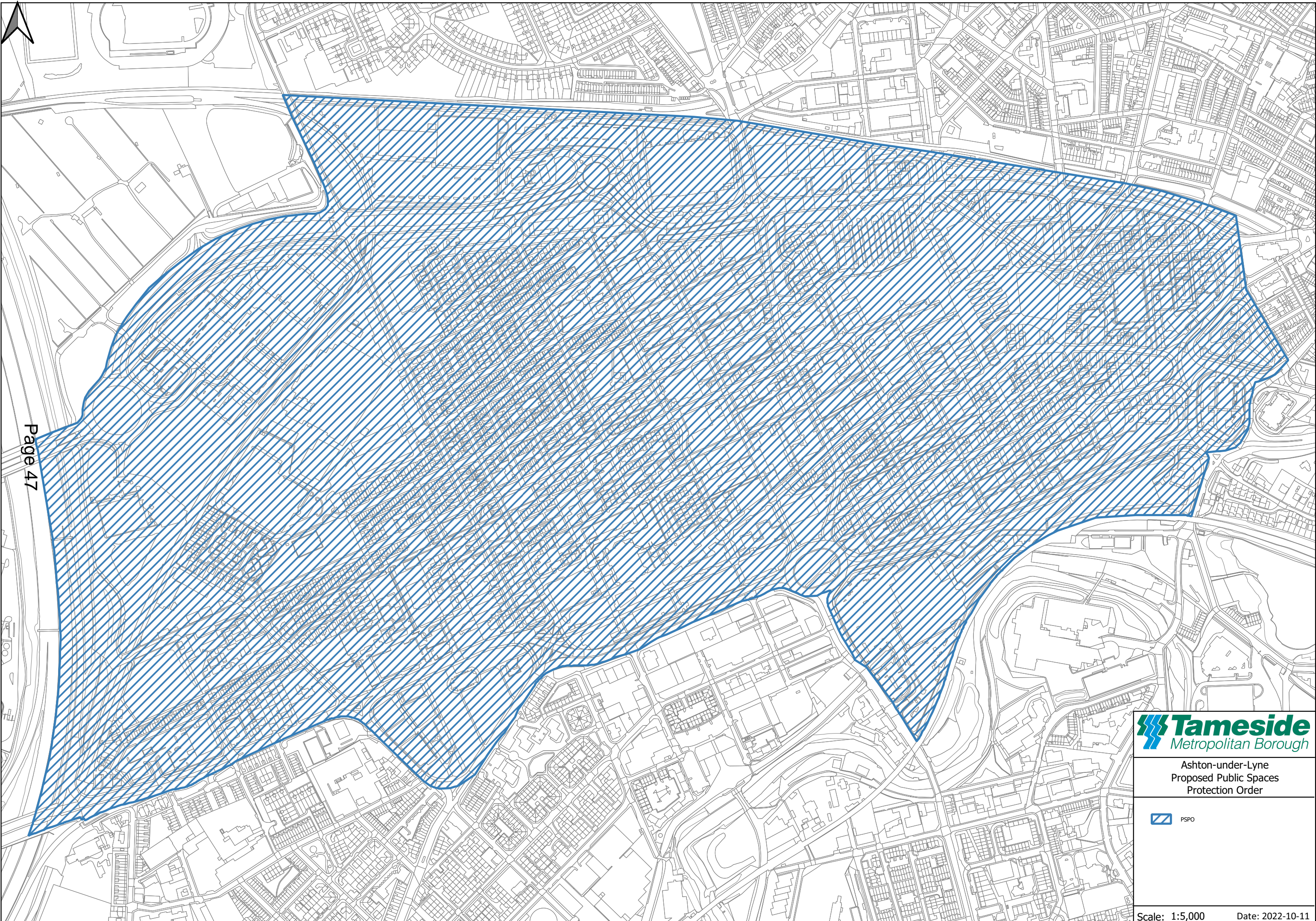
5.9 One respondent to the consultation suggested that the area covered by the PSPO should be extended to include the field and railway lines on the opposite side of Park Parade, incorporating the area adjacent to the Sea Cadets and the waste ground on Lower Wharf Street. This suggestion was made due to the anti-social behaviour, which already exists in this location, and the likelihood that the PSPO may push some offenders into this area, where they would be able to continue their behaviour.


5.10 This matter has been taken into account and the map of the proposed PSPO area has been extended to include these areas. The map is attached at **Appendix 1**.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 As set out at the front of the report.

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 PSPO

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APPENDIX 2

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014
TAMESIDE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, TOWN CENTRE, TAMESIDE
PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2022

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (“the Council”) in exercise of its power under section 59 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (“the Act”) and of all other enabling powers being satisfied that the conditions set out in section 59 of the Act have been met hereby makes the following Order:-

This order is made on the ** of ** and shall have effect for a period of 3 years thereafter, unless discharged or extended under the Council’s statutory powers.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The Council is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the activities in the Restricted Areas and identified in Articles 1 to 6 of this Order

- have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that those activities will be carried on in the Restricted Areas and that they will have such an effect, and
- that the effect, or likely effect, of those activities
 - is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
 - is, or is likely to be, such as to make those activities unreasonable, and
 - justifies the restrictions and prohibitions imposed by this Order.

The Council is satisfied that the prohibitions and restrictions imposed by this Order are reasonable to impose in order to prevent the detrimental effect of the activities from continuing, occurring or recurring, or to reduce that detrimental effect or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or recurrence.

The Council has had particular regard to the rights and freedoms set out in Article 10 (right of freedom of expression) and Article 11 (right of freedom of assembly) of the European Convention on Human Rights and has concluded that any restrictions on such rights and freedoms imposed by this Order are lawful, necessary and proportionate.

This Order applies to all public places within the Restricted Areas as shown on the accompanying map.

This Order is available for inspection on the Council's website and also at Tameside One, Market Place, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 6HH.

Definitions

- "Alcohol" has the same meaning as in section 191 of the Licensing Act 2003.
- "Authorised Person" means a person authorised in writing by the Council.
- "Constable" includes Police Community Support Officer.
- "The Council" means Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council.
- "Public place" means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.
- "Restricted Area" means
 - in respect of Articles 1 to 7 the whole of the area delineated in blue annexed to this Order, and
- "Street cleansing activity" includes any such activities carried on by or on behalf of the Council.

SCHEDULE

Article 1: Consumption of alcohol

No person shall at any time consume alcohol in any public place in the restricted area, or refuse to hand over an open container containing or purporting to contain alcohol, in their possession, save for in those places identified by section 62 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (licensed premises) and those places authorised by section 115E of the Highways Act 1980 (pavement café licences) when required to do so by an Authorised Officer.

Article 2: Intoxicating Substances

No person shall at any time, in any public place in the restricted area ingest, inhale or otherwise use intoxicating substances defined for the purposes of this order as any substance with the capacity to stimulate or depress the central nervous system.

Article 3: Discarding a hypodermic needle or syringe

No person shall discard, other than in an appropriate sharps container, a hypodermic needle or syringe in a public place in the Restricted Area.

Article 4: Urination or defecation

No person shall urinate or defecate in a public place in the Restricted Area. This prohibition does not apply to urinating or defecating in a legitimate toilet facility.

Article 5: Health and/or safety risks - obstruction

A person in a public place in the Restricted Area who causes a health and/or safety risk by

- obstructing the entrance to or exit from any building, or
- obstructing the free passage of pedestrians on or in a stairwell, or
- causing an obstruction which prevents or hinders street cleansing activity, or
- causing an obstruction which prevents or hinders the free passage of pedestrians or vehicles
- shall, upon valid request of a Constable or an Authorised Person, move from that location within a reasonable time as specified in writing by that Authorised Person

Article 6: Health and/or safety risks - tents and structures

A person who has erected or is occupying a tent or other temporary structure in a public place in the Restricted Area in a manner that,

- attracts or is likely to attract vermin, or
- creates or is likely to create a health and/or safety risk for any other person
- shall, upon valid request of a Constable or an Authorised Person, move from that location within a reasonable time as specified by that Authorised Person

Article 7: Provision of information upon request

A person who an Authorised Person reasonably suspects of breaching any of the prohibitions or requirements in this Order shall, upon request of that Authorised Person, provide their name, address and date of birth to that Authorised Person 4. Any person who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with the requirements of Articles 2 to 3 of this Order commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

THE COMMON SEAL of)
TAMESIDE METROPOLITAN)
BOROUGH COUNCIL was)
Hereunto affixed on)
in the presence of: -)

Authorised signatory

**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

Subject / Title	Ashton Town Centre Public Space Protection Order	
Team	Service	Directorate
Community Safety	Community safety & Homelessness	Place
Start Date	Completion Date	
1 November 2022	1 November 2025	
Project Lead Officer	Dave Smith, Partnerships Manager	
Contract / Commissioning Manager	John Gregory, Head of Community Safety & Homelessness	
Assistant Director/ Director	Emma Varnam, Assistant Director, Operations & Neighbourhoods	
EIA Group (lead contact first)	Job title	Service
Dave Smith	Partnerships Manager	Community Safety
John Gregory	Head of Service	Community Safety

PART 1 – INITIAL SCREENING

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for all formal decisions that involve changes to service delivery and/or provision. Note: all other changes – whether a formal decision or not – require consideration for an EIA.

The Initial screening is a quick and easy process which aims to identify:

- *those projects, proposals and service or contract changes which require a full EIA by looking at the potential impact on, or relevance to, any of the equality groups*
- *prioritise if and when a full EIA should be completed*
- *explain and record the reasons why it is deemed a full EIA is not required*

A full EIA should always be undertaken if the project, proposal and service / contract change is likely to have an impact upon, or relevance to, people with a protected characteristic. This should be undertaken irrespective of whether the impact or relevancy is major or minor, or on a large or small group of people. If the initial screening concludes a full EIA is not required, please fully explain the reasons for this at 1e and ensure this form is signed off by the relevant Contract / Commissioning Manager and the Assistant Director / Director.

1a.	What is the project, proposal or service / contract change?	A proposal to introduce a Public Space Protection order (PSPO)
1b.	What are the main aims of the project, proposal or service / contract change?	To help in tackling anti-social behaviour I Ashton-under-Lyne town centre

**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

1c. Will the project, proposal or service / contract change have either a direct or indirect impact on, or relevance to, any groups of people with protected equality characteristics?				
Where there is a direct or indirect impact on, or relevance to, a group of people with protected equality characteristics as a result of the project, proposal or service / contract change please explain why and how that group of people will be affected.				
Protected Characteristic	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Age			X	
Disability			X	
Ethnicity			X	
Sex			X	
Religion or Belief			X	
Sexual Orientation			X	
Gender Reassignment			X	
Pregnancy & Maternity			X	
Marriage & Civil Partnership			X	
Other protected groups determined locally by Tameside and Glossop Strategic Commission?				
Group (please state)	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Mental Health		X		The prohibition on erecting tents in the town centre will affect those people choosing to sleep rough. A considerable number of rough sleepers suffer from poor mental health, so this part of the proposal is likely

Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form

				to disproportionately affect those with poor mental health.
Carers			X	
Military Veterans			X	
Breast Feeding			X	
<p>Are there any other groups who you feel may be impacted by the project, proposal or service/contract change or which it may have relevance to? (e.g. <i>vulnerable residents, isolated residents, those who are homeless</i>)</p>				
Group (please state)	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Low or no income groups	X			Those with low or no income are at high risk of street homelessness. The prohibition on erecting tents and on obstructing doorways is therefore likely to disproportionately affect this group of people.

“Low or no income groups” should be included as a key consideration when assessing the impact of your project, proposal, policy or service/contract change.

Wherever a direct or indirect impact or relevance has been identified you should consider undertaking a full EIA or be able to adequately explain your reasoning for not doing so. Where little / no impact or relevance is anticipated, this can be explored in more detail when undertaking a full EIA.

1d.	Does the project, proposal or service / contract change require a full EIA?	Yes	No
			X

**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

1e.	What are your reasons for the decision made at 1d?	Although those with poor mental health and/or those with low or no income would be disproportionately affected as described above, the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping service has an excellent offer for anyone at risk of rough sleeping and a bed can be provided in a safe environment immediately for anyone at risk of rough sleeping. This offer mitigates the need for anyone to sleep rough in the borough and removes the need for a full EIA in this case.
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If a full EIA is required please progress to Part 2.

PART 2 – FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

2a. Summary
2b. Issues to Consider
2c. Impact/Relevance

2d. Mitigations (<i>Where you have identified an impact/relevance, what can be done to reduce or mitigate it?</i>)	
<i>Impact/Relevance 1 (Describe)</i>	<i>Consider options as to what we can do to reduce the impact/relevance</i>
<i>Impact/Relevance 2 (Describe)</i>	<i>Consider options as to what we can do to reduce the impact/relevance</i>
<i>Impact/Relevance 3 (Describe)</i>	<i>Consider options as to what we can do to reduce the impact/relevance</i>
<i>Impact/Relevance 4 (Describe)</i>	<i>Consider options as to what we can do to reduce the impact/relevance</i>
2e. Evidence Sources	

2f. Monitoring progress		
Issue / Action	Lead officer	Timescale
<i>Required</i>	<i>Required</i>	<i>Required</i>
Signature of Contract / Commissioning Manager		Date

**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

Signature of Assistant Director / Director	Date

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APPENDIX 4

Response Number	<p>Written responses received via consultation to the question;</p> <p>Please let us know what you think about the proposed Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Ashton town centre.</p>
1.	<p>While I broadly agree with most of the articles of the PSPO, I have some concerns, particularly in articles 5 and 6. Specifically I am unsure as to whether there is actually a proven problem around these clauses and I also have concerns about the potential to marginalise and criminalise homeless people who may be rough sleeping. Whilst I appreciate, fully support and completely endorse the work of the RSI and Homelessness Teams working for TMBC, there are specific occasions where a vulnerable individual may resist accessing ABEN and The Town House initially. It can take time to build a rapport and trust with these individuals and while I would agree that tents and those rough sleeping in doorways may need action if there is anti social behaviour or risk to public health associated with their location, I would also suggest that being able to monitor and maintain contact with them to encourage engagement with the professional support available is of paramount importance. I remain unconvinced that there is definite evidence of a need for these articles and am concerned that their inclusion may over-ride the safety of those vulnerable individuals if they are simply forced to more secluded and therefore potentially more hazardous locations. I would also strongly argue that the boundary of the proposed PSPO needs to be extended to include the field and railway lines on the other side of Park Parade Bypass and also the area adjacent to the Sea Cadets and the waste ground on Lower Wharf Street. There has been a very recent death on the field and historically there have been fires, injuries and sexual assaults in these areas. It is currently a real problem area with young people gathering alongside groups of people using that area for drinking and use of drugs, with issues which include excessive littering, drug paraphernalia, vermin and other safety issues. If the proposed PSPO does not include these areas I believe that the problems may simply be moved from the market and surrounding areas to further exacerbate the anti social behaviour already evident for a number of years and that this will cause a very definite community safety issue specifically with the youngsters using this area.</p>
2.	<p>I agree with the PSPO - I believe that the policy will deter street drinkers causing annoyance in the town centre and encourage more shoppers to the area</p>
3.	<p>I think this order is well overdue. Businesses in the town are suffering massively from the anti social behaviour witnessed not only on the Market ground and surrounding areas but right across the town. Local businesses, residents, potential shoppers have constantly highlighted this problem across social media channels and it's a fact that some have stopped visiting the town altogether...they feel intimidated by the individuals they see congregating in certain areas around the Market. These individuals also harass passers by asking for money, making lewd comments, swearing, making threats. People constantly saying they don't feel safe in Ashton is not acceptable. Many of us have witnessed drug dealing, prostitution, drunkenness all taking place openly in the daytime. Footfall in the town has been severely affected as the situation has worsened. I fully support the implementation of this PSPO. GMP have been working hard to try and resolve but I believe they need the extra powers this will give them to get on and tackle the situation more effectively. Now, more than ever, our businesses need the support this PSPO will bring. I would like to see it introduced at the earliest opportunity.</p>

4.	It is is fundamental to preventing a town centre becoming a ghetto
5.	I support this proposal in full
6.	I agree entirely
7.	I think its a good idea but what about those using foul language and riding bikes with masks on their faces, these are the ones that are causing all the trouble
8.	I support the PSPO. I live 10 minutes walk from the town centre. I avoid visiting after about 3pm as I often feel threatened by the people that congregate on the market ground.
9.	Encouraging but hard to enforce
10.	I totally agree with the plans put forward. Ashton is a well known area in the town centre where people daily meet and are carrying out anti social behaviour activities. It's frightening to see.
11.	I think it is long overdue and a necessary step to make Ashton a place where people feel safe to visit.
12.	Good and need them more in more of Tameside, such as the towns like Denton, Hyde and Stalybridge.
13.	I work at b&m in the town centre, and the amount off people that sit on the benches facing work and on the market is ridiculous there's been customers that don't feel comfortable walking past them beavuse they are very intimidating
14.	I think its a good idea and will stop lots of antisocial behaviour in Ashton Town Centre. I personally avoid shopping in the centre because of the regular antisocial behaviour. The PSPO will help increase footfall to the centre as it will make it a more appealing place to go if antisocial behaviour is stopped/reduced.
15.	There are often people drinking from cans sat on the Ashton Market stalls so this needs to be sorted
16.	I believe that Tameside council, have chosen to ignore this issue and in doing so, failed to exercise their duty of care. This level of control and public safety should have been in place already and not need special measures.
17.	I do not agree with item 2 . Many older customers smoke tobacco outside, whilst supporting local cafes etc. The smoking of banned substances ie cannabis is already not permitted under the law. Therefore the pspo is disgusting the fact that this is a no smoking 'ban'
18.	I think it's great, some of the local businesses around the outside markets have fell victim to some of the harassment, theft, intimidation that they're having to reconsider moving businesssss out of Ashton in order to feel safe
19.	Fully support the proposed measures
20.	Desperately need this order to save our businesses 8n the town centre, and to stop shoppers being afraid to shop in the centre
21.	Very bad
22.	Very bad
23.	good idea
24.	I think it's a great idea, something needs to be done to try and save the town centre. It's far too intimidating to go there now. Took my mother shopping and whilst walking through the market was threatened by a drunken man aggressively shouting he was 'gonna put our faces in'. People openly selling and taking drugs, urinating and fighting. Will never take my mother shopping there again.
25.	Great idea. Get rid of the riff raff. Many times I have been on the market and intimidated by drunks or down and outs begging and threatening behaviour towards myself and my girlfriend.
26.	Yes, please - as long as the established harmless homeless are not victimised
27.	I think it is a very good idea, Ashton town centre is a disgrace, I hate walking across the market ground and feel intimidated by the groups who congregate

	there. The market ground used to be really good, but is now a depressing place. I live in Ashton and I feel ashamed of Ashton centre.
28.	Good.
29.	I think it should be out I to place
30.	Would welcome intervention. Area currently unsafe for law abiding citizens of Tameside
31.	It should be implemented now with tougher sanctions. Stop any anti social behaviour and make shoplifting for even first time offenders punishable.
32.	Sounds a good idea, how will it be patrolled
33.	Please sort out our town centre. People are in fear of entering the center
34.	Absolutely agree. We live less than 50ft from the markets, and have people constantly coming into our yard/garden to drink alcohol/do drugs/urinate/defecate all the time. We've contacted the police previously about these incidents and we were told nothing could be done as trespass was a civil offense.
35.	I think bringing in measures to reduce the recent anti social behaviour will be beneficial to the town centre, I currently know of 2 businesses that have shut down due to theft, vandalism and harassment from these groups. I'm addition its becoming a daily occurrence to see people passed out or unconscious on the benches around the market and adjacent our business. Along with this regular altercations among the groups and townsfolk. Also an increased presence of ambulances and police vehicles which gives the town centre an intimidation aura. The groups are as much a risk to themselves as others right now, However, I don't think fines are the correct route to dealing with this issue as the perpetrators are mostly jobless, homeless or addicts. issuing fines will not help their situation nor will it discourage the behaviour, in fact it may exacerbate the bad behaviour and bring more hostility between the local businesses and the groups of people, it also may encourage theft to cover the fines. I think the presence of a local pcso to begin with would be a good step, one that can communicate with these groups and possibly find a solution to the issue without heavy handed means -Gordon Kennedy, Black kraken tattoos
36.	Bring it on!
37.	I haven't seen any issues. This just seems like further way to oppress the already impoverished
38.	I think this order needs to be implemented to support the work of the police
39.	I think robust action has to be taken to manage the anti-social behaviour and criminal activity in Ashton Town Centre. The local economy has been decimated over the last 15 years mainly by the fact that shoppers don't want to visit because of the negative behaviour of a number of people and this means businesses have failed or relocated. This has been a problem for many years and there has been a lack of robust and consistent action by the local police and council.
40.	Depends what powers they have to actually move people along and stop the issues
41.	Its been a long time coming and a much needed provision.
42.	Support it
43.	Agree with all points
44.	In order to enhance the town I believe a PSPO is needed
45.	About time something needs to be done. Feel very uncomfortable visiting town centre avoid at all costs
46.	Brilliant idea. My elderly Mum feels threatened when she's shopping in Ashton. It's disgusting the way things have declined over the years.
47.	Surely it is common decency to none of these in public but if it needs formalising, go for it.

48.	Surley it is already illegal to take drugs and drink in the street so what is this going to change?
49.	Agree
50.	Everything that you have listed is already illegal. ENFORCE IT
51.	This will help in creating a safer town centre
52.	Do you really think this will change things? Not a chance
53.	I think its a great idea. Town Centres are struggling enough without people being scared of being there due to anti social behaviour. Older people especially need the Town Centres to stop isolation and loneliness.
54.	I think that the PSPO is important as it will help people feel safer in Ashton Town Centre and hopefully reduce dangers to people.
55.	I think the order should take place in ashton town centre to make it a place for people to feel safe in
56.	I think it's a great idea.
57.	Not a representation of the people
58.	it doesn't feel like this isn't a safe environment around ashton with alcoholics and the druggies, they make ashton look rough! something needs to be done about it because they are scaring people away every time
59.	Any help offered to make the area safe is welcome
60.	Something has to be done I won't come to Ashton when I'm not working !! And it comes to something when your having to wear body cams in your place of work because of the amount off aggression and theft we get
61.	Can't come soon enough
62.	You should concentrate on getting more business from closing due to high rates and high costs of rentals it's now a shutter town if stop people doing what they want they will stop visiting
63.	I agree with proposed public space protection order for ashton town centre. I feel the town centre with the drinkers, drug users isn't a safe place to be. I have also spoken with stall holders who are not happy with the market as it is. People I know are not happy to travel into Ashton to shop.
64.	Are the 'prohibited' things you list not already illegal? Do you really think fining these people upto £1k will have an effect on them, or be a deterrent? They won't turn up to court or pay a fine....pointless
65.	Been to long in coming .iv not shopped in ashton for 5 years due to these prob .
66.	Well needed action, more must be done to remove anti social activities from Ashton. More needs to be done to restrict activities of people or businesses that attract people that go on to commit anti social behaviour.
67.	I am in favour of making communal spaces safer but would like to see caution and common sense applied to what is deemed to be "other activities".
68.	It is far too late in coming. The problem has increased over the years and is stopping people like myself wanting to come into the town centre.
69.	If it will protect us and make Ashton an area I and others will feel safe then I would support this
70.	Essential.
71.	Absolutely 100% think it's necessary and should be implemented immediately. Would make Ashton town centre more attractive and potential for customers back
72.	It is needed but will probably drive the problem to other areas
73.	It is vital this is put in place for the sake of businesses and public safety, without it the town is finished.
74.	Excellent
75.	It's a brilliant idea!

76.	This order is absolutely vital to stop the decline in the shopping centre as it is becoming more and more unnerving while shopping with drunks and shoplifting increasing week on week.
77.	We believe that ashton should be more policed to protect individuals from antisocial behavior including taking drugs and drinking alcohol, the use of foul language and dropping litter. We want ashton to be a safe, clean and welcoming town.
78.	It hasn't come soon enough
79.	I am very much in favour of this plan and sincerely hope the order is put in place. Antisocial behaviour in Ashton town centre has increased over the last year or so. it can be very threatening and has put me off going into the town recently. Good luck!
80.	Good idea. Ashton has got out of hand. The youths think they run the place
81.	Good idea, needs to funded and actually followed through with.
82.	Safe Public spaces are important in revitalizing the town centre. Public Spaces grows the community.
83.	Excellent idea
84.	Needs to be done urgently. The stalls are a no go area
85.	It will be greatly welcomed
86.	Surely those things should not be permitted anywhere!
87.	Unfortunately a necessary action as we loose the Town centre to lawlessness ASB. and become a no go area at night,
88.	Think it's a great idea and something like this has been needed in the town centre for a long time
89.	It is a good idea, something definitely needs to be done to stop the anti social behaviour. Need to make Ashton a better place to visit without feeling threatened.
90.	I think it is a good idea I just worry realistically how it will be policed.
91.	Excellent idea and much needed
92.	Long overdue.
93.	I am fully supportive of this type of action and if this type of enforcement is available it should be implemented as a priority. ASB is a major factor in preventing members of the public coming into the town centre for shopping, socialising and recreation.
94.	Needs to be implemented
95.	Waste of effort as the "Damage" has been already done and leaves a bitter sweet reminder of what is offered.
96.	To little to late
97.	A long time overdue, but how will it bring back all the stall holders or shops that have already left. Ashton Town centre is a ghost town. Open drug dealing a common sight. All well and good having a PSPO, but what are you actually going to do with the numerous anti social people?
98.	Its a great idea.
99.	Fine in principle - making the town centre safer is a priority. But: (1) How will this be implemented in practice? There is no visible police presence in the day or in the evening or at weekends. (2) Most "offenders" will not be able to pay any fine and FPNs are badges of honour. So what exactly is the deterrent? (3) How to prevent this anti-social behaviour shifting to another part of town - most likely to more residential areas and parks? (4) PSPO does not tackle any root causes of why this is happening in the town centre. PSPO needs to be part of a more holistic and wider preventative programme.
100.	do it
101.	There are two issues - young teens loitering and being a nuisance and then there is the issue of adults loitering and using the market stalls as a place to

	gather and drink. I have lived in ashton town centre for 3 years and the decline in the last 12 months has been extremely noticeable. There needs to be a greater emphasis on fines for littering also as once the groups disperse, they leave all of their rubbish. There is also a ridiculously high prevalence of people smoking weed in public - this needs to be taken more seriously. The public deserve to be able to walk through the town centre without being forced to inhale second hand drugs.
102.	I agree with all of the proposals.
103.	I see this as a band aid that fails to tackle the actual problems. Why are people engaging in these behaviours and how can we help them to choose other activities instead?
104.	I think it's a brilliant idea. A lot of the issues come from people using the Town House and The station Pub. Hat's off to Pauline but her scheme has brought a lot of ASB and public drug use to Ashton
105.	!. You could have put a better map on show, the one that you have is a waste of space.2.Where is the money coming from to pay for this and who is actually going to be enforcing (PSPO) ???
106.	Good idea
107.	It is essential to help Ashton to be a better place
108.	Excellent plan. Should have been in place months ago. Needs to be policed and monitored regularly.
109.	I'm so glad you are thinking of this I hope it will take place soon. This will let us feel safe 😊
110.	I think it's a great idea ashton gets a bad rep sometimes but it's the few ruining it for the many
111.	Great idea
112.	Needs sorting Ashton is a dump labour council has run Tameside into the ground no input from residents or businesses self centred council
113.	Do it as I'm fed up with seeing groups meeting and taking over empty market stalls. I feel intimidated by them
114.	We don't need this crap, instead better people lives, stop closing services like library, local Park, build youth centers all of these issues will be resolved.
115.	Wouldn't having a policeman plodding around do a better job?
116.	About time
117.	It is definitely needed, especially with the drugs/alcohol and grooming that is going on.
118.	need to act right away sick to death people drinking and acting disgracefully on the market and surrounding areas .
119.	Should have been done earlier
120.	Please get rid of the scrotes
121.	Amazing anything to get people back shopping in Ashton I wouldn't dare go in to the centre due to the people about
122.	Absolutely needed The town centre is awful! I try my best not to come - it does not feel safe Businesses are failing also as no one wants to go
123.	A real need for action by the Council
124.	Hope this includes the ppl drinking during the day on the benches opp bm and at the side of market.but it needs to happen by fines or arrests or pouring the drink away
125.	It sounds like a good idea & I personally would feel safer, which isn't the case now.
126.	Ashton town hall is good
127.	Should be put in place

128.	If it is implemented and it works it will make a huge difference to Ashton, making it a better place to visit rather than seeing drinks or drug fuelled persons hanging about, making the ordinary folk feel intimidated and to not feel safe to enter the town centre, therefore having a knock on effect to businesses. If I didn't work in Ashton I certainly wouldn't visit.
129.	It's a good idea, the town is a dump and something needs to be done about it.
130.	No thanks
131.	Not a lot whsts the point of my opinion it doesn't count for anything
132.	Can't come in soon enough
133.	A good idea , make others feel safe
134.	Hooray!!! I am very sad to say that Ashton Town centre has become pretty much a no go area for my wife and I. It's such a shame that our hardworking retailers are suffering because of these people who have no regard for their town, the shopkeepers and other local residents. Get tough, prosecute and rid this town of anti- social behaviour. Sadly, I must say that of you don't follow this through fully and determinedly we will lose our town forever!!!
135.	It's about time. The centre is full of undesirable people and it's intimidating
136.	The proposal is to vague and the area is too big.
137.	Good hope there will be pcso as well as officer presence to properly enforce
138.	Should already have something like this in place.
139.	Great idea, all of these things listed above should already be prohibited in today's society.
140.	👍👍
141.	Much needed. My mum doesn't feel safe waking through the market in day time past these loud groups of people drinking and I once saw a youth arrested by police for carrying a knife.
142.	This definitely needs to be addressed and make Ashton town centre more inviting to the local community. Families need to be encouraged most definitely .
143.	Sadly its a sign of the times we live in that makes it necessary in these times
144.	Good idea, however, what will be put in place to support the people this is aimed at tackling? In particular homeless and college students.
145.	Anything that gets the scroates out of Ashton
146.	I think this is a very good idea as things are getting worse, and it makes you feel threatened and uncomfortable as a lady on her own.
147.	I don't think it will do much. Will just push the problem down the road. Need to look at the root cause of all this. Why has it increased, who are the main culprits, few extra police on patrol especially on weekends. A big part of this has come with the homeless issue. These people need help to get off the street. This PSPO will not change much other than fines for people who cant pay.
148.	What's the point? Police were called about a guy threatening to stab people with a razor blade, they turned up and said because it wasn't a knife it wasn't important and left. If you're not enforcing something like that what's the point of putting a PSPO in that you won't enforce either?
149.	It's great if it can be enforced with enough enforcers to do it
150.	Fully in favour
151.	I went to Ashton with my grandchildren no where to sit as all the benches around the market hall had drunken people sat on them drinking and smoking drugs.walked around to the other side towards the market loads of people sat on market stalls shouting swear and drinking so something needs doing Ashton is being ruined by drinking and drug takers
152.	I think it's a brilliant idea, I currently avoid Ashton at all cost

153.	Pointless. All those things are already prohibited anyway. Antisocial behaviour is a systemic issue stemming from socioeconomic instability. Spend your time and money fixing our rampant class and social inequalities instead of pretending your doing something with this nonsense.
154.	Much needed
155.	It needs to be implemented across the whole of Tameside Who many legitimate public toilet facilities in Tameside
156.	Will it really help , more money need to be put into actually helping people !!
157.	Great idea as I am fed up of going into Ashton town centre (and often-with my young son)and not feeling safe or witnessing inappropriate or illegal behaviour.
158.	This sounds like a good idea. Ashton is a no go area at night and all you do is get hassle or see asb during the day
159.	A great overdue idea but will it be rigorously enforced?
160.	Absolutely vital to protect the market traders. Currently it's far too intimidating to approach the market because of the groups gathering outside.
161.	It is a good idea.
162.	Town centre is a start , at least it will feel safer .
163.	Do I hate people sitting around drinking doing drugs in plain site of children shopping with the families
164.	I think it would be greatly beneficial as long as it's enforced properly by both the police and council otherwise I don't think it would change much
165.	It's a good idea although it's not the main issue. The city centre has become virtually derelict in the evenings so there's only a small nighttime economy left
166.	The pspso is definitely needed ,people feel very intimidated just by going about their everyday shopping, how the businesses are still surviving I do not know ,the elderly can't even sit on the benches without feeling threatened,there is open drug taking and the smell of weed sometimes is overpowering
167.	Ashton needs to be cleaned up. There are so many unsavoury characters hanging around on the empty market stalls. It makes me avoid the place.
168.	Very good. The market and businesses are loosing business as people are frightened to shop. I sent to the market yesterday the empty stalls on the market were occupied with adults drinking alcohol and being abusive along with the benches.
169.	Good idea
170.	This is all just common human decency? You need to put an order in for it??
171.	Totally agree
172.	Good
173.	In favour
174.	I support this order, it is terrible that you cannot go shopping in our centre and find that someone is urinating practically in view of everone
175.	I think it is a fantastic idea. Having a 18 year old autistic son and living in Ashton really worries me when he leaves the house. It will make the place more safer
176.	It is needed
177.	Agree
178.	Its a very good idea
179.	Definitely needs to be done!
180.	Excellent idea, ashton town centre is often intimidating due to feral behaviour of some individuals
181.	This is a step in the right dieection . But will it be policed , will Working market traders be able to get a prompt answer deom police / pso or the market office . The market officers need ti be more proactive in there response and sttitude , the market officers should be made accountable foe how they help traders when they report ASB .Market staff should Liase with the police when reports

	of ASB are reported . Market staff have the attitudes thatbits not there problem . A higher police presence is needed in the town . To deter gangs congregating .
182.	Sounds good but concerned it may just relocate the problem to somewhere else
183.	This is a very good idea. My girlfriend no longer wants to go into Ashton Town centre because or anti social behaviour we've witnesses from people drunk and disorderly on the benches next to the outdoor market and also loitering on the empty market stalls on the outdoor market while shouting and threatening people
184.	About time! Only query is how will this be Policed? It needs strong enforcement Officers on the ground and strong presence.
185.	Uesy be nice to have nice clean safe spaces in the town
186.	Brilliant idea
187.	I fully support the PSPO and hope that it reduces any anti-social behaviour, & further deters the thieves & criminal behaviour in Ashton-Under-Lyne town centre.
188.	Brilliant idea, the area around the market is becoming a no go area
189.	I agree it is needed
190.	I think the order will be very welcome as there are a number of changes required in Ashton town centre.
191.	Absolutely agree
192.	I think it's a great idea, nothing worse taking yr family shopping and seeing peopke drunk, asking for money ive even witnesses peopke stealing off market stalls
193.	I'd fully support this and hope it would be policed appropriately
194.	About time because nowhere is safe for anybody, regardless of colour or gender
195.	Yes take the streets back. Start with Ashton and then everywhere else. Fed up with the smell of drugs wherever you go and the general acceptance of drugs, begging and antisocial behaviour.
196.	It shouldn't be necessary but if Ashton is to have any chance to be a town to be proud of by its citizens as we once were then it's a start.
197.	There needs to be more of a police presence especially when it comes to deterring large groups of teenagers and drunk/drugged up people congregating in the empty market stalls. Seeing these groups makes me avoid the area as it feels really unsafe and unwelcoming.
198.	It's a great idea & will make people feel safer
199.	I think this is the right decision. Going from the reasons why the Council feel the need to put this order into place, I totally agree with them. The Town Centre is for everyone to use and enjoy and it should always be kept as a clean safe space for all of those that use it, be it traders, office workers and consumers.
200.	Really good idea
201.	Great idea
202.	Great idea..Ashton Market needs regular patrols to eliminate/ curtail anti social behaviour and encourage shoppers/businesses into the area.
203.	It needs to include the open space between Park Parade and the railway line, accessed by the subway behind the Station Hotel.
204.	Brilliant
205.	Needs to be done I no longer go to ashton because of the obvious drunk and drug users all over the market swearing arguing spitting stealing from local shops .
206.	Will be good if its enforced and stuck to

207.	Sorry but people wouldn't be erecting tents or other temporary structures if they weren't homeless or have problems. These people have enough to deal with leave them alone unless it's to give food or help. Public toilets need reopening especially ones without charges. Homeless need them and people who have conditions or are taken ill suddenly need them. Plenty of public toilets are shut down in the area, hyde park, Stamford park etc. Places with toilets generally insist on a purchase before letting you use their toilets. Considering current economic status of country do to ridiculous increases of utility bills /charges more people are going to be struggling and there is not enough housing in the area. Stopping people from using tents etc is against their human rights to exist. Your right to exist should not be based on your income.
208.	seriously! it seems we truly live in an idiocracy. the market is like bartertown in mad max at times. it's intimidating, offensive and out of control. elderly people are frightened. children are exposed to disgusting behaviour. traders are quitting, or talking about quitting. it appears that shop lifting isn't even considered a crime any more. your response is to have a six week consultation to see if people feel that the listed scumbag activities should be prohibited. why is this? is it so that the scumbags can make representations to preserve their much valued and traditional activities? i suppose after all scumbags pay council tax and/or business rates like the rest of us? perhaps we should be a little more understanding of their needs.
209.	This is a good idea but will this actually work and be policed properly and if people are fined they are probably not going to be able to afford to pay the fines so is it worth actually going ahead with this proposition
210.	I agree with what is advised.
211.	Absolutely fantastic much needed proposal, it can't come soon enough.
212.	Something definitely needs doing
213.	Yes definitely needs something doing as it doesn't feel safe when you see these people being disruptive and loud,drinking and doing drugs.
214.	Get those crackheads out of the centre! I've seen them passing needles to eachother and hearing abuse to members of the public, including clients of my business
215.	Ashton has been a no go zone because of drugs and drinkers and thieving daily ..market place area
216.	I agree a town centre needs this although I'm unsure why Tameside town centre would need it. The town centre is so run down I'm unsure who would even bother going there soon.
217.	It doesn't tackle the underlying issues, if you give a fixed penalty notice to a job or a junkie for doing something they shouldn't outside of McDonalds (because that's all there is in Ashton town centre) they probably ignore it If you DO manage to enforce the PSPO (which would mean employing people to do so at the cost to the taxpayer), it'll likely come out of the benefits of the perpetrator. Ultimately you are moving the problem elsewhere. Out of sight - out of mind.
218.	Yes definitely get it in now and stop all the druggies drunks beggars from blighting the centre
219.	The Town Centre can feel unwelcome by the sights of several groups throughout the day hanging around the market area. A police or PCSO presence at various times of the day would help.
220.	Highly support it
221.	This is something that definitely needs to be put into place. The behaviour of youths and adults is not executable in a public place and is very damaging as people are scared and disgusted at what they are witnessing.
222.	It is needed

223.	Sounds like it might help. It will keep the peace , which should be important to a public place , people feel safe.
224.	Sadly long overdue
225.	Very sensible. Toilets are a problem if you need it though.
226.	This would be a fantastic idea the town centre is full of trouble and surrounding area as I have 1st hand experience of this as I have been verbally abused and felt unsafe on a number occasions.
227.	Sounds like a good idea, but will it be effectively monitored/policed? What is the guarantee that offenders will even be challenged by anyone, never mind progressed through the system and punished? Those offending are likely from a family/background that are struggling financially, so how will imposition of a fine do any good? It won't act as a deterrent in my opinion. Why not bite the bullet and get the ineffectual "security" staff from the shopping centres to extend their patrols and actually challenge some of the antisocial behaviours? Give them powers to confiscate (alcohol, weed, illegally ridden electric scooters, cycling/wheelies in crowds etc).
228.	It is needed if we are to start having a safe town centre for shoppers.
229.	I think its a great idea,
230.	Doubtful it will do much. They're not going to pay fines. But anything worth a try.
231.	Fab idea
232.	I fully support the PSPO and I hope it will make Ashton a more pleasant place to live. To support this, it would be reassuring to know there is adequate funding of services and resources for people affected by the order such as local drug and alcohol rehabilitation services and homeless shelters. Perhaps this could be included in the detail of any final decision as an appendix?
233.	I think this should of always been in places. Why hasn't it been? The number of attacks on groups of people and verbal abuse. Crazy to think how different the rules have been from in a town centre then on the street around the corner. But heh never late then never so they say. Let's hope these rules bring Ashton town centre back to a mover and safer environment
234.	What about the rest of Tameside?
235.	It is good thing to protect our public space.
236.	It's a start
237.	Overdue and much needed. Not one day passes where you see people openly polluting the atmosphere, smoking dope, and drinking alcohol. These people drive shoppers away and cause issues for the stall and shop owners.
238.	Good idea but something should already be in place anyway
239.	I thought all these things already weren't allowed.
240.	i think a fine will not be paid by some people so a prison term needs to be inflicted by current offenders
241.	Can't come soon enough
242.	It can only be a good thing.. Ashton needs to be a safe n welcoming place for all.
243.	Great if its actually enforced but I'm skeptical
244.	parts of this are aimed at homeless people reading between the lines. obstruction of street cleaners ! walkways ! and such I strongly disagree with these proposed restrictions. whilst antisocial behaviour is an problem and does need addressing some of the proposals go too far.
245.	This is definitely an order that needs to be put in place as soon as possible. The amount of anti social behaviour is becoming a massive problem and is putting alot of people off from visiting the town centre. All types of business are now suffering because of the growing problem. I own a new business in the town centre and fully support this action

246.	All cops are bastards
247.	I think it could be a positive thing
248.	Definatly should be put in place
249.	Good
250.	Ashton really needs this I was born and bred in Ashton and used to love it and be proud of it. Now I am ashamed of the town centre and do my shopping elsewhere. I am sick of the drug addicts and alcoholics and people asking for money that always frequent the town centre. I used to bring my grandchildren to the town centre every Saturday but not anymore it stinks of weed and there are always people shouting swearing and fighting . I am sorry to say this but I don't think Pauline town has helped the situation because she has attracted a lot of these people to the town centre.I know that she's trying to help these people but the aggravation they cause is making the town centre unsafe. My son lives close to the station pub and feels unsafe leaving his apartment there are constantly people openly buying drugs on the street where the station pub is and then hang about under the influence near to his apartment. He will shortly moving out of the area as the noise makes it hard for him to work from home. A few people who live in the same area as him have said the same so a lot of decent hardworking people will be moving away from Ashton because of this
251.	This is a good idea but all the things listed above are already illegal in public so why not just enforce the law better
252.	Seems positive response to anti-social behaviour
253.	Just need to get rid of drunks and drug takes has I don't like bring my kids out shopping coz of all the kicking off between them all and cans and drug bags left about but other them that its nice place to live and be in
254.	It's a fair idea, but the main way to combat it is to actually enforce the order once it's in place. Surprisingly, this means you have to actively patrol the problem areas consistently and monitor the CCTV. I also hope this isn't a thinly veiled ploy to clear the town centre of homeless people, because making it illegal for someone to be somewhere with a "temporary shelter" is only going to ensure they go to prison or have a criminal record, instead of helping them access treatment that works for them, alongside providing them with a private space of their own. Ultimately it could go either way in my opinion, but after seeing all the photo op posts on the local police's social media, I'm not holding out hope.
255.	It's ok
256.	Some thing has to be done it's embarrassing and scary Ashton at the moment
257.	It definitely needs some sort of action , ashton is turning into a no go area
258.	It would be great and make me feel more safe
259.	Very good idea could bring people back including myself. I avoid Ashton because it's not safe
260.	Needs to be actioned, all the older generation don't feel safe
261.	Ashton Market no longer a nice place to go due to the swearing,shouting ,drinking and intimidating presseance of the addicts and homeless that are sat on or around stalls and benches on the market ground and outside b and m, it's a daily meeting place for them. I feel so sorry for the trainers and public that have to tolllerate this every day, just not a nice place to go anymore, it needs sorting out and fast to make people feel safe again!
262.	Good idea
263.	I think this will benefit not only shoppers but traders too, it affects customers wanting to come and shop, which in turn prevents revenue for the businesses
264.	Totally agree.
265.	Needed. I feel uncomfortable going into Ashton now

266.	I fully support this I've come ashtin from being young and a lot are ruining it now I know of numerous people who won't take there kids anymore cause the kids are seeing to much it's awful 😞
267.	Not just a protection order needed we need more policing and not just for a few weeks either. People aren't feeling safe in daytime hours in Ashton let alone night time..... You keep talking the talk about doing something about anti social behaviour especially around the market area but you've done NOTHING.....This needs to stop now, people need to feel and be safe day or night so yes, please get this done ASAP.
268.	Never heard of it
269.	It's about time, anti social behaviour has destroyed Ashton Town Centre. I have stopped going because of all the issues.
270.	Good it's a hive of drunks drug users and gangs
271.	Brilliant take the drugs away and youths what cause trouble to our market
272.	Definitely needs to be implemented ASAP Ashton outside market area is a place to avoid right now due to the amount of fights/antisocial behaviour wsp 2pm inwards
273.	Sadly it's a must, it can be a scary place even in daylight.
274.	It's really needed, people have stopped going into Ashton to shop because of the anti social behaviour, they feel scared and intimidated as the hang around the market Square
275.	Get it done NOW . It will soon be too late and Ashton will be a GHOST TOWN.
276.	The final decision should be based on the results of the survey, NOT on what the council decides. I've watched the deterioration of Ashton town centre over several years, much of it being caused by uneducated and unnecessary changes made to the market area which have destroyed the foundation of a once thriving, traditional style market and the introduction of an unwelcome college (which did not increase trading). It simply drove away the many visitors/shoppers (including myself). Now we are facing the need of a PSPO, which is necessary, to restore order, but sadly it will do little to restore the town to it's former popularity. By all means introduce every measure to rid the area of the problems but make sure the area is policed appropriately and actions taken to enforce the PSPO, not just posters for the offenders to look at and laugh.
277.	About time but just hoped it can be policed
278.	Think it's a very good idea.
279.	Necessary and hopefully will make a big difference
280.	It's a good start
281.	Walking around Ashton sometimes feels like you are on a film set of a Zombie Movie so any changes would be an improvement
282.	Firstly it should be all Tameside towns not just the city of Ashton.
283.	Action is longoverdue but welcomed
284.	It's sad that it needs doing but at the same time, this is way overdue and frankly should cover more of the above.
285.	Definitely get rid of the wasters and scum
286.	Reducing antisocial behaviour will encourage greater use of the proposed area . This will be great for current business & hopefully attract new business. It would be great to see the market & surrarea develop into a cafe culture area
287.	Seems a good idea but these things should surely be illegal and policed anyway so unsure why we need a special order to enforce them.
288.	I think it's good as long as it's backed up with proper support for drug users, street drinkers and rough sleepers. You can't just move people on as they'll just go elsewhere like parks/residential areas.
289.	Can't understand why it's not already inplace

290.	I think this is just what we need !! I am a female and do not feel safe in ashton Town centre day or night !!@
291.	I agree with the proposal, the market and surrounding area can be very intimidating even during the day .
292.	Great in theory but how are you going to pay for it,maybe use some of the levelling up money.
293.	Excellent idea, the town centre is not welcoming to visitors. In addition I would like to see more traffic enforcement around the market / McDonald's area.
294.	As a business owner this can't come quick enough, they are outside our market hall every day, drinking, smoking weed, taking drugs, begging for money. All my customers are now afraid to go anyway near any retail outlets that they are in the vicinity of.
295.	About time
296.	Exactly what area is to be covered ??? There are NO street names on your map - So I CANNOT identify the area on the map I have to GUESS what area is to be covered ??? Could you have your APPENDIX 2 put into simple plain English ??? - no drink, no drugs, no rough sleeping, no using the area as a toilet That is very very poor communication to the public at large STOP USING JARGON
297.	Great
298.	I do not like going into Ashton town centre now unless I have to, I am sick of explaining other peoples actions to my children- druggies slumped against walls, teenage kids swearing and pushing past security to get to where they think they have a right to go, fights and drunk idiots everywhere
299.	I am in agreement with it and I think it will bring more people back to our lovely town. I wish the area was a bit wider to cover St james school as there is a group of people who urinate and take drugs behind the foundation stage building. I hope it won't move the group from the market to there.
300.	Excellent idea, get it implemented
301.	This should have been done years ago
302.	Not happy with the last proposal what is meant by health and safety? Could be used to restrict public rights to protest or meet.
303.	Agree absolutely
304.	It's about time
305.	I think it will be good for the community
306.	A good idea
307.	More needs to happen as I personally had to escort two elderly ladies across the market due to drunks and feral teenagers
308.	Can't come quick enough !
309.	I think it is a good idea
310.	Great idea
311.	Why is it always Ashton? What about hyde town centre where drugs and alcohol are also regularly consumed
312.	I think it's a good Idea. The whole of tameside is struggling with anti social behaviour in one way or another. I hope this comes into force and hopefully people my start to return to the town to shop and new business as well as present will be able to feel the benefits. As well as the community not being I fear
313.	Long overdue.
314.	It should absolutely go ahead and also include the dispersal of any group larger than 2 outside of shopping hours (5pm-8am)
315.	I think it should work since years back. We don't feel safe to go on the Ashton Center with family. I agree with every possible way to fight with anti-social behaviour.

316.	Yes this should happen as it puts shoppers off going to Ashton especially the outdoor market. People smoking weed and drinking in groups is not what you want to be seeing
317.	About time
318.	I think the council need to do more to make the town safer for its residents to walk round. I used to feel proud to be a resident, the market in particular was a hive of activity , something to be proud of. Its now a hub of discount shops, people begging, and no Community spirit. I do not feelsafe taking my 81 mother or 4 year old granddaughter into the centre. We all pay our rates and deserve more!
319.	I support it. If also support a PSPO in hyde town centre, Denton town centre, around McDonalds at Crown Point North & around Victoria Park in Denton.
320.	I agree that anti social behaviour should be dealt with. However, this will disperse the groups to residential areas and parks and this will affect local homes and children playing outside. The police need to be more present in all areas.
321.	We need to make the town centre attractive to visitors, there are to many reasons for families not to visit and unfortunately it's the vulnerable people, drinkers, drug users, beggars who make Ashton a place for avoid. These people need somewhere else to go where they can congregate and still meet their friends without putting people off from visiting Ashton. Also build on the growing 'street food' scene by putting on food festivals including how to cook and eat healthy on a budget. What about a tea festival and celebrate Arthur Brooke, the person who started Brooke Bond Tea in Ashton, do something different. Dedicated town centre PC to 'look after' the town centre and the people of Ashton
322.	Good idea. Ashton market and the surrounding area is becoming an eyesore . Last week there was a person lying under a market stall asleep intoxicated and people sat around drunk and swearing . People avoiding this area .
323.	I feel that this order needs to be implemented. Certain people have no respect for their surrounding or others.
324.	Good idea but who is going to police this? The sort of people who do any of the activities above won't care about a PSPO.
325.	Fine in principle but don't believe that it will be policed by anyone.
326.	Needed most defenatly to get our town back and make it so peoe want to visit
327.	I agree but also to move people begging outside the shops . Most of which are not homeless
328.	The last item only makes sense if there are public toilet facilities 24/7. Tameside has an extremely bad record on public toilets, which provides the mechanism that forces older people to stay at home.
329.	The protection of people in the shopping area is more important. Especially vehicles driving through the pedestrianised areas.And vehicles driving through the one way system the wrong way.
330.	We need this in Droylsden
331.	Do it!! As a female and mother of a young child along of the time I am very uneasy and feel unsafe walking through the market area due to some of the activities going on there- drugs, gangs of loud anti social people, people drinking alcohol on market stalls, hanging about benches. Not pleasant nd it's very hard to shield from a child
332.	It needs to be introduced asap, and it needs to be strongly enforced if it has any chance of succeeding.
333.	Waste of our money.
334.	Good
335.	Why ashton? AGAIN what about the rest of the neglected borough?

336.	It would help to ensure that everyone has a better experience and be safer too
337.	No sure what it's supposed to be
338.	Long over due! Ashton becomes a no go zone after about 3pm it's full of people taking drugs/ drinking. I feel unsafe in the area. This would help
339.	Seems sensible
340.	This is about time
341.	I agree with it. Ashton doesn't feel safe any more
342.	Pointless. Discarding syringes, defecating outside and activities believed to pose a health and safety risk are already prohibited. This would just penalize innocent people wanting to have a drink. Resources would be better spent policing bad or antisocial behavior.
343.	Great idea, needs to be implemented across other town centres too.
344.	You go in ashton all you see is beggers drug addicts and people sat on the benches drinking cans beer
345.	Good idea
346.	It's a good move I will not shop in Ashton anymore because I'm too scared and feel very intimidated.
347.	I'm in favour
348.	Why only ashton not droylsden
349.	think it's great idea because it's shocking down there
350.	I agree with it.
351.	Please get this passed ASAP as I'm a 53 yr old woman scared to walk through my town due to anti social behaviour
352.	Very much needed
353.	You need actual police on the ground. You and we know its a daily problem so why not have pcsos in the area? I don't think a order will have any effect whatsoever as the problems happen daily if not hourly, so how will u catch them all and keep them out of the centre without more patrols? Will you just be looking on cameras and sending letters in the post?
354.	Hope it works
355.	I am in favour
356.	I feel the order will be good for the town centre but may move these people and activities onto another area. Surely most of the activities in the propl are illegal and the police should be dealing with this anyway
357.	Too much antisocial behaviour in the Town Center making it uncomfortable fir people to shop
358.	Sadly it's needed so it's a great idea
359.	This is long overdue, action needs to be taken to make Ashton town centre a pleasant and safe place for families to use.
360.	Yes it is needed.
361.	This is probably the best option as I have experienced how successful it can be in another part of the UK
362.	A good idea, the town centre is full of drinkers sitting on benches and the market all day and intimidating visitors and residents.
363.	Needs to be in place
364.	I am a massive advocate of this PSPO because the town centre is desperately in need of revitalisation and being made a pleasant place to visit. I live in Tameside and I work in Ashton town centre. I manage a branch of a financial institution. I see the anti-social and undesirable behaviour myself every day and our customers comment on it regularly. It definitely deters people from wanting to visit the town.
365.	Excellent idea, something needs to be done the town is a disgrace and will only get worse.

366.	In view of the recent instances of anti-social activities it would be prudent that a PSPO be implemented, providing it is enforced and offenders dealt with appropriately.
367.	It's a very good idea and we needed it from a long time as working in this area is very scary and insecure
368.	It needs to happen. There are drug users, joy riders, people littering, fly tipping on my own street, my children are unable to play out
369.	Should have been done a long time ago, the detrimental effect these people have had on retailers and shoppers is disgusting.
370.	Agree with the proposals, more should maybe be included to protect small businesses from anti social behaviour.
371.	I think this is a good idea due to the people who are in are town centre and making people feel unsafe
372.	I feel like this is beneficial and will make me feel safer when working as sometimes I have to do a night shift
373.	I feel like the PSPO will make me feel more comfortable shopping in the town centre
374.	I think this is beneficial for the town centre and will make people feel safe while shopping
375.	My children are scared to walk round Ashton, on market stalls see people drinking and smoking weed. Not the nicest place
376.	I think it's desperately needed as this anti social behaviour is driving people away from the town centre
377.	I am hopeful it will improve the predicament I am in as a business owner in the market. As am completing this survey there is about 12 of the most vile and violent perpetrators are standing in front of my shop. Am terrified of coming to work on a daily basis. Currently Ashton in the most horrible place to come, that's not only my words but from most of our customers, a lot have completely stop coming to the market, with this trend a lot of businesses will close as people will love to go to better places were they can feel safe to shop and enjoy themselves.
378.	This is something that is required as anti social behaviour is on the increase in Ashton town centre. On a daily basis there are gatherings on empty market stalls, foul language, alcohol and "other" substances being taken. Also a lot of begging, sat outside our premises, which makes people avoid those windows in my store. Lots of litter left behind, which adds to the problem. Something needs to be done to make Ashton under Lyne a better, cleaner and inviting place to visit or shop. Considering the amount of business rates we pay, we would appreciate a little more help and concern over the state of the town centre.
379.	Can't see how it will work. Will there be 24-hour surveillance to make sure the trouble-causers leave the town centre, and if they do, where will they go? Perhaps it would be more effective to smarten up the market instead of it looking like a bomb site with lots of empty stalls.
380.	Happy to go with that
381.	I can see the benefits, but also think this may prevent individuals from coming into the town centre in order to access support for their substance use, or create difficulties when they do come to access support
382.	I am in agreement with the proposed order.
383.	This can only be of great benefit to the area as over 20 years of trading on Ashton Market I have seen so many businesses and stall holders pack up never to return due to the ever increasing presence of those that create an antisocial environment. Customers have told me personally they no longer visit the market or town centre as they feel unsafe and that it is not a pleasant place to

	be. Anything that can revive the community spirit that has for many years has been on the decline, is most definitely welcome. If it can be done now, it will prevent another ghost town developing and stop businesses and investors looking the other way.
384.	Long needed
385.	It's much needed and long overdue the sooner the better.
386.	I think it's needed. There are parts of the market area I have avoided when certain groups of people are about as it's not worth the hassle of going near them. Just turn around and walk the other way.
387.	Absolutely needs to be in place, these people have no right to behave as they do to the detriment of other people, businesses and employment, they are destroying the town centre.
388.	It will hopefully lead to a nicer space however I expect it will only move the problem to another area. Council customer services are delivered from Ashton Town centre as well as a number of support services for those living with addiction
389.	This is what has been needed for a while the town centre has been taken over by weed smokers alcoholics and drug addicts it is not a place I want to be anymore
390.	Will be very much welcomed. Ashton could be so much more pleasant without the anti social behaviour that goes on in broad daylight
391.	We really need to do something as Ashton town centre is not safe The market stalls are full of drunks and shoplifters. There is no deterrent they sit on the stalls drinking taking drugs coming into my store and shoplifting the town is disgusting
392.	Good idea if it's dealt with properly and people learn that their behaviour has consequences
393.	Its long overdue and necessary. As a resident of Ashton for 61 years i have seen major changes around the town centre, some good and some not so good. We cannot continue to allow the congregation of drinkers/drug addicts in the town centre any longer. It affects business and we cannot loose any more shops. I know personally of people who will no longer visit the ashton centre due to drunkenness/fighting and having to witness addicts openly injecting themselves. As a woman i have had to endure comments from these males, i find it quite intimidating having to walk past the groups of males who congregate and drink alcohol openly and would like to see an end to it soon and let ashton be a nice place again where people want to visit and spend time in. Thank you.
394.	I agree with this PSPO. I am glad that it covers the area around Burlington Street, Blandford Street, Dean Street and Kenyon Street due to problems experienced.
395.	It's definitely needed it's not a safe place to be during the day or at night.
396.	I have no objection to the proposals
397.	It is definitely needed, anyone who comes into Ashton town centre can see that for themselves. I have had my business in the indoor market for over 40 years and it is getting worse by the minute. The behaviour of most of these drunks and drug users is appalling, how the outdoor traders manage to make a living is beyond me. Apart from the numerous drunks there is a persistent smell of weed in the air, these people congregate in large numbers putting fear into shoppers. At least one of the women is a prostitute and take her clients into the public toilets!!!! As a traders we are having a hard enough time with having to deal with this on a daily basis and something needs to be done urgently. The police also need to be reminded that they are there to protect us, not be best mates with these offenders, shaking hands and having a good old chat with

	them. We've had this for long enough and it's about time something was done, before the remainder of our customers dessert us.
398.	The town needed this a long time ago there's people not coming into the town because they feel intimidated by the homeless because of there fighting with each other and shouting we have a gift stall and have items stollen on a regular basis. It's depressing coming to work
399.	Good idea, something needs doing
400.	Good idea. ASB has become a big issue and is stopping people visiting the town. The area is unsafe at night, I regularly come to collect my daughter from work in the town centre at night because its not safe for her to make her way home. Even the bus station and tram stop are rife with ASB from gangs of kids.
401.	I'm all for it. Get rid of them
402.	Needed urgently
403.	Excellent
404.	Should of been done yeats ago
405.	It is definitely needed
406.	I think it would be great. Something needs to be done businesses are failing because folk scared to come into Ashton
407.	Ashton is currently an embarrassment and the distinct lack of control of the alcohol/drug abusers means I no longer shop/visit Ashton. I'm a 47yo male and it can be intimidating so imagine how the rest of the population feel. Absolutely no incentive to shop local currently
408.	Good idea.
409.	I agree totally.
410.	Would be a safer place to shop And trade but will need police on market all the time
411.	A good idea
412.	Good
413.	Great idea. The town has gone really rough. Gangs of kids and groups of trouble causers by the Market. Maybe the Market Ground should be fenced off at night and the McDonald's close earlier.
414.	Fantastic if it is used vigorously.
415.	Can't wait for this to happen
416.	I believe a PSPO for Ashton town centre will be beneficial as many of the customers that we support have been affected by individuals displaying offensive and intimidating behaviour around the Ashton market area, which is having a negative effect on people's mental health in the local area.
417.	Ashton-under-Lyne town centre was once an area of to be proud of. An economic centre with a famous indoor and outdoor market, the arcades and licensed premises. The economic down turn has been a contributory factor to Ashton's demise, but the once proud people are now embarrassed people. You walk around the town centre and see empty shops, an unfinished market square, a dormant town hall building site and empty market stalls. People are ashamed and even frightened to come to the town centre with anti social behaviour being a key reason. On a trip through you will see people defecating behind buildings, drugs and substance misuse taking place in the open and street drinking. A lot of these issues stem from people staying at Town House or Greystones, they need support with there alcohol and substance misuse, instead they are funding their habits through shoplifting. Their habits cause a vicious circle of criminality and anti social behaviour, people shouting and fighting, congregating on the market place under the stalls or on the benches. The police can only do so much, a PSPO would allow for an increase in enforcement activity and a reduction in crime. I do believe

	however, that a PSPO will only work with other services involved in order to tackle the issues of addiction and homelessness.
418.	The proposed PSPO is a great idea that I feel will positively benefit the community and the businesses operating therein. Local residents and visitors alike have felt threatened and uneasy for far too long and local business has suffered greatly due to the antisocial and threatening behaviour by individuals or groups congregating in the town centre to drink alcohol, take drugs and abuse members of the public.
419.	Tameside council labour council needs to get their act together on this this is ruining Tameside as a whole
420.	I am in total agreement that a PSPO should be in place in Ashton, the town needs protecting and the anti social behaviour really needs addressing quickly.
421.	This is the best thing for the centre. I work in the market and the behaviour outside is really affecting business as nobody wants to be shopping with the threat of people sat around the stalls with abusive behaviour, constant fighting swearing people hassling members of the public for money also trying to sell stolen goods taking up all the benches this behaviour we find very intimidating
422.	I think it's a great idea, I'm an indoor market trader, and I see it all going on all day, drinking stealing and drug taking
423.	It's a great idea
424.	Extremely Pleased to have this put into operation, well overdue in my opinion. This town needs all the help it can get. ASAP.
425.	I think it's a great idea IF the area will be patrolled and is shown to be enforced. A more frequent presence of policing needs to be present around Ashton Market and the subway under BT roundabout.
426.	Needed. I no longer feel safe in the town centre and avoid going
427.	I think it's a good idea.
428.	I think this should be introduced as a deterrent to help stop anti social behaviour
429.	Great idea, needs to be implemented with strict outcomes. Also accountability to Tameside people what is actually being done, success rates of implementation. Dreadful how it has been allowed to get to the mess it is in.
430.	Ashton town centre is as Carey place to go if you have children with you due to all the drug users and alcohol users I have two small children with autism and would avoid Ashton at all cost due to the people hanging around the market and beside b n m
431.	It may be difficult to uphold but any form of deterrent is a good start to stop the town falling into further detestation and deprivation
432.	Agree fully with banning all prohibited activities
433.	Great Idea
434.	Fine by me
435.	It is absolutely necessary. The town centre is currently a dangerous place. I only spent 15 minutes there this morning and could see crime happening already.
436.	Overdue and necessary
437.	Something certainly needs doing about the ASB in the town centre and if things are done properly this would be great for all. I have a 6 year old child and don't like being in the town centre with him
438.	It is needed. Especially around the market. We need police and security present
439.	It's a good idea but should be done alongside other support to avoid just moving the problem elsewhere
440.	I feel very intimidated when I go to Ashton I have to go to the bank and go to Stockport now as Ashton is too ruff
441.	The sooner this happens, then maybe people will start shopping in Ashton again

442.	I think it's an absolutely fabulous idea as it should keep the undesirables away from hard working businesses and individuals who are just doing their daily routines
443.	Think good idea as sick of not feeling safe as I have kids
444.	I think this should have been put in place a long time ago,the detrimental consequences this behaviour has had on the retailers is shocking,shoppers are shunning the area as a direct result of this anti social behaviour,which to say the least is downright disgusting,which I have witnessed many times.
445.	I think it a great idea its about time something was done
446.	Definitely required
447.	Not great, my kids have seen fights between women outside boots clearly on drugs/pissed, my kids are scared to come down Ashton
448.	Great idea
449.	If it works then great , fantastic. These scroutes Need removing from Ashton town centre . It's becoming a no go zone . My elderly mother is actually scared to go into the town centre . Not just the drunks & junkies outside B&M but the market stalls full of kids smoking weed . It's an absolute disgrace. I really do hope this PSPO solves the problem. And it is followed threw .
450.	You need to bring back the tameside patrollers that you idiotic councilor's got rid of and ruined Ashton town centre
451.	The amount of drunks and drug users around Ashton is disgusting, it's very intimidating.
452.	I think it will alot better to have this
453.	Excellent it's about time something was done the problems in Ashton town centre.
454.	Urgent action is required and security is needed all of us traders are very concerned for the winter coming
455.	I think it is beyond necessary at this point. I go to the town centre regularly with my little girl in her pram and the loitering/antisocial behaviour/bad language/smoking/drugs etc. Is disgusting, we have to divert around groups of people that I believe pose a threat to me & my daughter. The town centre is full or children and families who should not be subjected to or be expected to endure this behaviour. There is no particular age of people causing these problems as there seems to be a variety amongst the huddles of people. The majority of public seating is usually take up by adults sat around drinking alcohol. There is often arguments & fights which require police assistance. The area just generally doesn't feel very safe which is a shame because it is so important to support small businesses in town centres in the current climate.
456.	This order is necessary to allow people who use said areas to go about their daily business without hindrance Or abuse or having to witness behaviour likely to cause harm or distress
457.	I think the punishments should be harsher as the youth don't seem to care about the rules and the parents are not much better!
458.	This is desperately needed to maintain control of the town centre from ASB amd also to keep it a safe and clean environment
459.	I agree it should be
460.	Its long over due. Even during the day, its not a pleasant place.
461.	It is a disgrace,
462.	I think it is about time something was done. The area is becoming intolerable. No decent person wants to venture there anymore.
463.	Waste of time/money
464.	Needs doing
465.	Police was on the market Thursday or Friday, all the scroats was in front of the market joints alcohol swearing . I personally would not go to Ashton without my

	husband, both pension age and i don't feel safe. Having been confronted by one arsehole felt intimidated , a lovely young stallholder got rid of him.
466.	I think it's a great idea,I have lived in Ashton for over 40 years and even scared to go into the town centre
467.	It is long overdue and only goes part way to making the town centre an attractive place to visit. I am in my 50s and my wife and I have always shopped in Ashton. We now choose to avoid it because of the group's hanging around the market drinking etc. This and feral gangs of hooded kids makes it an unwelcoming place to visit.
468.	Hopefully if implemented it will go some way to attracting custom to both the outside market and surrounding shops.
469.	Long overdue can't believe this hasn't been dealt with years ago. To think these people are able to intimidate and bully business and resident, they have robbed from a shop owner who is pregnant and needed to defend herself from physical, mental and racial abuse! Absolutely disgusting that this still won't come into force until winter at the earliest, awful from the police and the council who should be able to move them on or out of the town centre. It's not a place to bring children or new prospects because no one appears to care that the town centre has been left for a minority of people that have no respect for anyone including themselves.
470.	Good
471.	Long needed
472.	Yes definitely need some authority daily to monitor the behaviour
473.	It needs to be done as running a business is difficult when we have the behaviour we have in ashton
474.	Obviously something needs to happen as the town centre is practically a no-go zone. But I'm not sure why existing policing methods can't be used given that all the things listed above would be illegal currently
475.	In agreement
476.	Much needed as there is a lot of drinking happening during the day in the town centre.
477.	Yeah I agree with that it's not fair on the public or the traders
478.	Good idea
479.	Definitely need and also need the power to move people on
480.	I Think This is very much needed and should of been in place earlier
481.	I think it is a great idea as the general public is scared to come to ashton town centre which is affecting businesses in the town
482.	Very Idea problems need addressing

John Gregory
Head of Community Safety and Homelessness
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
john.gregory@tameside.gov.uk

54531332/cw/Tameside PSPO
2ND September 2022

Dear John,

**SUBJECT: Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council Proposed Public Spaces
Protection Order – Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre**

I write in response to Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council proposed Public Spaces Protection Order for Ashton-Under-Lyne Town Centre.

Having reviewed the proposals with Greater Manchester Police, I would support the proposals to introduce the PSPO outlined by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council.

Yours sincerely



Rt. Hon Baroness Beverley Hughes
Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime

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**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

Subject / Title	Consultation on Introducing a Public Space protection Order in Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre	
Team	Service	Directorate
Community Safety	Community Safety & Homelessness	Place
Start Date	Completion Date	
1 November 2022	1 November 2025	
Project Lead Officer	Dave Smith, Partnerships Manager	
Contract / Commissioning Manager	John Gregory, Head of community Safety & Homelessness	
Assistant Director/ Director	Emma Varnam, Assistant Director, Operations & Neighbourhoods	
EIA Group (lead contact first)	Job title	Service
Dave Smith	Partnerships manager	Community Safety
John Gregory	Head of Service	Community Safety

PART 1 – INITIAL SCREENING

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for all formal decisions that involve changes to service delivery and/or provision. Note: all other changes – whether a formal decision or not – require consideration for an EIA.

The Initial screening is a quick and easy process which aims to identify:

- *those projects, proposals and service or contract changes which require a full EIA by looking at the potential impact on, or relevance to, any of the equality groups*
- *prioritise if and when a full EIA should be completed*
- *explain and record the reasons why it is deemed a full EIA is not required*

A full EIA should always be undertaken if the project, proposal and service / contract change is likely to have an impact upon, or relevance to, people with a protected characteristic. This should be undertaken irrespective of whether the impact or relevancy is major or minor, or on a large or small group of people. If the initial screening concludes a full EIA is not required, please fully explain the reasons for this at 1e and ensure this form is signed off by the relevant Contract / Commissioning Manager and the Assistant Director / Director.

1a.	What is the project, proposal or service / contract change?	To consult the public on a proposal to introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)
1b.	What are the main aims of the project, proposal or service / contract change?	To gather views from the public on a proposal to introduce a PSPO in Ashton town centre, designed to help tackle anti-social behaviour
1c. Will the project, proposal or service / contract change have either a direct or indirect impact on, or relevance to, any groups of people with protected equality characteristics?		

**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

Where there is a direct or indirect impact on, or relevance to, a group of people with protected equality characteristics as a result of the project, proposal or service / contract change please explain why and how that group of people will be affected.

Protected Characteristic	Direct Impact /Relevance	Indirect Impact / Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Age			X	
Disability			X	
Ethnicity			X	
Sex			X	
Religion or Belief			X	
Sexual Orientation			X	
Gender Reassignment			X	
Pregnancy & Maternity			X	
Marriage & Civil Partnership			X	

Other protected groups determined locally by Tameside and Glossop Strategic Commission?

Group (please state)	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Mental Health		X		The proposed order prohibits certain activities which could adversely effect those people who are currently choosing to sleep rough in the borough. There is a risk that these people may not be able to express their views through the consultation process
Carers			X	
Military Veterans			X	
Breast Feeding			X	

Are there any other groups who you feel may be impacted by the project, proposal or service/contract change or which it may have relevance to?

(e.g. vulnerable residents, isolated residents, those who are homeless)

**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

Group (please state)	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Low or no income groups		X		Individuals who choose to sleep rough in the borough may not be able to express their views through the public consultation

“Low or no income groups” should be included as a key consideration when assessing the impact of your project, proposal, policy or service/contract change.

Wherever a direct or indirect impact or relevance has been identified you should consider undertaking a full EIA or be able to adequately explain your reasoning for not doing so. Where little / no impact or relevance is anticipated, this can be explored in more detail when undertaking a full EIA.

1d.	Does the project, proposal or service / contract change require a full EIA?	Yes	No
			X
1e.	What are your reasons for the decision made at 1d?	<p>The risks that some groups who might be affected by the draft order may not be able to express their views through the consultation have been mitigated in 2 ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key workers have spoken to all known rough sleepers & asked if they wish to contribute to the consultation. The number of rough sleepers in Tameside is currently very low and no-one wished to express a view. • The consultation was widely publicised & the response process was streamlined to encourage as many responses as possible. 522 responses were received to the consultation which is a high level of engagement & shows that the risk of non-engagement for affected individuals was kept to a minimum. 	

If a full EIA is required please progress to Part 2.

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**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

Subject / Title	Consultation on Introducing a Public Space protection Order in Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre	
Team	Service	Directorate
Community Safety	Community Safety & Homelessness	Place
Start Date	Completion Date	
1 November 2022	1 November 2025	
Project Lead Officer	Dave Smith, Partnerships Manager	
Contract / Commissioning Manager	John Gregory, Head of community Safety & Homelessness	
Assistant Director/ Director	Emma Varnam, Assistant Director, Operations & Neighbourhoods	
EIA Group (lead contact first)	Job title	Service
Dave Smith	Partnerships manager	Community Safety
John Gregory	Head of Service	Community Safety

PART 1 – INITIAL SCREENING

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for all formal decisions that involve changes to service delivery and/or provision. Note: all other changes – whether a formal decision or not – require consideration for an EIA.

The Initial screening is a quick and easy process which aims to identify:

- *those projects, proposals and service or contract changes which require a full EIA by looking at the potential impact on, or relevance to, any of the equality groups*
- *prioritise if and when a full EIA should be completed*
- *explain and record the reasons why it is deemed a full EIA is not required*

A full EIA should always be undertaken if the project, proposal and service / contract change is likely to have an impact upon, or relevance to, people with a protected characteristic. This should be undertaken irrespective of whether the impact or relevancy is major or minor, or on a large or small group of people. If the initial screening concludes a full EIA is not required, please fully explain the reasons for this at 1e and ensure this form is signed off by the relevant Contract / Commissioning Manager and the Assistant Director / Director.

1a.	What is the project, proposal or service / contract change?	To consult the public on a proposal to introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)
1b.	What are the main aims of the project, proposal or service / contract change?	To gather views from the public on a proposal to introduce a PSPO in Ashton town centre, designed to help tackle anti-social behaviour

**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

1c. Will the project, proposal or service / contract change have either a direct or indirect impact on, or relevance to, any groups of people with protected equality characteristics?

Where there is a direct or indirect impact on, or relevance to, a group of people with protected equality characteristics as a result of the project, proposal or service / contract change please explain why and how that group of people will be affected.

Protected Characteristic	Direct Impact /Relevance	Indirect Impact / Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Age			X	
Disability			X	
Ethnicity			X	
Sex			X	
Religion or Belief			X	
Sexual Orientation			X	
Gender Reassignment			X	
Pregnancy & Maternity			X	
Marriage & Civil Partnership			X	

Other protected groups determined locally by Tameside and Glossop Strategic Commission?

Group (please state)	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Mental Health		X		The proposed order prohibits certain activities which could adversely effect those people who are currently choosing to sleep rough in the borough. There is a risk that these people may not be able to express their views through the consultation process
Carers			X	
Military Veterans			X	
Breast Feeding			X	

**Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form**

<p>Are there any other groups who you feel may be impacted by the project, proposal or service/contract change or which it may have relevance to?</p> <p><i>(e.g. vulnerable residents, isolated residents, those who are homeless)</i></p>				
Group (please state)	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Low or no income groups		X		Individuals who choose to sleep rough in the borough may not be able to express their views through the public consultation

“Low or no income groups” should be included as a key consideration when assessing the impact of your project, proposal, policy or service/contract change.

Wherever a direct or indirect impact or relevance has been identified you should consider undertaking a full EIA or be able to adequately explain your reasoning for not doing so. Where little / no impact or relevance is anticipated, this can be explored in more detail when undertaking a full EIA.

1d.	Does the project, proposal or service / contract change require a full EIA?	Yes	No
			X
1e.	What are your reasons for the decision made at 1d?	<p>The risks that some groups who might be affected by the draft order may not be able to express their views through the consultation have been mitigated in 2 ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key workers have spoken to all known rough sleepers & asked if they wish to contribute to the consultation. The number of rough sleepers in Tameside is currently very low and no-one wished to express a view. • The consultation was widely publicised & the response process was streamlined to encourage as many responses as possible. 522 responses were received to the consultation which is a high level of engagement & shows that the risk of non-engagement for affected individuals was kept to a minimum. 	

If a full EIA is required please progress to Part 2.

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Report to:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date:	26 October 2022
Executive Member:	Councillor Bill Fairfoull - Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families)
Reporting Officer:	Paula Sumner – Assistant Director Early Help and Partnerships
Subject:	FAMILY HUBS AND BEST START FOR LIFE PROGRAMME
Report Summary:	<p>The report provides an update following the confirmation that Tameside qualify to apply for the Top Tier funding allocations for the Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Fund and outline Tameside approach and intentions.</p> <p>The Department for Education have confirmed an allocation of £3,295,000 over 3 years:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2022/23 - £799,000• 2023/24 - £1,356,000• 2024/25 - £1,140,000
Recommendations:	<p>That Executive Cabinet be recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(i) Agree to the acceptance of the DfE Grant and associated Terms & Conditions of Grant that it is set out in section 2(ii) Agree to the signing of the Sign Up Form on behalf of the Council set out in section 3 of the report.(iii) Support Tameside’s proposed approach to developing options and “governance” to Family Hubs and Best Start for Life delivery; and(iv) Agree to receive further reports setting out the proposals to spend the grant together with progress on deliverables.
Corporate Plan:	The schemes set out in this report supports the objectives of the Corporate Plan
Policy Implications:	The proposal aligns to the Councils key policies in supporting the most vulnerable families in our community
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer)	<p>The Family Hub and Start for Life programme covers a three financial year period (2022/23 – 2024/25). For 2022/23 the funding allocation is £799K. For 2023/24 and 2024/25 the DfE have provided a lower and upper range of indicative funding allocations. Funding for these financial years will be confirmed once the formal sign up process is complete.</p> <p>A further report is required to set out the plans to spend the grant including any possible exit costs. The request to use some of the grant funding to appoint a full-time interim Head of Service to oversee the delivery of the programme and a fixed term Project Support Officer, Grade G (0.5FTE) is affordable.</p> <p>As part of the grant conditions and to provide assurance that expenditure is in line with the grant determination letter, including agreed programme outcomes there is a requirement to complete two financial returns per year.</p>

Legal Implications:
(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

The family hubs have been identified as a valuable part of the Council's strategic aim to place services within the communities that aim to support to improve delivery and outcomes.

The funding from Family Hubs Local Transformation Fund should provide the council with a significant amount of investment to progress this project. Any further report must set out the plans to spend the funding in accordance with the terms of the funding agreement as set out in the financial implications to avoid any claw back provisions being triggered.

Therefore prudent financial and project management will be critical to the successful delivery of the hubs and the related outcome for residents.

Legal advice will be required for the terms of the grant and support from STaR will also be required in relation to the utilisation of the funding to ensure that it is used compliantly with the funding terms and delivers best value for the Council.

Risk Management:

The Family Hubs Steering Group will be established to identify, manage and mitigate risk.

Background Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer, Lorraine Hopkins, Head of Service Early help, Early Years & Neighbourhoods



Telephone: 0161 342 5179



e-mail: Lorraine.hopkins@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2022, Tameside Council was one of seventy-five (75) Local Authorities identified to receive a share of the £301.75 million (a joint venture from the Department for Education (DfE) and Department of Health and Social Care) to implement the Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Programme in the years 2022-25. The purpose of the report is to provide detail of the Programme as described in [national guidance](#) and to set out Tameside's plan to implement the Programme successfully.
- 1.2 The Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme is a jointly overseen by the Department for Education (DfE) and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) with funding allocated funding proposed for October 2022 to March 2025. There is an expectation that local authorities meet all the requirements of the Family Hubs and Start for Life programme by 31 March 2025.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Since 2017, the Early Help Offer in Tameside has grown significantly, with the development of an Early Help Access Point, better Early Help Assessments tools, building 'Team Around' Approaches, Early Help Panels with joint decision-making and shared workforce development, such as Signs of Safety. The development of the Family Hubs has been identified as a key programme to improve the Early Help offer for children and families in Tameside further. In November 2021, Local Authorities were invited to apply for up to £1 million transformation funding to implement Family Hubs. In March 2022 Tameside Council were informed that they were unsuccessful in this application, however, continued with the ambition to develop the family hub model locally, with endorsement from the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 2.2 The new investment from the Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Programme will enable around half of upper-tier Local Authorities in England to transform their services into a family hub model. In a brief description, Family hubs are a way of joining up locally and bringing existing family help services together to improve access to services, connections between families, professionals, services, and providers, and putting relationships at the heart of family help. Family hubs bring together services for families with children of all ages (0-19) or up to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), with a great Start for Life offer at their core. They can include hub buildings and virtual offers. How services are delivered varies from place to place, but the following principles are key to the family hub model:
- **More accessible** – through clearly branded and communicated hub buildings, virtual offers and outreach.
 - **Better connected** – family hubs drive progress on joining up professionals, services and providers (state, private, voluntary) – through co-location, data sharing, shared outcomes and governance. Moving from services organised for under-fives, to families with children of all ages, reduces fragmentation (even though an emphasis on early years and the 'Start for Life' offer will remain).
 - **Relationship-centred** – practice in a family hub builds on family strengths and looks to improve family relationships to address underlying issues.
- 2.3 Building on previous work regarding the Family Hubs model, a scoping exercise has been undertaken in Tameside with partners to begin to explore the model and identify buildings across the four neighbourhoods. Communication and engagement events took place, between April and July 2022 within each of the four neighbourhoods to support local voice and coproduction. A proposed hub and spoke model has been presented to the Early Help Operational Board, neighbourhood meetings and Partnership Event for each of the four neighbourhoods. It is intended that under the implementation of the Programme a public consultation exercise will take place, later this year to inform and formalise proposals.

2.4 The new investment from the Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Programme will also include funding for essential services in the crucial 'Start for Life' period from conception to age two, and services which support parents to care for and interact with their children. The Programme represents a significant step forward in delivering on the Government's commitments set out in 'The Best Start for Life: A Vision for the 1,001 Critical Days', and builds on delivery of the Healthy Child Programme and wider 0-19 public health services.

3. TAMESIDE INTENTIONS

3.1 Tameside Council and partners fully welcome the Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Programme and funding allocation, as it aligns to corporate priorities, including (1), Very best start in life -where children are ready to learn and encouraged to thrive and develop and (2), Resilient families and supportive networks - to protect and grow our young people.

3.2 On release of the Programme Guidance the Council in August 2022 begun a mapping exercise, to outline provision aligned to minimum expectations of the Programme set out by the DfE and "go further"¹ options. The Council and partners acknowledge there is much good practice locally including a well-established Early Attachment Service, and Breastfeeding Peer Support Service, however, is ambitious to build on these further.

3.3 Key partners in delivery of the Programme include, but not exclusive too: Tameside Council, Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust, Tameside and Glossop Pennine Care, Action Together, Greater Manchester Police (GMP), and HomeStart.

3.4 It is intended that a Tameside Family Hubs Steering Group is established to provide action focused, system leadership on the implementation of Family Hubs and the strategic oversight of [Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Programme](#).

3.5 The Steering Group will have strategic oversight on the following areas of the Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Programme, but not restricted to:

- Programme Management
- Finance Management/ Oversight of grant expenditure
- Governance
- Needs Assessment
- Data Sharing
- Workforce Development
- Estates
- Risk Management and Escalation
- Evaluation.

3.6 The Tameside Family Hubs Steering Group is committed to a number of principles, which form the foundation of the delivery plan. These include:

- Reducing inequalities;
- Committing to prevention;
- Working collaboratively with partners;
- Sharing knowledge and learning;
- Listening to voice of the parent and family through engagement and co-production;
- Being held account to that outlined in the delivery plan.

3.7 As outlined in the Programme Guidance the Council has to complete the Family Hubs and start for life programme sign up form ([Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme - Sign-](#)

¹ Go Further Options, as outlined by the DfE are where local areas may already be providing the minimum expectations, and therefore the 'Go Further Options' provides opportunity for local areas to enhance the offer further.

[Up_Form.docx \(live.com\)](#) to formally submit the Council's commitment to the Programme, and provide high-level detail regarding delivery plans. In addition, section 8 of the sign up form is to be completed, to request further support for Tameside from the Early Intervention Foundation to enhance the local needs assessment and use this alongside evidence and improvement processes to drive early intervention, system development, workforce planning and leadership development.

- 3.8 Tameside has started a journey to build on the neighbourhood model where four neighbourhood areas have now been defined with partners. This will provide a strong foundation to develop the Family Hubs approach, which is an integral part of the development of a Children and Young People's Plan and will enable the delivery of accessible, local and joined up services to children and their families within their neighbourhoods.

4. STAFFING REQUIREMENTS TO SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF THE PROGRAMME

Governance

- 4.1 Following the release of the [Programme Guidance](#) in August 2022, a local Family Hubs Steering Group has been established, with an agreed Terms of Reference (**Appendix A**), to ensure the Programme is strategically lead, and successfully implemented. The Steering Group will also have a number of subgroups to support enabling factors. The Steering Group is chaired by the Assistant Executive Director for Early Help and Partnerships, and consists of key providers and stakeholders such as the Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust, and Third Sector representation. In addition to services that will support the development of the programme from within the Local Authority such as legal, finance, estates, and information management and technology.
- 4.2 To build capacity and to ensure we meet all the requirements and deadlines of the programme a Head of Service will be seconded into the programme to lead the delivery and have oversight of the programme. In addition recruitment of a 2 year fixed term, part time project officer at G grade to support the Head of Service with project coordination. The costs of these posts will be met by the programme funding.
- 4.3 The Steering Group will initially meet monthly, The Steering Group will initially report into the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) until such a time as the Early Help Strategic Partnership is fully established. Additional oversight will be provided by the Children's Services Improvement Board.

It is proposed that a further report is received by Executive Cabinet in April 2023, to consider the progress against the Programme.

Timescales

- 4.4 The Programme sign up form provided by the DfE is to be submitted to Government by the end of October 2022, with a delivery plan ready for December 2022. Both of these documents will be completed and agreed collaboratively through the Family Hubs Steering Group.
- 4.5 Within the first year of the Programme it is expected by the DfE that the delivery plan must set out:
- Clear milestones for the opening of Family Hubs in in the first half of 2023, and for the continuing transformation over the remainder of the programme;
 - How the Council will work with partners to deliver the service expectations, including the development grant for the funded services – including conducting a local needs assessment;
 - When the Council and its partners intend to publish its Start for Life Offer (by April 2023);
 - When the Council and its partners will establish a Parent Carer Panel (by April 2023).

Funding Allocations

4.6 Alongside the programme Guidance the Council has received information on the indicative funding allocation for each year of the programme.

4.7 It is expected that year one funding will be paid in two tranches to ensure timely delivery following programme sign up. Year one allocations will include funding for:

- family hubs transformation (programme costs and capital);
- publishing start for life offers and set-up of Parent and Carer Panels;
- the development grant for the funded services (parent–infant relationship and perinatal mental health, infant feeding, parenting, early language and the home learning environment).

4.10 Tameside’s indicative allocation aligned to each strand of the Programme is tabled as following:

Strand	%	2022-3	2023-24		2024-25	
		Total	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper
		799,000	1,356,000	1,423,000	1,140,000	1,193,000
Family Hubs Programme Spend	19%	151,810	257,640	270,370	216,600	226,670
Family Hubs Capital Spend	5%	39,950	67,800	71,150	57,000	59,650
Parenting Support	15%	119,850	203,400	213,450	171,000	178,950
Home Learning Environment	9%	71,910	122,040	128,070	102,600	107,370
Parent-Infant Relationships and Perinatal Mental Health	31%	247,690	420,360	441,130	353,400	369,830
Infant Feeding Support	17%	135,830	230,520	241,910	193,800	202,810
Publishing Start for Life Offers and Parent Carer Panels	4%	31,960	54,240	56,920	45,600	47,720
	100%	799,000	1,356,000	1,423,000	1,140,000	1,193,000

4.11 The table above outlines a lower and upper range of indicative funding allocations in financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25. Once local authorities delivering the programme have been confirmed through the formal sign up process, the DfE will know each local authority's relative population size, and at this point, will confirm the indicative funding allocations for these years.

Procurement and Commissioning

4.12 Any procurement or commissioning that may be required to ensure delivery will take place Inline contract, financial procedures rules. There may also be a requirement to recruit fixed term staff to support the programme. A further report will set out plans to spend the grant. All procurement and commissioning activity will be advised on by STAR Procurement, with STAR Procurement being a key member of the Family Hubs Steering Group.

4.13 Any commissioning activity associated with the funding will be supported by STAR Procurement in relation to the utilisation of the funding to ensure that it is used compliantly

with the funding terms and delivers best value for the Council.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 In conclusion, Tameside Council are committed to deliver the expectations of the Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Programme. Through the Family Hubs Steering Group, the key next steps include: formally submitted the sign up form, working closes with the allocated DfE adviser, resource the programme team effectively and developing the detailed action plan by December 2022.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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TAMESIDE FAMILY HUBS STEERING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. INTRODUCTION/ PURPOSE

The purpose of the Tameside Family Hubs Steering Group is to provide action focused, system leadership on the implementation of Family Hubs and the strategic oversight of [Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Programme](#).

The Steering Group will have strategic oversight on the following areas of the Family Hubs and Best Start for Life Programme, but not restricted too:

- Programme Management
- Finance Management/ Oversight of grant expenditure
- Governance
- Needs Assessment
- Data Sharing
- Workforce Development
- Estates
- Risk Management and Escalation
- Evaluation.

The Tameside Family Hubs Steering Group is committed to a number of principles which form the foundation of the delivery plan. These include:

- Reducing inequalities;
- Committing to prevention;
- Working collaboratively with partners;
- Sharing knowledge and learning;
- Listening to voice of the parent and family through engagement and co-production;
- Being held account to that outlined in the delivery plan.

2. GOVERNANCE

2.1. MEMBERSHIP

Meetings will be chaired by Paula Sumner, Assistant Director – Early Help and Partnerships (Tameside MBC). The Group's core membership includes:

- Amy Brierley, Divisional Director, ICFT
- Anna Hynes, Tameside Director, Action Together
- Charlotte Lee, Population Health Programme Manager, Tameside MBC
- Steven Goodwin INTERIM Finance Partner, Tameside MBC
- David Moores, Detective Inspector, GMP
- Debbie Watson, Director of Population Health, Tameside MBC
- Emily Drake, Head of Payments, Systems and Registrars, Tameside MBC
- Jordanna Rawlinson, Head of Communications, Tameside MBC
- Katie Reid, Consultant Child Psychotherapist, Tameside & Glossop Early Attachment Service
- Kerry Taylor, Head of Nursing Children & Young People, Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust
- Lindsay Johnson, Head of Assets Strategy, Tameside MBC
- Lorraine Hopkins, Head of Early Help & Early Years, Tameside MBC
- Louise Rule, Head of Starting Well, Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board
- Rachael Tithers, Category Manager, STAR Procurement
- Richard Hunt, Detective Superintendent, GMP
- Roseanna Wain-Basaran, Graduate Officer, Tameside MBC
- Sally Dickin, Head of Service – Adolescents, Tameside MBC

- Sarah Cook, Chief Executive Officer, HomeStart HOST
- Suzanne Antrobus, Head of Legal Services, Tameside MBC
- Tony Decrop, Assistant Director of Children's Services, Social Care, Tameside MBC

2.2. GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Steering Group will have a variety of work streams (See appendix A below) and enabling activity that may not be relevant for each member of the group. Therefore, subgroups will be developed as required including Programme Management, Communications, Commissioning and Systems Development. These subgroups will have specific Terms of Reference and action plans for delivery to meet the requirements of the DfE Programme.

The Steering Group will be accountable to Health and Wellbeing Board, providing highlight reports against the delivery plan at each of their scheduled meetings.

The Steering Group will also keep the Children's Improvement Board up to date on progress, and collaborate where appropriate.

The Steering Group will formally be accountable to the Children and Young People's Partnership (name TBC), once established in 2023.

2.3. ATTENDANCE

If a member is unable to attend a meeting then they are encouraged to send an appropriate deputy and/or submit their views and updates to be tabled.

2.4. OCCURRENCE

The Tameside Family Hubs Steering Group will meet on a monthly basis.

3. REVIEW

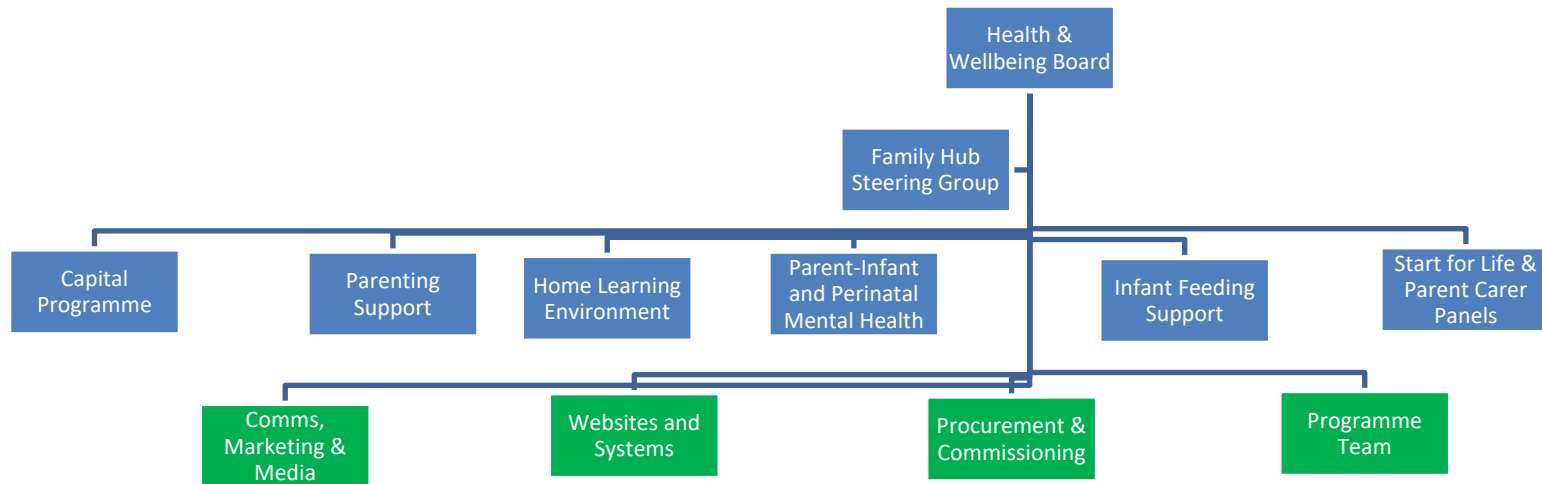
The terms of reference for the Family Hubs Steering Group will be reviewed every 2 months basis.

Agreed Date: October 2022

Review Date: December 2022

Appendix A – DRAFT Governance Chart, with subgroups

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Agenda Item 8

Report to:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date:	26 October 2022
Executive Member:	Cllr Bill Fairfoull – Deputy Executive Leader Cllr Jacqueline North - First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation)
Reporting Officer:	Ali Stathers-Tracey - Director of Children's Services
Subject:	REPLACEMENT OF BOYDS WALK (CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES PROVISION)
Report Summary:	<p>This report details the current configuration of the six bed Boyds Walk home for short and long term stay for children with disabilities and the risk posed to its closure. The report also details the options for a replacement home that is not only fit for purpose but will put at its heart the best outcomes for children with disabilities in childhood and as they prepare for adulthood.</p> <p>Do nothing is not considered an option as Boyds Walk is the current permanent home for four children on care orders and five children assessed as requiring overnight residential respite. Do nothing is highly likely to culminate in an inadequate Ofsted judgement and potentially a notice to cease to operate.</p>
Recommendations:	<p>That Executive Cabinet be recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) APPROVE option 1 to replace Boyds Walk with a new build for nine units of accommodation on the Flowery Fields site.2) APPROVE the use of the former Flowery Field, Old Road site to locate the new building.3) ACCEPT the terms and conditions set out in the DFE Children's Home Capital Programme 2022-25 Grant Offer Letter (£1,632,500 of match capital funding currently required) subject to legal advice that there are no additional liabilities to those outlined in this report and the capital programme.4) RECOMMEND to Council to include the £1,632,500 of Council match capital funding in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.5) APPROVE the procurement of the scheme through the Local Education Partnership.6) APPROVE the virement of £622,399 revenue budget from the Children's Services external agency placement budget to the Children's Services in-house residential services budget to operate the premises.7) DECOMMISSION Boyds Walk immediately on the opening of the replacement together with meeting any reasonable ancillary costs relating of the surrender of the premises to Jigsaw. <p>If the Council is unsuccessful in its bid to the DFE Children's Home Capital Programme 2022-25, then the Council agrees to change recommendation 4 above to:</p> <p>RECOMMEND to Council include the full £3,265,000 of Council capital funding required to replace Boyds Walk in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan and the capital programme.</p>

Agree that this capital allocation will need to be kept under scrutiny and the necessary due diligence to ensure it is subject to any required uplifts to manage inflationary pressures in the current financial markets in order that it can both be delivered and continues to be an vfm invest to save project, over an appropriate return period given the increasing rates of interest in the unusual volatile markets. Any such financial sensitivity information will be provided at the next stage to progress this project.

Corporate Plan:

The content of this report is integral to the delivery of the following priorities within the Corporate Plan:

Starting well:

1. Very best start in life
2. Aspiration and hope through learning and moving with confidence from childhood to adulthood
3. Resilient families and supportive networks to protect and grow our young people
4. Opportunities for people to fulfil their potential through work, skills and enterprise

Enablers and ways of working:

1. A stronger prioritisation of well-being, prevention and early intervention
2. An evidence led understanding of risk and impact to ensure the right intervention at the right time
3. An approach that supports the development of new investment and resourcing models, enabling collaboration with a wide range of organisations

Policy Implications:

There are no policy implications to this report.

Financial Implications:

(Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer)

The request is to replace the existing six bed Boyds Walk home with a new build home and increase the capacity to provide nine beds. Boyds Walk currently caters for both short breaks overnight respite and long term cared for placements for children with disabilities.

A bid has been submitted to the DfE Children's Home Capital Programme 2022-25 for £1.633m capital funding; which if accepted must be matched with council capital funding of £1.663m. If the DfE Capital bid is not successful, the Council would need to identify capital funding of £3.265m for the new build home. The Council has limited resources available to fund capital expenditure and the current capital programme is fully allocated to Council priorities. Therefore the Council's would need to borrow to fund the capital works which will incur additional revenue costs. The annual revenue costs of borrowing £3.265m would be approximately £150K (but very much dependent on rising interest rates), for which there is no budget. If this request is approved it will add to the council's medium term financial gap. It is worth noting that the DfE Capital grant has strict conditions regarding when the capital works must be completed. If the works are not completed then the funding could be recovered.

The request to increase the number of beds from six to nine will result in additional recurrent operating revenue costs. It is estimated

that the additional revenue costs (excluding the cost of any capital borrowing) will be in the region of £473K which is subject to discussions with Ofsted and finalisation of bed usage. There is no budget available for the additional revenue resources, therefore if this request is approved it will add to the council's medium term financial gap.

At present the service would wish to use the additional three beds flexibility between short breaks overnight respite and long term placements for children with disabilities. Any additional bed that is earmarked for long term residential care, could be used to bring back in-house children from more expensive external residential placements and should lead to cost savings in the region of £328K per annum. Given the existing pressure on the external placement budget and existing savings already built into the MTPF for 2023/24 it is not recommended to vire budget from external placements to cover the additional revenue cost.

The additional beds that will be used for short breaks respite will allow children time away from their family in order to maintain family resilience and prevent escalation of need. These beds will therefore not deliver cost savings although it could lead to cost avoidance. It is recommended that the budget is only allocated once the full operating details are finalised.

The current Boyds Walk Unit is leased from Jigsaw Housing. If the decision is made to hand back the property to Jigsaw Housing the Council would need to remove the additional pod of accommodation put in place in recent years and make good damages. The report doesn't specify this cost; however this cost is likely to be significant and would need to be funded from revenue for which there is currently no budget for it.

Legal Implications:
(Authorised by the
Borough Solicitor)

The provisions of short and long term accommodation for children and young people with disabilities is a statutory duty of the council by virtue of the Children Act 1989.

At this stage the project is making the application for the funding. If the application is successful, the Council will be required to sign a grant agreement that is likely to include clawback provisions. It would be advisable for advice to be sought from legal services before entering into the grant agreement.

As the preferred site has been used as a school within the last 10 an application under Section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1988 to permit the change of use of the site will be required.

The project is proposing to utilise the LEP contract to deliver this project. This provides a compliant route to market and should provide clear costings for the delivery of the project that is critical given the current economic climate.

Risk Management:

A risk register will be maintained to ensure the key risks to delivering a successful project to time, cost and quality are identified and managed or mitigated.

Background Information:

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



e-mail: dave.leadbetter@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Boyds Walk is a six bed Children's Home for children with disabilities requiring long and short stay residential accommodation and currently situated in Dukinfield. The residential Children's Home is formed of two semi-detached generic residential houses knocked into one. The freehold for the property is owned by Jigsaw (Registered Provider of Housing) and Tameside have utilised the property for children with disability provision since approximately 1983, prior to the housing stock transfer. There isn't a signed lease with Jigsaw for the property but the parties have acted if there is, with the Council paying rent and Jigsaw maintaining the structure of the property.
- 1.2 The requirement to source a replacement property for Boyds Walk is a high priority and urgent in terms of timescale due to the following drivers:
- Permanent home for four children with disabilities who are cared for by the Local Authority under Care Orders
 - Currently providing two beds for overnight short stays for children with disabilities who are assessed as requiring time away from family in order to maintain family resilience and prevent escalation of need
 - The best outcomes for children with disabilities is a high priority for the Council and for those cared for children our Corporate Parenting responsibilities are of paramount importance.
 - The last full Ofsted inspection of Boyds Walk in December 2021 detailed one recommendation:

The registered person should ensure that the environment meets the needs of the children living at the home or accessing short breaks in the home. This is with reference to the provider implementing the proposed plans for the redesign and reallocation of the service to a more suitable premises. ('Guide to the children s home regulations including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9).

Ofsted have been very clear with the Registered Manager of Boyds Walk that if a firm plan to respond to the above recommendation is not in motion by Autumn 2022 then the home will be rated inadequate and potentially ordered to cease operating.

The Children's Services Wider Leadership Team, Responsible Officer for Tameside in-house residential services and the Registered Manager of Boyds Walk agree with Ofsted's evaluation of the Boyds Walk property.

- The physical layout of the building present risks to the health and safety of the children and staff at Boyds Walk owing to ie narrow hallways and corridors. The emergency services have raised concerns about accessibility across the home when required to utilise medical equipment, such as a stretcher, and the most recent Fire Service inspection has raised concerns about the speed and effectiveness of fire evacuation.
- In order to manage the above concerns the Registered Manager has had to apply a significant amount of additional staffing expenditure to mitigate the health and safety concerns. The number of short stay bed nights available is also restricted by the property not being fit for purpose. This position does not provide for the best use of resources.
- Ofsted have also commented that the layout of the property is not suitable for long term and short-term provision operating together. Boyds Walk is the current permanent home for four cared for children with disabilities. Boyds Walk should feel like their home but it doesn't due to the throughput of children and their families accessing short term overnights.
- Some families who require preventative short stay respite cannot access or don't want to access due to the poor physical environment and are therefore heading quickly towards crisis and ultimately high cost out of borough placements.

- i) There are specific examples of children with disabilities with requirements for 2:1 staffing being unable to access our in-house service due to the in-effective functioning of the property and inability to cater for additional intensive staff numbers. This has led to children having to access high cost out of borough external agency placements. The cared for children with disabilities that are accommodated out of borough are on average 42 miles away from their Tameside local community, with the longest distance being 120 miles. This runs contrary to our Sufficiency Strategies' vision for our cared for children to "have access to good quality homes, families and services close to their home communities" and that "our children are prepared for adult life by the families and homes that care for them". Many of our children with disabilities will transition to local adult social care provision and the effectiveness of this transition is supported when children are cared for locally.

1.3 Children's Services propose to replace Boyds Walk with an innovative new build home registered for nine children yielding a net gain of three placements. The nine beds will all be Ofsted registered and will be offered creatively as:

- long term care
- transition accommodation for preparation for adulthood
- short term care
- step down support

Our intention is that this is an innovative and flexible offer that works with both children in care and children on the edge of care with capacity shifting around the needs of our children. We aim to create an outstanding children with disabilities hub that operates on the nationally recognised best practice principles of the No Wrong Door model of delivery.

1.4 Boyds Walk currently accommodates four cared for children with disabilities (aged between 11 and 17) and their needs include autism, severe learning and communication difficulties, challenging and distressing behaviour, epilepsy and some children have deprivation of liberty orders. Five children with disabilities access regular overnight respite following a Child in Need assessment under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989. Three children with disabilities have been assessed as requiring residential overnight respite but they remain on a wait list due to the inappropriateness of the Boyds Walk building and compatibility with their age, level of need and therefore ability to access respite alongside the current cohort of cared for children and their complexities. Eleven children with disabilities that would benefit from residential respite due to their complexity of need and affect on parents capacity / overall family functioning, are known to Children's Services and are at various levels of assessment.

1.5 The 14 children with disabilities identified above as requiring residential respite but not able to access it due to Boyds Walk not being fit for purpose are being offered short breaks in the community as a temporary measure to provide the family with a degree of respite. This lower level of support can lead to escalating needs across the family, especially as children grow older, and puts at risk the best outcomes for children and their family and potential requirement for high cost external agency provision that is out of borough.

1.6 There are also six cared for children with disabilities that access high cost external agency placements at distance from their Tameside community, which may well have accessed in-house provision if it had been suitable for their needs.

2. OPTIONS FOR RELOCATION

2.1 The current property utilised for delivery of Boyds Walk Children's Home is not sustainable as a Children's Home.

2.2 An accommodation schedule for the proposed new home has been developed with the Boyds Walk management team and has identified that ideally a gross internal floor area of an

estimated 630 m² will be required plus external play space and parking. Due to the size and room requirements, it is felt that a new build option will be more cost effective in the long term and provide more suitable accommodation.

- 2.3 The proposed building will have nine bedrooms in total and have kitchen / dining rooms for both residential and respite care, staff accommodation, bath rooms, reception and office space, therapy and sensory rooms and utility rooms.
- 2.4 An option to convert Wilshaw House has been considered but discounted on the basis that the current condition of the building is poor, the current occupants would need to be decanted out of the building, which will take additional time and the condition and remodelling costs are estimated at £3 million, which would not provide value for money.
- 2.5 A purpose designed new build on the former Flowery Field Infant School site on Old Road, Hyde, is considered to be the best option which will provide the best outcomes for the children accommodated and supported there.
- 2.6 The site has been vacant since 2015 when a new school was built for Flowery Field Primary School on the site of the former Junior School building. The former infants block was demolished and the site vacated by the school. The school has since converted to Academy status as part of the Enquire Learning Trust. The land did not transfer to the Trust and is not used by the school. It is in the Council's ownership and has sufficient land available for the new building, external play and car parking.
- 2.7 It is important to note that the proposed site is very close (1.2 miles) to Cromwell and Oakdale schools, which is where most of the children with disabilities that currently access Boyds Walk attend school. This has significant benefits for children with disabilities in terms of short journey times, long journeys can have a detrimental impact on the start of the school day and stability of school place and increase the revenue cost of transport.
- 2.8 A copy of the site plan is included at **Appendix 1**. There is a small area along the eastern boundary, which is allocated as Protected Open Space within the Tameside Unitary Development Plan (2004). The allocation is reflective of the sites former use as playing fields prior to the redevelopment of Flowery Field Primary School.
- 2.9 Policy OL4 (Protected Green Space) of the UDP applies to areas of protected green space. It seeks to retain such area, exceptions to the policy will only be permitted where one of the following criteria is satisfied;
 - a) the proposed development is ancillary to the principal use of a playing field/green space for recreation or amenity and does not adversely affect its use;
 - b) redevelopment of part of the playing field or green space provides the only means of upgrading the to the required standard and local recreation/greenspace function will continue to be met
 - c) The playing field / Green space which will be lost as a result of the proposed development would be replaced by a playing field /green space of equivalent or better quality/quantity
 - d) The retention of the site is not necessary and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport and recreation.
- 2.10 Discussions with the Local Planning Authority have confirmed that the site serves no strategic or functional recreation purpose. The space has never been publically accessible, with space being exclusive to the school, the land has not been maintained and it serves no amenity or recreation function of public interest. The Local Planning Authority has previously accepted the principle for the loss of the Open space when the site was considered for residential development. It is considered that landscaping associated with the sites redevelopment would more than adequately compensate for the associated loss and meet the policy test of OL4.

2.11 A range of alternative vacant sites / existing properties have been considered as options for the replacement of Boyds Walk as follows:

Site Location	New Build / Remodelling	Description	Site Area	Reason for rejection
Land at Lime Street, Dukinfield	New Build	Site of former residential properties 61-67 Church Street – now cleared.	0.044 acres	Site too small
Land at Lower Bennett Street, / Arnside Drive, Hyde	New Build	Large vacant site and part of the site could be developed in isolation. Site topography – part undulating, part sloping.	2.20 acres	Potential Second Option
Site of former Flowery Fields Infant School, Old Road, Hyde	New Build	Site is adjoining Flowery Fields Children’s Centre.	1.26 acres	Preferred option
Jubilee Gardens Child & Family Centre, Droylsden	New Build	Site is an operational Children’s Centre, adjacent to Active Medlock leisure facility.	0.65 acres	Site too small for new build
Wilshaw House, Wilshaw Lane, Ashton	Remodelling	Operational asset – occupied by Adult Services and home to Dementia Day Care	0.80 acres	Rejected on grounds of cost, time and value for money

2.12 The re-purposing of Boyds Walk for other service use has been considered by Children’s Services. However, due to the reasons below a decision has been made to hand back the property to Jigsaw Housing. With no formal lease in place a negotiated position would have to be taken in terms of the dilapidation / condition on hand back, the only formal agreement in place is for Tameside MBC to remove the additional pod of accommodation put in place in recent years and make good (estimated cost £10,000).

2.13 For DfE funding purposes a long lease of over 60 years is required (there is currently no formal lease in place). Moreover, Boyds Walk is near the end of its asset life and to refurbish the property in order to utilise for a sustainable Children’s residential offer then an estimated £470,000 capital investment would be required and this is not value for money.

3 PROCUREMENT

3.1 It is proposed that, subject to approval, the construction of the new building will be delivered through a design and build contract with inspiredspaces Tameside Limited (Local Education Partnership (LEP)) based on the standard terms and conditions agreed on previous contracts procured through the LEP. These are standard DfE draft contracts and therefore there will be no issue with the DfE who are providing funding. The LEP has a good track record of delivering major Council capital schemes to cost, time and quality. A value for money assessment will be undertaken by an independent qualified quantity surveyor and an independent certifier will be employed to certificate payments. It is proposed that the project will be sub contracted to Robertson Construction Group Limited, who will tender the various packaged of work required to complete the scheme.

3.2 The Local Education Partnership (LEP) General Manager has been instrumental in bringing site / property options and working on draft cost plans and a programme from concept to the

home becoming ready to open, subject to Ofsted registration.

- 3.3 The following reports and statements are attached to this report to provide an indicative delivery plan and estimate of cost:
- Current Old Road, Hyde site plan and Robertson Construction Group Limited Cost Plan **Appendix 1**
 - Draft programme **Appendix 2**
 - Draft risk register **Appendix 3**
- 3.4 The replacement of Boyds Walk is a high priority in terms of the best outcomes for children with disabilities and time critical due to the condition / configuration of the current home and the continuity of care for children. The project will be managed through a Project Board that will provide effective governance and reporting of progress and risks. Progress of the project will be reported to the Council's Strategic Capital Panel as part of the normal reporting process.
- 3.5 A monthly dashboard (see **Appendix 4**) will ensure the Council's Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel, Children's Leadership Team, the Corporate Parenting Board and Children's Improvement Board are updated in a timely manner.
- 3.6 The project timeline attached to this report at **Appendix 2** has a start date of 31 October 2022 for pre-construction site investigations (based on the timing of DFE capital bid outcome and Cabinet decisions) and practical completion of the new build in August 2024. It should be noted that the outcome of the bid is expected soon although it has been delayed.
- 3.7 The operational work to focus on staffing and Ofsted registration will start in parallel towards the end of the construction phase with recruitment and training of staffing taking place between April 2024 and September 2024. It is estimated that Ofsted registration and planning to move into the building will take about 8 weeks and the residents will move into their new home in October 2024 (see **Appendix 5** for a high-level timeline).

4 EXTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- 4.1 The Department for Education (DfE) ran a capital funding programme during summer 2022 (see **Appendix 6** for DFE Capital Grant guidance / conditions). This was a competitive bidding process for local authorities against a fixed envelope of investment that will provide 50% capital funding for children's homes. The funding is designed to support local authorities individually or in a partnership / consortium to establish new children's homes provision via expansion, refurbishment, or new building work.
- 4.2 The funding will be available to local authorities to help create provision to:
- establish innovative local and/or regional approaches to reduce the number of children needing care over time,
 - ensure sufficient provision for children with more complex needs, and
 - address current shortfalls, including in geographic areas with fewer children's homes.
- 4.3 A task and finish group consisting of, Children's Services Project Manager, Head of Children's Commissioning, Head of Asset Strategy, General Manager LEP, Head of Payments, Systems and Registrars and Children's In- House Residential Service leads, has worked together to evaluate the current position and assess options to replace Boyds Walk.
- 4.4 Tameside has submitted a bid for this funding to support the capital cost of replacing and expanding Boyds Walk (bid requested £1,632,500 of DFE funding). Notice of whether the bid is successful will be provided week beginning 24 October 2022.
- 4.5 Early conversations have taken place with health transforming care leads for the region to

ensure there is a joined up strategy / delivery and to identify access to NHSE funding opportunities. There are emerging models of children with disability residential and wrap around provision in pockets of the North West and it is important that any Tameside development is aligned to the regional vision.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Capital :

The table below details the anticipated costs of delivering the new building:

Cost	£
High Level Cost Plan for 630 m2 building	2,773,000
Remedial site works not included in cost plan	250,000
Value for Money Assessment	2,500
Contingency on build costs	120,000
Legal fees	7,000
Construction All Risks Insurance and Excess Public Liability Insurance	25,000
Independent Certifier's Fee	27,500
LEP Project management Fee @ 2% on build and remedial costs	60,000
Total	3,265,000

5.2 The site options detailed in the body of this report have been assessed on the basis of options to refurbish existing properties or build new, land ownership, site size and known condition, service requirements to meet Children's Home Regulations, best outcomes for children with disabilities and future proofing to meet aspirations for a hub of excellence.

5.3 The option that provides the best value for money is to build a new home with nine units of accommodation on the former Flowery Field, Old Road site. The additional units of accommodation this brings allows for a compliant capital bid to be submitted to the DFE Children's Home Capital Programme 2022-25 for 50% (£1,632,500) of the estimated capital funding required. If the bid is unsuccessful then the full £3,265,000 will be required to be funded from the Council via Prudential Borrowing. The revenue cost of capital financing (£54,000 per £1m funded) are included within the revenue business case for the project.

5.4 Revenue :

5.5 The table below summarises the revenue cost of operating the current Boyds Walk home (6 bed for long and short stay) and the estimated cost of operating a new build replacement with 9 units of accommodation for long term care, transition accommodation for preparation for adulthood and short term care:

Type of Expenditure	Current Boyds Walk (£)	New build replacement (£)
Employee costs increased to	895,517	1,345,517
Premises (unchanged)	33,474	33,474
Supplies and Services	37,875	60,558
Income	-4,494	-4,494
Revenue cost of borrowing	0	149,716
Total	962,372	1,584,771

Note: the revenue cost of borrowing could reduce by half if the DFE capital bid is successful.

5.6 The replacement of Boyds Walk with a new state of the art children's home that is configured

to maximise occupancy will create significant savings from the external agency placement budget. Every child that returns from an out of borough external agency placement will save an average of £6,300 per week and £327,600 per annum. This is an invest to save model and also one that puts early intervention at its heart for those families that require residential respite to prevent escalation of need and entry to high cost cared for children placements. The flexible model of delivery proposed for the new Boyds Walk will also have a positive revenue benefit for adult social care as good quality, in-house provision enables a natural transition to the cost effective models of supported living / residential utilised by adult social care.

- 5.7 If Boyds Walk is not available for children with disability accommodation, a conservative estimate of the alternative cost of external agency provision would be £900 per night.
- 5.8 Boyds Walk currently operates at £578 per bed night (average bed nights provided currently is 1664 per annum). Compared to utilising the external market the current use of Boyds Walk is saving £535,808 per annum.
- 5.9 A new build of nine units of accommodation to replace Boyds Walk is estimated to cost £560 (based on bed nights of 2560 (nine units at 80% occupancy) and includes £149,716 pa to repay the revenue cost of Prudential Borrowing at a rate of X%). Compared to utilising the external market the new build Boyds Walk is estimated to save £720,400 per annum.

6 LEGAL BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Section 22G Children Act 1989 requires local authorities to do more than simply ensure that accommodation be 'sufficient' in terms of the number of beds provided. They must also have a regard to the benefits of securing a number of providers and a range of services. Fundamentally, the accommodation available must meet the needs of children.
- 6.2 At every appropriate stage of this project Public Contract Regulations and Tameside's Contract Procedure Rules will be followed.
- 6.3 The legal framework, in terms of change of use of land and any associated DFE regulations, has been checked. The proposed site has been used by a school within the last 10 years and legal advice is that an application under Section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1988, will be required for the proposed change of use. A S77 application has previously been submitted to the DFE to dispose of the site and has not progressed due to the school, which formerly occupied the site, not previously supporting its disposal. Contact has been made with the Chief Executive of the Enquire Learning Trust, who has confirmed that the school do not use the site and the Trust will complete a letter of support for the change of use being proposed.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 It is vital that a planned replacement for Boyds Walk is agreed in order to satisfy Ofsted's recommendation and to ensure a children with disability home remains in place to provide continuity of home for three cared for children and that the requirement for alternative external agency placements, out of borough and at high cost, are reduced. As Corporate Parents we have a clear focus on the best outcomes for our cared for children.
- 7.2 It is a priority for the Council that our children in need, through their disability, have the best start in life, their family network is resilient and preparation for adulthood is timely and effective. The ability to access a good residential short break facility close to home is a priority for our parents and carers. Following our SEND Inspection a consultation and engagement exercise has been undertaken to reach out to families where a child has SEND.

Two areas that our parent and carers said would make the biggest difference were facilitating a range of respite support for families (including siblings) and early transition planning.

- 7.3 This report sets a firm plan to deliver an outstanding children with disabilities residential provision by August 2024. Our vision is for this to be the first phase of a centre of excellence for children with a disability, providing access to a flexible residential offer, wrap around therapeutic support services and support (including through our strong third sector partners).

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 These are at the front of the report.

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Boys Walk - Respite and Residential Accomodation

High Level Cost plan - Version 4

Date: 01/09/2022

Building GIFA	Area
Ground Floor	630.00
Upper Floors (0)	0.00
GIFA	630.00

Boys Walk - Respite and Residential Accomodation					
Cost Centre	Element	Elemental Quantity	Unit	Rate per M2	Elemental Total
<i>Robertson Construction Cost Plan</i>					
PROJECT / DESIGN TEAM FEES & OTHER PROJECT COSTS					
PROJECT & DESIGN TEAM FEES					
1.1	Design Team Fees (% x Prime Cost+Prelims)	1	Item	£ 399.42	251,634
1.2	surveys	1	Item	£ 73.64	46,393
1.3	Pre-con Prelims	1	Item	£ 73.64	46,393
1	SUB TOTAL: PROJECT & DESIGN TEAM FEES				344,419
OTHER PROJECT COSTS					
2.1	Planning Consent Fee	1	item	£ 14.73	9,279
2	SUB TOTAL: OTHER PROJECT COSTS				9,279
CONSTRUCTION COSTS					
3.1	Construction costs as summary				2,418,821
3	SUB TOTAL: CONSTRUCTION COSTS				2,418,821
TOTAL PROJECT / DESIGN TEAM FEES & OTHER PROJECT COSTS					
					2,772,518



Building GIFA	Area
Ground Floor	630.00
Upper Floors (0)	0.00
GIFA	630.00

Boys Walk - Respite and Residential Accomodation
 High Level Cost plan - Version 4
 Date: 01/09/2022

High Level Cost Plan

Boys Walk - Respite and Residential Accomodation					
Element	Elemental Quantity	Unit	Rate per M2	Elemental Total	Comments
CONSTRUCTION COST					
FACILITATING WORKS & BUILDING WORKS (PRIME COST)					
0 Facilitating Works					
0.1 Toxic, Hazardous & Contaminated Material Treatment	630	item	£ -	£ -	Excluded
0.2 Demolition Works	630	item	£ -	£ -	Removal of existing foundations excluded, ground assumed to be clear of foundations from previous structure
0.3 Temporary Support To Adjacent Structures	630	item	£ -	£ -	
0.4 Specialist Groundworks	630	Item	£ -	£ -	Excluded
0.5 Temporary Diversion Works	630	item	£ -	£ -	Excluded
0.6 Extraordinary Site Investigation Works	630	item	£ -	£ -	
0 Elemental Total - Facilitating Works				£ -	
1 Substructure					
1.1 Foundations	630	m2	£ 155.25	£ 97,807.50	
1.2 Floor Slab	630	m2	£ 126.50	£ 79,695.00	
1 Elemental Total - Substructure				£ 177,502.50	
2 Superstructure					
2.1 Frame	630	m2	£ 11.50	£ 7,245.00	Windposts only no steel frame
2.2 Upper Floors	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
2.3 Roof	630	m2	£ 316.25	£ 199,237.50	Used GP surgery rates
2.4 Stairs & Ramps	630	m3	£ -	£ -	
2.5 External Walls	630	m2	£ 431.25	£ 271,687.50	Used Hawthorn brick and block rates (£600/1000 brick)
2.6 Windows and External Doors	630	m2	£ 212.75	£ 134,032.50	Used GP surgery rates. Hawthorn £380K/4000 = £95/m2 +some for closing cavities /lintels etc. therefore say £125? Used GP surgery rates although plasterboard ceilings may be required?
2.7 Internal Walls and Partitions	630	m2	£ 201.25	£ 126,787.50	
2.8 Internal Doors	630	m2	£ 69.00	£ 43,470.00	Used GP surgery rates
2 Elemental Total - Superstructure				£ 782,460.00	
3 Internal Finishes					
3.1 Wall Finishes	630	m2	£ 31.63	£ 19,923.75	Used GP surgery rates - assume painted
3.2 Floor Finishes	630	m2	£ 60.38	£ 38,036.25	Used GP surgery rates - assume carpet but hard wearing
3.3 Ceiling Finishes	630	m2	£ 42.80	£ 26,966.14	Used GP surgery rates although may only need painting see note above
3.4 Decoration	630	m2	£ 34.50	£ 21,735.00	Used GP surgery rates
3 Element Total - Finishes				£ 106,661.14	
4 Fittings, Furnishings & Equipment					
4.1 Fittings & Furnishings	630	m2	£ 91.27	£ 57,500.00	Prov sum allowance based on assumptions from within the SOA
4.2 Equipment	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
4 Element Total - Fittings, Furnishings & Equipment				£ 57,500.00	
5 Services					
5.1 Sanitary Appliances	630	m2	£ 40.25	£ 25,357.50	Used Hawthorn rates
5.2 Services Equipment	630	m2	£ 345.00	£ 217,350.00	Assume simple "home" style MEP installation i.e. heating, water, lighting, power, data, fire alarms required and not aircon etc.
5.3 Disposal Installations	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
5.4 Water Installations	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
5.5 Heat Source	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
5.6 Space Heating & Air Conditioning	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
5.7 Ventilation	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
5.8 Electrical Installations	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
5.9 Fuel Installations	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
5.10 Lift & Conveyor Installations	630	nr	£ -	£ -	
5.11 Fire and Lighting Protection	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
5.12 Communications, Security & Control Installations	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
5.13 Special Installations	630	m3	£ -	£ -	Excluded
5.14 Builders Work In Connection With Services	3	%	£ 8,373.41	£ 25,120.23	
5 Element Total - Services				£ 267,827.73	
6 Prefabricated Buildings & Building Units					
6.1 Prefabricated Buildings	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
6.2 Building Units	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
6 Element Total - Prefabricated Buildings & Building Units				£ -	
7 Work To Existing Buildings					
7.1 Minor Demolition & Alteration Works	2524	m2	£ 8.63	£ 21,765.19	Tree clearance
7.2 Repairs To Existing Services	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
7.3 Damp Proof Courses / Fungus & Beetle Eradication	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
7.4 Façade Retention	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
7.5 Cleaning Existing Surfaces	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
7.6 Renovation Works	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
7 Element Total - Works To Existing Buildings				£ 21,765.19	
8 External Works					
8.1 Site Preparation Works	630	m2	£ 40.25	£ 25,357.50	Used GP surgery rates
8.2 Roads, Paths, Pavings & Surfacing	2524	m2	£ 115.00	£ 290,202.50	Used GP surgery rates
8.3 Soft Landscapes, Planting & Irrigation Systems	630	m2	£ 17.25	£ 10,867.50	Limited to making good where abuts hard landscaping
8.4 Fencing, Railings & Walls	630	m	£ -	£ -	Excluded
8.5 External Fixtures	630	0	£ -	£ -	
8.6 External Drainage	630	m2	£ 115.00	£ 72,450.00	
8.7 External Services	630	item	£ 28.75	£ 18,112.50	
8.8 Minor Building Works & Ancillary Buildings	630	m2	£ -	£ -	
8 Element Total - External Works				£ 416,990.00	
SUB-TOTAL: FACILITATING WORKS & BUILDING WORKS (PRIME COST)				£ 1,830,706.56	

	Abnormal Costs - Not Covered in Element 0 Facilitating Works				£	-	
	AC.1 Ground Stabilisation	630			£	-	
	Utility Enhancement	1	m2 Item	£	25,000.00	£	25,000.00
				£	-	£	-
AC	Element Total - Abnormal Costs					£	25,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL: FACILITATING WORKS & BUILDING WORKS & ABNORMAL COST					£	1,855,706.56
	MAIN CONTRACTOR'S PRELIMINARIES						
	Main Contractor's Preliminaries %			£	0.13	£	241,241.85
9	Main Contractor's Preliminaries Total (% x Prime Cost)					£	241,241.85
	SUB-TOTAL: FACILITATING WORKS & BUILDING WORKS + PRELIMINARIES (Prime Cost + Prelims)					£	2,096,948.41
	MAIN CONTRACTOR'S OVERHEADS & PROFITS						
	Overheads & Profits %			£	0.07	£	136,301.65
10	Overheads & Profits Total (% x Prime+Prelims)					£	136,301.65
	TOTAL: BUILDING WORKS ESTIMATE (Prime Cost + Prelims + OH&P)					£	2,233,250.06
	RISK						
	Construction Risk (% x Building Works Estimate)			£	0.05	£	92,785.33
11	TOTAL: RISK ALLOWANCE					£	92,785.33
	TOTAL PROJECT COST EXCLUDING INFLATION (Base Cost Estimate + Risk)					£	2,326,035.38

Excluded

	INFLATION						
	Inflation %			£	0.05	£	92,785.33
12	Total Inflation Allowance (%xTotal New Project Cost)					£	92,785.33
	TOTAL PROJECT COST INCLUDING INFLATION					£	2,418,820.71



Boyd's Walk - Respite and Residential Accommodation

High Level Cost plan - Version 4

Date: 01/09/2022

Building GIFA	Area
Ground Floor	630.00
Upper Floors (0)	0.00
GIFA	630.00

	Space	Number	Area M2	Total Area M2
General	Utility washer / dryer/ sink	1	10.00	10.00
General	Reception area	1	20.00	20.00
General	Staff office kitchen for 3	2	25.00	50.00
General	Staff / Visitor toilets	1	15.00	15.00
General	Storage / Cleaners store	3	2.00	6.00
Residential	Child bedroom	7	14.00	98.00
Residential	Child bathroom / wet room	4	10.00	40.00
Residential	Kitchen / diner	1	15.00	15.00
Residential	Kitchen / diner	1	20.00	20.00
Residential	Lounge/ social space	1	25.00	25.00
Residential	Staff bedroom ensuite	2	12.00	24.00
Residential	Child bedroom	2	35.00	70.00
Residential	Adapted bathroom	1	12.00	12.00
Residential	Lounge/ social space	2	30.00	60.00
Therapy	Sensory room	2	12.00	24.00
Other	Meeting / multipurpose room	1	15.00	15.00
	Sub total			504.00
	Circulation and partitions say 25%			126.00
	Total GIFA			630.00
External	Accessible garden area			
External	Staff and visitor parking			
External	Minibus Garage/ Store			

Assumed FF&E requirements		
White goods and worktop	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00
Sofa and desk?	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00
Small kitchen	£ 3,400.00	£ 6,800.00
Sanitary ware inc cost plan		£ -
Racking	£ 600.00	£ 1,800.00
Bed wardrobe unit	£ 1,000.00	£ 7,000.00
Sanitary ware inc cost plan		£ -
Small kitchen and table and chairs	£ 4,400.00	£ 4,400.00
Sofas and TV unit?	£ 3,500.00	£ 3,500.00
Bed wardrobe unit	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
Bed wardrobe unit	£ 1,000.00	£ 2,000.00
Sanitary ware inc cost plan		£ -
Small kitchen and table and chairs	£ 5,400.00	£ 5,400.00
Sofas and TV unit?	£ 5,000.00	£ 10,000.00
Bed wardrobe unit	£ 1,000.00	£ 2,000.00
Allowance	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00
		£ 50,900.00



Building GIFA	Area
Ground Floor	630.00
Upper Floors (0)	0.00
GIFA	630.00

Boys Walk - Respite and Residential Accomodation

High Level Cost plan - Version 4

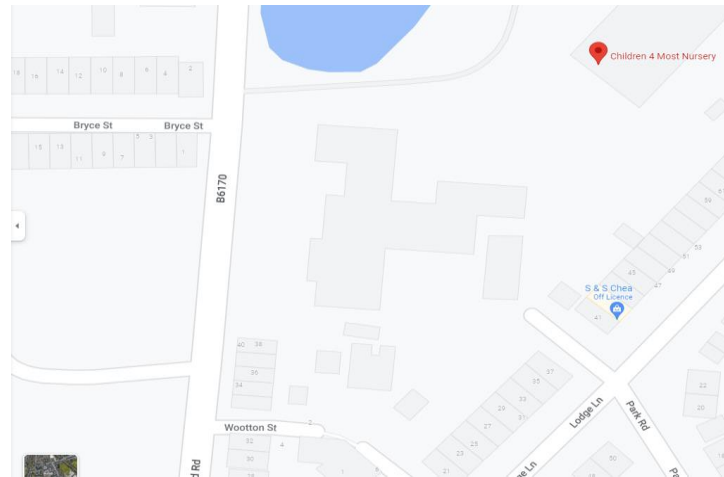
Date: 01/09/2022

Suggested site

Site area 5047m2 (ET email 24.07.22)



Previous use



Assumptions

Access to the site can be formed from the existing entrance of the B6170

Site is level and there are no specific ground conditions to deal with

Simple construction solution assumed i.e. single storey "house" type construction, MEP installations and finishes

Simple foundation and substructure works solution

Assumed that previous use infrastructure is still available and can be connected on to i.e. incoming services and outgoing drainage runs

No new perimeter fencing is required for the site

Assumed that only half the site will be used for carparking and access etc. and that the other half will be left as is

Assumed that a simple MEP solution will be sufficient i.e. no air con required just simple "home" style power, data, heating and kitchens etc required

Sprinklers etc. excluded

Caostplan allows for a suspended ceiling

Carpet and vinyl asumed throughout for the floor finish

Assumed limited tiling to splashbacks and showers only within bathrooms/ensuits

Soft landscaping limited to making good where abuts hard landscaping

The cost plan and indicative programme are based upon the following construction method, simple pad/strip foundations, brick and block construction with glazed windows and traditioanl tiled roof on timber roof trusses

5% inflation allowance has been included

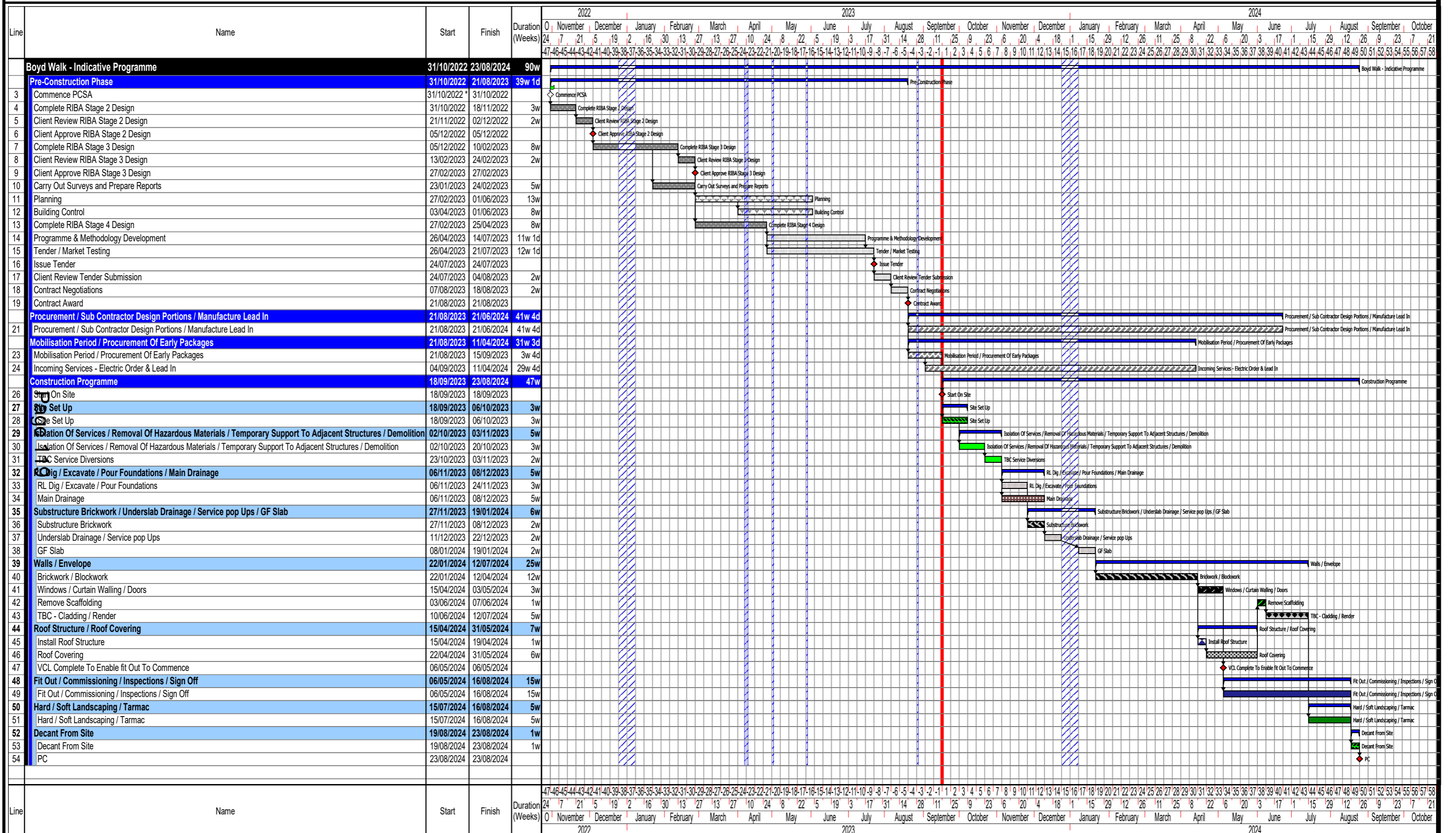
Boys Walk - Respite and Residential Accomodation
 High Level Cost plan - Version 4
 Date: 01/09/2022
 Location: Flowery Field

Building GIFA	Area
Ground Floor	630.00
Upper Floors (0)	0.00
GIFA	630.00



Boyd Walk - Indicative Programme - Based On Traditional Construction

Indicative Programme
Client: Tameside Council



Robertson Construction Group
Robertson House,
Castle Business Park,
Stirling,
FK9 4TZ
TEL: 01786 431600

ISSUE DATE :05/08/2022
REVISION DATE :
1. Indicative Only
2.

PROGRAMME No :BW - IP - 00
PROGRAMME STATUS : High Level Indicative Programme. To be developed further
CHART AUTHOR : MT
CHECKED : Manager - LH

Rev: PAGE 1 OF 1

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Risk No	Date Risk Added	Risk Category	Risk Description	Mitigation Plan	Raw Consequence	Raw Likelihood	Raw Score	Potential Cost	Actions	Residual Consequence	Residual Likelihood	Residual Score	Risk Owner
1	03/09/22	Strategic	The identified site off Old Road, Hyde cannot be secured for the proposed development. The school that formerly occupied the site may object to a S77 change of use application as they wished to use it as external play space.	The site is in 100% TMBC ownership and is sufficient in size for the proposed development. It's location is near the schools attended by the proposed residents. TMBC support the use of the site. Consultation to commence with adjacent school to gain support for the site to be used for a childrens home.	4	3	12	0	Commence dialogue with Flowery Fields School / Academy Trust now that schools have returned from the summer break, to secure support for change of use for a childrens home, rather than disposal for a capital receipt as originally intended. Consideration of consideration of potential use by the school of part of the grounds. Alternative Council owned sites are also available.	3	2	6	TMBC
2	03/09/22	Operational	Site and location are unsuitable for location of the proposed children's home	Early consultation with service managers to ensure suitable location	4	4	16	0	Service managers have been involved with the location of the proposed development since the scheme's inception. the site is 1.1 mile from the schools attended by most of the proposed residents and agree that is the most suitable site available.	3	2	6	TMBC
3	03/09/22	Cost	Value for Money not achieved	All packages of work will be tendered for the construction work and an external VFM assessment carried out as part of the standard procurement process.	4	4	16	0	LEP will obtain tendered prices for work packages and submit the scheme for an external VFM assessment. The scheme will not proceed without VFM evidence being achieved. (This has been achieved on 100% of the all 30 or so schemes with a value of £300 million delivered through the partnership so far).	3	2	6	LEP
4	03/09/22	Procurement	TMBC fail to secure contractors to deliver the proposed building on time and budget.	It is proposed to deliver the project through the Council's strategic partnership with inspiredspaces Tameside Limited (LEP) which was set up to deliver TMBC's Building School for the Future programme. The proposed contractor is Robertson Construction Group Limited.	5	4	20	0	The directors of the LEP have been consulted about the proposed scheme. Robertson Group have already provided a detailed cost plan including all preliminary costs (based on current building costs for similar buildings plus anticipated inflation and risk exposure), together with a proposed programme and have confirmed capacity to support the project if successful. The terms and conditions of the standard design and build contract have already been agreed on recent signed schemes. An independent certifier will be appointed to sign off each pre agreed milestone and the quality of work delivered. The milestones typically provide for 5% of costs to be drawn down at contract close and the rest over the programme. A retention of 3% will be retained until practical completion where 50% will be released and the remaining released at the end of the 12 months defect liability period. The Council will monitor cost and programme on a monthly basis as part of its normal capital delivery structure.	3	2	6	TMBC/LEP
5	03/09/22	Cost	Cost over run through inflation / scope change/ creep	Scope of accomodation already fixed by service.	4	4	16	185,570	The service has already been part of the development team drating the accommodation schedule. Adherance to the scope will be monitored as part of the regular programme management. A 10% allowace has been included in the cost estimate for construction to cover inflation and construction risk	2	2	4	TMBC
	03/09/22	Cost	Site abnormals, contamination and access to site issues	Intrusive site investigations as required, early discussions with Highways and utility companies etc	3	4	12	370,000	A contingency amount has been added to the overall cost plan	2	2	4	TMBC / LEP
7	03/09/22	Programme	Delays in programme due to delays in obtaining planning approval	Early consultation with Planning Officers and submission of a pre planning application if necessary	4	4	16	0	Early consultation with planning officers and statutory service provideres e.g.highways. Any impact on inflation is covered by row 5	3	3	9	TMBC / LEP
8	03/09/22	Programme	Delays in programme due to availability of materials or sub contractors	LEP / RCG to place early instructions once contract agreed and get supply chain on board in advance of contract agreement	4	4	16	0	Early engagement with suppliers and sub contractors, plus passing down terms and conditions to the supply chain. Any impact on inflation is covered by row 5.	3	3	9	LEP / contractor

9	03/09/22	Cost	The FM and Lifecycle and maintenance costs not fully understood by TMBC prior to development starting.	The standard design and build contract contains a requirement to provide annual PPM costs and lifecycle projections for each construction project. Robertson FM also deliver all soft and hard FM services for Tameside buildings and will price these in accordance with the existing FM contract also through the LEP	4	5	20	0	Provision of 25 year lifecycle schedule as cost plan developed. Provision of annual PPM costs and soft FM costs to ensure revenue budgets are sufficient to manage the costs of operating the new home.	3	2	6	LEP /TMBC
10	03/09/22	Operational	Ofsted registrstion	The detailed design work throughout the RIBA stages will ensure the size and configuration of the new home will meet Children's Home Regulations and Ofsted registration requirements.	5	3	15	0	Early dialogue with the Service Manger for TMBC Residential Services has already taken place. Early dialogue with regional Ofsted lead inspector.	3	2	6	TMBC
11	03/09/22	Operational	Staff recruitment	Recruitment in the social care sector is variable and regional hot spots can occur.	5	3	15	0	Early engagement with HR to establish operating model and supporting policies / actions. The children with disability hub model being proposed is innovative and should be attractive to the recruitment market.	3	2	6	TMBC
12	03/09/22	Operational	Demand across the service and the subsequent revenue business case are not sustainable	Demand across the service is known and the revenue consequence of insufficient quality and capacity for children with disabilities is significant.	4	4	16	0	The 26th October 2022 Executive Cabinet report captures demand and the revenue business case.	2	2	4	TMBC
13	03/09/22	Strategic	Leadership buy-in and staff capacity limits project progress	Senior leadership and elected member buy in to ensure this project is prioritised as part of the Transformation Agenda.	4	3	12	0	The 26th October 2022 Executive Cabinet report will look to secure buy-in from all parties. A Children's Service Project Manager has been recruited to support this priority project.	2	2	4	TMBC

Replacement of Boyds Walk

SRO – Tony Decrop & PM - Dave Leadbetter

<u>Project / Initiative</u> <u>Overview</u>	TIME - GREEN	COST - AMBER	QUALITY - GREEN
	All Funding Routes Identified	Feasibility	

Project / Initiative Update

Recent Progress made

Focus in the next period

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Key Decisions / Change Requests

Key Risks - Managed by the Initiative/Project

Escalated Risks - To be managed by the Programme

Elements

Project / Element / Workstream	Time	Cost	Quality
Boyds Walk Replacement	G	A	G
Boyds Walk Re-purposing	G	G	G

Benefits Register Information

Budget Implications

Early Warnings to Next Management Level

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Stage	Action	Start date	End Date	Duration	2024											
					Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	Recruitment and registration project initiated			7 weeks												
2	Recruitment of new staff			5 months												
3	Training of new staff and refresher training for established staff team			3 months												
6	OFSTED Registration Process			3 month												
7	Decant of Boyds and Go Live			6 weeks												
8	Evaluation			Ongoing												
9	Project Closure - Recruitment and registration project closed			1 month												

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Department
for Education

Children's Homes Capital Programme 2022-25

Information for applicants

June 2022

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1. About this guidance

This guidance is for local authorities that wish to apply to the open application round for matched capital funding between Autumn 2022 and March 2025 to create additional provision in children's homes for children and young people in their area.

If you wish to apply for funding, you should first familiarise yourself with this guidance before you complete the application form.

Only applications that demonstrate a high project need, supported with evidence, demonstrate value for money and which align closely with our programme objectives (as set out in section 2) are likely to be successful.

About the children's homes capital programme 2022-25

The Department for Education's (DfE) capital funding programme is designed to support local authorities (LAs) - individually or in a partnership or consortium - to establish new children's homes provision via expansion, refurbishment, or new building work.

This funding will be available to local authorities to help create provision to:

- establish innovative local and/or regional approaches to reduce the number of children needing care over time,
- ensure sufficient provision for children with more complex needs, and
- address current shortfalls, including in geographic areas with fewer children's homes.

Further criteria details are available at section 8 of this guidance.

The DfE will provide up to £64m capital funding over three financial years on a match-funded (50/50) basis.

Funding will be provided via a grant made under Section 14 of the Education Act 2002.

LAs are able to apply via two different application routes:

1. **Lot 1** is for those with sufficient planning and agreements/assurances in place **to begin in 2022.**
2. **Lot 2** is for those in early planning/discussion stages but can demonstrate a clear plan **to capital works beginning in 2023.**

Applications for both approaches must demonstrate how they intend to complete works by 2025.

This bidding round is open to local authorities, either bidding alone or as part of a consortia with other local authorities and/or with the voluntary and community sector, or private sector providers. Local authorities must remain the sole owners of the capital asset and the lead bidder for all types of applications. Regional or consortia bids must set out the lead LA and a clear governance structure for decision making.

Local authorities may enter more than one project bid, which will be assessed separately and independently from each other. If the projects are linked, then please refer to this in the application form. There is no guarantee that if one project is successful, the other one(s) will be too.

You may want to consider whether a single, combined application might be more appropriate. Where applications are combined, we reserve the right to fund either all or part of the application submitted.

This children's homes capital funding can only be used for the project it was awarded for. Any changes to a project's scope must be agreed in advance by the DfE and the project may be liable to cancellation or clawback if a change of scope is not agreed.

It is the expectation that grant funding will be awarded in Mid/Late October 2022, with work starting on the projects as soon as possible after the award has been given.

DfE funding cannot be extended past March 31st 2025.

DfE has a separate programme of capital funding for secure children's homes; **such bids are therefore out of scope for this funding.**

Links to the Care Review and Competitions and Markets Authority recommendations

The **Independent Review of Children's Social Care**, led by Josh MacAlister, was published on Monday 23rd May 2022, and delivers on Government's manifesto commitment to review children's social care.

The **Competitions and Markets Authority (CMA)** conducted a market study into the children's social care placements market and their report and recommendations were published in March 2022.

The Care Review took a fundamental look at the needs, experiences and outcomes of the children the system supports. It set out what is needed to make a real difference to bring

forward change, improve life opportunities and outcomes for vulnerable children, and reduce associated costs to society.

The Government has committed to establishing a National Implementation Board consisting of people with experience of leading transformational change, and those with their own experience of the care system. This will support the delivery of an implementation strategy on children’s social care later this year, in which will be responding fully to all recommendations, including the recommendations from the CMA report.

The Care Review has recommended regional co-operatives to run care provision, including LA-owned children’s homes. The CMA also made similar recommendations relating to a more collective approach to engagement with the placements market through forecasting, market shaping and procurement.

However, we are also mindful of the sufficiency concerns in the sector and the urgent need for more provision, so as the recommendations are explored and developed, we will work with you to align the projects where it is needed.

We strongly encourage LAs to bid as consortia to enhance their local and regional commissioning and to develop innovative approaches to support children with complex needs and place children within the region. Lot 2 requires applicants to demonstrate early thinking and/or plans for partnership or consortium working. Applicants must score 2 or higher on this question to be successful.

Other recommendations within the Care Review align closely with this programme of work to address the most urgent issues facing vulnerable young people by investing in improved places in children’s homes, where appropriate, closer to home.

The CMA report found that high demand leads to places being filled even when they don’t fully meet children’s needs (e.g. geographical location, environment). Therefore, the extra support provided through this investment is key to ensuring support for LAs sufficiency of placements.

2. Indicative timeline for the children’s homes capital programme

Table 1

Milestones	Dates
-------------------	--------------

Programme launch: Information for applicants circulated	28th June 2022
Deadline for clarification questions	01 st September 2022
Deadline for all applications	09th September 2022
Notify applicants of outcome.	Week of 10 th October 2022
Grant letters issued to successful bidders	Week of 24 th October 2022
Project Initiation	From November 2022
DfE funding ends	March 2025

3. Who can apply for funding?

Bids will only be accepted from local authorities or agreed lead local authority if part of a consortium. Local authorities can bid individually or in consortia with other local authorities and/or the voluntary and community sector.

Where a trust is delivering services on behalf of an LA, we would expect applications to demonstrate clear agreement of the LA and the details of asset ownership.

4. Grant conditions

If your application is successful, you will be expected to comply with our grant funding terms and conditions. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions will affect payment of the grant.

Grant conditions will include the (not exhaustive) requirements to:

- Agree to match-fund the proposed work.
- Agree that if the project runs past March 2025, any additional costs for overruns will be at the expense of the local authority/consortium.
- Report the progress of the project throughout its lifecycle by completing monthly project monitoring reports; and
- Inform DfE of any changes/delays to planned project milestones and of any project overspends/underspends.
- Agree conditions of claw back, payment suspension and early termination clauses in circumstances where monies are not spent for the purposes as set out in the grant or if the programme is unable to be completed.

An example of the grant funding terms can be found at Annex A

5. Types of projects which are eligible for funding

The aim of this programme is to ensure the needs of children requiring residential care are met, promoting innovation in how we meet these needs, and where necessary increase the number of places available for children in children's homes, in particular where there are current gaps in provision.

This funding will be available to local authorities to help create provision to:

1. ensure sufficient provision for children with more complex needs, and
2. address current shortfalls, including in geographic areas with fewer children's homes.
3. establish innovative local and/or regional approaches to reduce the number of children needing care over time,

We are willing to accept a range of projects in size and scope that demonstrate an increase in places in children's homes in the local area/region and meet the objectives described in Section 8.

While DfE capital funding needs to be used for registered children's homes, we are supportive of projects which include linked service provision, for example step down provision or to prepare those exiting the care system, or move to fostering arrangements .

Projects can be:

- expansions of existing children's homes,
- purchase / renovation of an existing property that is not currently operating as a children's home or.
- new builds of residential provision
- Co-located schemes – innovative approaches involving other local services as part of the children's home provision.

We will also accept applications to remodel existing children's homes that are no longer meeting local needs to change the type of provision on offer in line with the objectives for this funding. For example, if the local authority has a large children's home and wants to convert it into smaller units that would better support children with complex needs who cannot cope in large homes or wish to co-locate other services on site.

Funding is not available for:

- Building works to foster carers' homes or families' homes.
- Accommodation / services for care leavers or semi-independent / independent provision (unless as part of registered children's home where we would be supportive of bids) or unregulated provision.
- Accommodation for children who are not looked after children; and

- Refurbishing existing operational children’s homes unless to change the type of provision offered or expand the number of places.

Any bids, or elements of bids, that are deemed to be out of scope will be rejected and will not be evaluated.

We have not set a threshold on the amount of funding that can be bid for, but we expect all bids to demonstrate best value for money and benchmarking of costs against similar projects where tender/work estimates are not available. All bids should clearly set out expected yearly spend between 2022 and 2025. All bids will be evaluated independently against the criteria and scores set out in Section 8.

We will accept applications for projects that were already planned prior to the announcement of this funding as well as applications for new projects. In the case of projects that were already planned, you will need to provide evidence of funding that has already been secured (our assumption is that this funding will continue) and what the added funding and value would be if you were to secure DfE funding. The DfE will not accept applications that claim for any works that have been undertaken prior to the notification of the outcome of your bid.

Current Wave 1 sites are welcome to apply but will need to demonstrate how additional provision is required and how the project is sustainable alongside the current programme.

All applications will be judged independently and irrelevant of the outcome of previous applications. Those unsuccessful in their Wave 1 applications are welcome to apply for both Lots in Wave 2.

Two applications routes are available:

- Applications for those able to demonstrate against the criteria they have proposed plans in place to be able to commence capital/building work within 2022-23
- Applications for proposed plans that require a longer lead in time (consortium/regional bids for example or without a planned site)– with the condition that capital/building work should begin in 2023 - 24.

6. Application forms

All applications for capital funding must be completed on the application forms accompanying this email.

Two application forms are available - please ensure you have selected the application relevant to the Lot you are entering.

The bid process will be conducted in a manner that ensures bids are evaluated against the criteria set out below in Section 8.

Our intention is to fund projects which meet our strategic priorities, and where the proposed project is appropriately planned and presents best value for money.

The application form is designed for you to summarise the most important features and rationale behind a project.

There are three key sections to complete:

1. Project Need;
2. Project Delivery; and
3. Project Cost.

You must attach key project documentation as evidence to support the case being made.

We encourage regional/consortium bids and are happy to accept consortium bids that are with other LAs, Voluntary or Charity Sector (VCS) or private providers **if the capital element/funding of the programme is supplied by the local authority and remains in its control**. We would expect to see in the application details of the consortium structure and governance.

We would expect to see commitment to continue to operate the new provision for a minimum of 3 years from when placements begin.

In situations where the provision is deemed no longer required, or significant local/regional changes means LA ownership of the asset need to change, consultation with DfE will be required to discuss how this will be managed, and where an asset is sold, how DfE funding will be reinvested into the local children services.

The lead authority should complete and submit the proposal on behalf of the other LAs or those that form part of the consortium bid.

If you wish to enter a consortium/partnership bid, you will be expected to identify the following:

- a) Who will be the lead accountable Local Authority.
- b) Proposed governance structure including the responsibilities of different organisation/consortium members, how they will work together and the capacity of each member
- c) How agreements will be put in place regarding delivery/tasks and sub-contracting arrangements.

- d) How any consortium bids, which include VCS or other organisations, will maintain LA/regional placement costs control and set out clear, accountable long-term capital ownership/placement plans.
- e) Where an LA is working with private provider, we would require evidence that due diligence has taken place prior to consortium agreement.

7. Match Funding agreements

We expect applicants to be able to demonstrate they can match fund the DfE investment by 50% of the total capital cost of the project.

Capital Spend is defined by accounting standards, IAS 16 sets out that capital costs include all costs necessary to bring the asset to working condition for its intended use. This includes not only the original purchase price of land and materials etc, but also any costs of site preparation, delivery and handling, installation, related professional fees for architects and engineers, and the estimated cost of dismantling and removing the asset and restoring the site.

Project management costs can be included under this definition if it is wholly/solely linked to the construction works.

We will accept current LA owned property or land as part of this investment; however, applications will need to demonstrate clear evidence of value for that property or land.

Works to properties with long leases (for example 125-year leases) will be considered but details will be required about the nature of the lease and who owns the freehold (for example Homes England or another public body). We cannot accept short term leases.

We cannot accept revenue money as the LA element of match funding as this would mean we are providing 100% capital funding for that bid; this would be unfair to other bidders.

You can use grant money from other government departments, if it is capital funding, and the conditions of that grant funding allow it.

DfE funding, if awarded, can be prioritised in the spending profile of the project, as long as a clear commitment to the LA match funding is evidenced and all spend is set out clearly in the project's payment profile. It will be a condition of the grant funding that if an LA subsequently does not fulfil that requirement, the DfE would have the right to clawback the capital grant that has been issued.

If applying for Lot 2, a gateway or review point for the project/s will be included during the planning stage and before agreement to further funding for the building/capital works. These gateway points will determine whether the project has reached a suitable point of planning to allow further works to continue.

8. Evaluation Process and Criteria

Your response to the bid specification and questions will be evaluated via the following process.

Stage 1 – Receipt

Applications will be received by the deadline stated in Table 1.

Stage 2 – Eligibility reviews

The assessment panel will review each application to ensure it is within the scope of this bidding round. Any application not within scope will be rejected and not evaluated further.

Stage 3 – Evaluation

The assessment panel will evaluate each application against the requirements of the Department, the headings included within this section are listed below. The assessment panel may seek further clarification on any part of the application, including project costs.

Each question and section has been allocated a weighting to indicate its relative importance to the subject of this bidding round.

For Lot 1 - Applications must gain a score of 3 or higher for each question in order to be awarded funding, those scoring less than a 3 on any question will be disqualified from the process and will not be eligible for funding.

For Lot 2 - Applications must gain a score of 2 or higher for question 2.2 and must gain a score of 3 or higher for each question in sections 2.3 to 4.2 in order to be awarded funding. Those scoring less than a 2 on the first question and less than 3 on subsequent questions will be disqualified from the process and will not be eligible for funding.

The apportioned weightings for each of the sections are outlined below.

Lot 1

This bidding round is weighted: **Project Need 50%, Project Planning 30%, Project Cost 20%.**

Criteria	Question No.	Question weighting	Max Score Available	Max % score
Project Need	Q1	2	5	10
Project Need	Q2	2	5	10
Project Need	Q3	2	5	10
Project Need	Q4	2	5	10
Project Need (Social Value)	Q5	2	5	10
Project Need Max Total				50

Project Planning	Q1	1.5	5	7.5
Project Planning	Q2	1	5	5
Project Planning	Q3	1	5	5
Project Planning	Q4	1	5	5
Project Planning	Q5	1	5	5
Project Planning	Q6	0.5	5	2.5
Project Planning Max Total				30
Project Cost	Q1	2	5	10
Project Cost	Q2	1	5	5
Project Cost	Q3	1	5	5
Project Cost Max Total				20
Max Total				100

Responses to the questions set out within the criteria above will be evaluated on a scale of zero to five, as detailed below:

Table 3:

Assessment	Interpretation	Score
Outstanding	The response and evidence provided fully meets the information request and provides demonstrable added value.	5
Good	The response and evidence provided fully meets the information request.	4
Satisfactory	The response and/or evidence provided meets the information request but minor	3

	reservations exist about the quality, deliverability or extent of the evidence provided.	
Poor	The response and/or evidence provided shows that the information request is met but significant reservations exist about the quality, deliverability or extent of the evidence provided.	2
Unacceptable	Fails to demonstrate and/or provide evidence/sufficient information of an ability to meet a specific requirement.	1
Non-Compliant	Fails to provide the required information.	0

The score awarded for each question/section will be multiplied by the weighting to arrive at a weighted score for that question. The weighted scores will then be added together to give a total weighted score.

Any application that scores a 2 “Poor” or less on one or more of the questions will be rejected and their application will not be considered any further in the process.

Sample scoring table for Lot 1

Criteria	Requirement/Question	Score achieved		Weighting	Weighted Score (Score achieved X Weighting)
Project Need (50%)	Q1	2	2	4	
	Q2	4	2	8	
	Q3	3	2	6	
	Q4	4	2	8	
	Q5	3	2	6	
Project need Total (A)	-	16		-	32
Project Planning (30%)	Q1	3	1.5	4.5	
	Q2	4	1	4	
	Q3	4	1	4	
	Q4	3	1	3	
	Q5	3	1	3	
	Q6	3	0.5	1.5	
Project Planning Total (B)	-	20		-	20
Project Cost	Q1	4	2	8	
	Q2	4	1	4	

(20%)	Q3	3	1	3	
Project Cost Total (C)	-	11			15
Total Weighted Score (A + B + C = 32 + 20 + 15)				67	

Please note that the above application would have been rejected as on project need Q1 this scored 2 'Poor'. As stated above on page 14 it states that any application that scores a 2 'Poor' for less on one or more of the questions will be rejected and their application will not be considered any further in the process.

For Lot 2 applications

Partnership Planning (question 2.2) is **not weighted but scored against confidence ranking**.

It will be evaluated on a scale of 1 to 4, as detailed below:

Table 4:

Score	Description	Criteria
4	Excellent – Very High Confidence	The response is of an excellent quality and of a level of detail that provides a very high level of confidence that the LA has the capacity and capability in the areas described in the response against requirements of the question. The response to the question is highly detailed and extremely clear, with no perceived omissions and contains very significant detail relevant to the question and response requirements
3	Good – High Confidence	The response is of a quality and level of detail that provides a high level of confidence that the LA has the capacity and capability in the areas described in the response against the requirements of the question. The response contains detail relevant to the question and response requirements and responds to it clearly and unambiguously but contains limited (or no) material going over and above the extent of the response requirement. Good, relevant evidence is provided to support the response.

2	Satisfactory – reasonable confidence	<p>The response is of a quality and level of detail that provides a reasonable level of confidence that the LA has the capacity and capability in the areas described in the response requirements against the question.</p> <p>The response to the question is reasonably clear and detailed (with only minor omissions), demonstrating a good understanding of what is being asked for and that the LA demonstrates the potential to deliver the project in line with criteria to a satisfactory standard and / or the response may lack some clarity or detail as to how the proposed solutions will be delivered.</p> <p>Relevant evidence is provided to support the response and any lack of clarity and / or any missing evidence and / or detail is only minor.</p>
1	Poor – Not confident	<p>The response is of a quality and level that lacks convincing and/or relevant evidence to provide confidence in the capacity and capability of the LA in the areas described in the response requirements against the question, demonstrating some misunderstanding and/or failing to meet the response requirements against the question in many ways and/or materially in one or more ways.</p> <p>The response fails to address the key criteria set out in the question and the response fails to sufficiently demonstrate or give confidence that the LA would be able to deliver the project in line with requirements to a satisfactory standard and / or there are gaps in clarity in the response and / or detail as to how the proposed solution will be achieved.</p>

Any application that scores a 1 “Poor” on Q2.2 will be rejected and will not be considered any further in the process.

The sections 2.3 to 4.2 are weighted as: Project Need **50%**, Project Planning **30%**, Project Cost **20%**

Criteria	Question No.	Question weighting	Max Score Available	Max % score
Project Need	Q1	2	5	10
Project Need	Q2	2	5	10
Project Need	Q3	2	5	10
Project Need	Q4	2	5	10
Project Need (Social Value)	Q5	2	5	10
Project Need Max Total				50
Project Planning	Q1	1.5	5	7.5
Project Planning	Q2	1	5	5
Project Planning	Q3	1	5	5
Project Planning	Q4	1	5	5
Project Planning	Q5	1	5	5
Project Planning	Q6	0.5	5	2.5
Project Planning Max Total				30
Project Cost	Q1	2	5	10
Project Cost	Q2	1	5	5
Project Cost	Q3	1	5	5
Project Cost Max Total				20
Max Total				100

Responses to the questions set out within the criteria above will be evaluated on a scale of zero to five as per Table 3

Question 2.2 is confidence scored as below:

Criteria	Question No.	Max Score Available	Max % score
Partnership/Regional/consortium plan	Q1	4	100
Partnership/ Regional/ Consortium Plan Total			100

Sample scoring table for Lot 2 applications

Question 2.2

Criteria	Requirement/Question	Score achieved	% score (Score achieved / top score achievable x 100)
	Q1	3	75
Partnership/Regional/consortium plan Total			75

Question sections 2.3-4.2

Criteria	Requirement/Question	Score achieved		Weighting	Weighted Score (Score achieved X Weighting)
Project Need (50%)	Q1	2	2	4	
	Q2	4	2	8	
	Q3	3	2	6	
	Q4	4	2	8	

	Q5	3	2	6	
Project need Total (A)	-	16		-	32
Project Planning (30%)	Q1	3	1.5	4.5	
	Q2	4	1	4	
	Q3	4	1	4	
	Q4	3	1	3	
	Q5	3	1	3	
	Q6	3	0.5	1.5	
Project Planning Total (B)	-	20		-	20
Project Cost (20%)	Q1	4	2	8	
	Q2	4	1	4	
	Q3	3	1	3	
Project Cost Total (C)	-	11			15
Total Weighted Score (A + B + C = 32 + 20 + 15)				67	

Please note that the above application would have been rejected as on project need Q1 this scored 2 'Poor'. As stated above on page 14 any application that scores a 2 'Poor' or less on one or more of the questions will be rejected and their application will not be considered any further in the process

Stage 4 – Moderation

In order to make a final selection for successful applications, a moderation meeting(s) will be carried out. The individual scores of the assessors will be considered and reviewed and a consensus score will be agreed by the assessment panel and an independent moderator.

Following the moderation meeting(s), a recommendation will be made on the basis of the consensus agreed by the evaluation team.

If, upon final moderation we have a number of bids with equally high scores that amount to more than the funding available, we will be prioritising bids against the evidence of need criteria in order of 1) provision for complex needs; 2) where there are current shortfalls e.g. geographic areas; 3) innovative approaches.

Stage 5 – Grant Award

Grant determination letters will be drafted and issued for signature.

Lot 1 - Application requirements

8.1.1 Project Need

Applicants are asked to evidence how funding will significantly aid sufficiency issues for children who require residential care services in their area.

They will need to demonstrate how they meet one or more of the DfE programme objectives to:

- a. provide for children with more complex needs or children on remand;
- b. where there are current shortfalls (e.g. geographic areas with fewer children's homes, reducing the numbers of children placed out of their local authority area in residential care - where it is their best interests);
- c. test innovative approaches to reducing the number of children needing care over time (e.g. respite care / edge of care, or step down from residential to foster care).

Each bid will be considered individually, and scores determined by the evidence of need and impact.

To achieve a score of 3 or higher we expect the response to have clear written information, and evidence to demonstrate the requirements below:

1. Their local/regional children home/ commissioning market.
2. The needs of their local or regional children looked-after population and a detailed explanation as to why existing provision is insufficient to meet these needs.
3. The expected outcomes of their project, highlighting areas of innovation as appropriate.
4. How the project demonstrates value for money, sustainability, and quality conditions for the cohort of children.
5. What commitment the LA and/or partners can give to creating employment and training opportunities for those who face barriers to employment and/or who are located in deprived areas.

As noted above, in the case of projects that were already planned prior to the announcement of this funding, you will need to provide an outline of the current project, evidence of funding that has already been secured (our assumption is that this funding will continue) and an explanation of what would be different / additional if you were to secure DfE funding.

We encourage bids that plan to open placements by end March 2025 but understand this may not be possible in all cases. Bids will not be prioritised by completion end date. While we would expect any building/capital work to have completed by end March 2025 we are aware registration of staff etc may delay placements being open. Bids should clearly set out they completion deadlines for a) capital work and b) provisional opening for placements. DfE will expect to hold a monitoring remit of the project to continue up until placements begin alongside the required longer-term evaluation of the objectives of the project.

8.1.2 Project Planning

Each bid must demonstrate robust project management and regular accurate reporting schedules. This will be essential throughout the entire grant agreement to monitor delivery, manage risks and issues, and to fulfil governance reporting requirements to build and give confidence that the capital project will be completed within the specified time and to the required level of quality.

To achieve a score of 3 or higher we expect the response to set out in the application form:

1. Capital programme evidence
 - What assurances/feasibility planning has been undertaken to assure projects.
 - A plan for site/building acquisition taking on board current market conditions, a view on whether this requires a planning application.
 - RIBA stage 2 design or, if this is not available, detailed plans of your expectations/requirements for properties, including a high-level planning risk assessment for the types of properties you intend to purchase.
2. A project plan outlining critical dates. Key milestones and activities to be undertaken to achieve this, the resource required to do so, and how the project team will work with others to achieve this.
 - a. This should include staffing and recruitment/ Ofsted registration alongside the intended capital programme.
3. The project management and reporting arrangements the LA will put in place and how often/when these will be updated/reviewed.
4. Details of the day-to-day operational management of the project are of a high quality, conducted professionally against agreed ways of working including how the LA will provide a comprehensive view of actual progress of delivery against the plan, with supporting evidence as necessary.
5. A risk register defining specific risks or issues in delivering the proposal and describing the contingencies that would be put in place to mitigate them. This should include both construction/capital, staffing recruitment/training and Ofsted registration. (An example risk register can be found at Annex A)

6. Examples of key performance indicators (KPIs) which show how progress and success will be measured. This should include both construction/capital, staffing recruitment/training and Ofsted registration.

8.1.3 Project Cost and Value for Money

The bid should clearly present a total fixed cost, these should include any local/national risk of price increases and local economic conditions. We would expect to see a contingency line of 10% as part of this risk mitigation and details should be covered in the risk register.

This should include an explanation of how the project costs and profile have been calculated, and proviso/in principle agreements across all parties/consortia to match-fund at least 50% of the capital costs.

Any cost overruns will be at the expense of the local authority/provider, this agreement is a bidding condition.

Applications should:

1. Clearly present a total fixed cost, taking into account any proposed risk of price increases and local economic conditions.
 - This should include an explanation of how the project costs and profile have been calculated.
2. It will need clear agreement across all parties/consortia members to match-fund at least 50% of the capital costs.
3. Show clear value for money against the requirements set, showing rationale and clearly evidenced costs calculations.

To note – If at the point of submitting your bid you are aware of the supplier who will be undertaking the project work, please provide details of the supplier organisation in section 4.4 of the application form.

If you have yet to select a supplier and your bid is successful, we require you to inform the Department of the supplier(s) when known.

The Department will undertake light-touch due diligence checks on the aforementioned supplier(s) at the point of grant award, however it is expected that the LA/ organisation will undertake full due diligence checks (including financial stability, fraud, criminal conviction checks, conflicts of interest) on any supplier contracted to undertake the works.

Lot 2 - Application requirements

8.1.4 Project Need

Applicants are asked to evidence how funding will significantly aid sufficiency issues for children who require residential care services in their area.

They will need to demonstrate how they meet one or more of the DfE programme objectives to:

- d. provision for children with more complex needs or children on remand
- e. where there are current shortfalls (e.g. geographic areas with fewer children's homes, reducing the numbers of children placed out of their local authority area in residential care - where it is their best interests)
- f. test innovative approaches to reducing the number of children needing care over time (e.g. respite care / edge of care, or step down from residential to foster care)

Section 2.2 - Partnership/Consortium planning.

We wish to encourage projects which work in partnership with other local agencies, across authorities, regions, or consortiums to ensure the best and most appropriate care for children.

The first scored question in the application asks for your current plans and your confidence in a partnership approach for this project. You will need to set out:

- What your plans for consortia or partnership working in your area with different LAs or service providers (i.e. health or private etc) as part of this project - your answer should include current as well as long term aspirations for governance structures/decisions making processes. This question will be scored by the criteria set out in Table 4.

Section 2.3 Project Need

The following questions will use the criteria as set in Table 3.

To achieve a score of 3 or higher we expect the response to have clear written information, and evidence to demonstrate how the LA will meet the DfEs strategic objectives by setting out:

1. current local/regional commissioning/placements arrangements/market for residential care with data/evidence of the local or regional children needing residential care population and an explanation why existing provision is insufficient to meet these needs
2. areas of innovation/complex care provision/geographical need as applicable
3. evidence of how this will improve outcomes for children in your care

4. how you will ensure this project will be sustainable in future including data around future trends
5. demonstrate how you and your partners will commit to creating employments and training opportunities for those who face barriers to employment and/or who are located in deprived areas

As noted above, in the case of projects that were already planned prior to the announcement of this funding, you will need to provide an outline of the current project, evidence of funding that has already been secured (our assumption is that this funding will continue) and an explanation of what would be different / additional if you were to secure DfE funding.

We encourage bids that plan to open placements by end March 2025 but understand this may not be possible in all cases. Bids will not be prioritised by completion end date. While we would expect any building/capital work to have completed by end March 2025 we are aware registration of staff etc may delay placements being open. Bids should clearly set out they completion deadlines for a) capital work and b) provisional opening for placements. DfE will expect to hold a monitoring remit of the project to continue up until placements begin alongside the required longer-term evaluation of the objectives of the project.

8.1.5 Project Planning

This section will use Table 3 to score between 1-5

Each bid must demonstrate robust project management and regular accurate reporting schedules. This will be essential throughout the entire grant agreement to monitor delivery, manage risks and issues, and to fulfil governance reporting requirements to build and give confidence that the capital project will be completed within the specified time and to the required level of quality.

To achieve a score of 3 or higher we expect the response to set out in the application form:

1. A clear project plan demonstrating key development of preparation/set up period (such as Consortium creation - through to RIBA stages and/or other)
2. A project plan demonstrating how the key project milestones will be met and how they will lead to full project completion in March 2025. The project management and reporting arrangements the LA will put in place and how often/when these will be updated/reviewed.
 - This should include staffing and recruitment/ Ofsted registration alongside the intended capital programme

3. The project management and reporting arrangements it will put in place and how often/when these will be updated/reviewed including how you will provide a comprehensive view of actual progress of delivery against the plan with supporting evidence as necessary
4. How you will ensure that day-to-day operational management of the project are of a high quality, conducted professionally against agreed ways of working
5. A risk register defining specific risks or issues in delivering the proposal and describing the contingencies that would be put in place to mitigate them.
6. Examples of key performance indicators (KPIs) which show how progress and success will be measured. This should include the planning stage, the construction stage, the staff recruitment/training stage, and Ofsted registration.

8.1.6 Project Cost and Value for Money

The bid should clearly present a total fixed cost, these should include any local/national risk of price increases and local economic conditions. We would expect to see a contingency line of 10% as part of this risk mitigation.

This should include an explanation of how the project costs and profile have been calculated, and proviso/in principle agreements across all parties/consortia to match-fund at least 50% of the capital costs.

Any cost overruns will be at the expense of the local authority/provider, this agreement is a bidding condition.

Applications expectations:

1. The bid should clearly present a total fixed cost for the preparation period.
2. The bid should contain estimated final costs of the project, to include projected construction costs. Cost plans should also be realistic about the level of professional fees, allowances and contingency budgets (include project management and professional time, admin costs, and travel and subsistence). This should include:
 - a. Cost plan (breakdown of costs) appropriate to the size and scale of the project including contingency budget for over runs/unforeseen circumstances.
 - b. An outline of what profile payment schedule may look like against milestones/critical tasks
 - c. details of planned procurement route
 - d. details or evidence of any savings being made.
3. Show clear value for money against the requirements set, showing rationale and clearly evidenced costs calculations.

All bids will need to demonstrate clear agreement and commitment across all parties/consortia members to match-fund at least 50% of the capital costs.

To note – If at the point of submitting your bid you are aware of the supplier who will be undertaking the project work, please provide details of the supplier organisation in section 4.4 of the application form.

If you have yet to select a supplier and your bid is successful, we require you to inform the Department of the supplier(s) when known.

The Department will undertake light-touch due diligence checks on the aforementioned supplier(s) at the point of grant award, however it is expected that the LA/ organisation will undertake full due diligence checks (including financial stability, fraud, criminal conviction checks, conflicts of interest) on any supplier contracted to undertake the works.

9. Procurement

Applicants may choose their own procurement route to secure best value for money.

There is no obligation to complete a tender exercise before submitting a bid, but you should set out your planned procurement route and demonstrate how you plan to achieve value for money.

10. Carbon Reduction Agenda

We will expect to see projects (where applicable) have engaged with the Government's sustainability and carbon reduction agenda and aim to achieve net zero carbon emissions where possible. We do not expect to see details plans at bidding stage and will not score this as part of the application, but you should consider as part of your plan:

- a. Formal carbon reduction plans and environmental accreditation standards that you have achieved.
- b. An explanation of how the project supports carbon reduction and/ or maintaining environmental accreditation standards.

11. VAT

It is applicant's responsibility to seek advice whether VAT is recoverable. Where recoverable by the applicant, VAT should be excluded from the application. If unable to claim back VAT, they should include VAT on the application and provide the supporting evidence.

12. Exit Planning

We expect the bid to set out how, at a high level, the LA/Consortia will complete any additional tasks required to complete project post March 2025 – including updating DfE with completion notifications.

We would expect to see commitment to continue to operate the new provision for a minimum of 3 years from when placements begin. In situations where the provision is deemed no longer required, consultation with DfE will be required to discuss how DfE funding will be reinvested into the local children services.

13. Application submission

Local authorities who wish to submit a bid to the Department should send their completed application to och.capital@education.gov.uk by **11:59pm on 09th September 2022**

No extensions to the deadline will be given.

Once you have submitted a bid to the Department you will receive confirmation of this within 1 working day, if you do not receive this then please contact the Department at och.capital@education.gov.uk to confirm this has been received successfully.

We aim to send outcome letters to those who have applied in early October 2022.

14. Clarification Questions

Any queries or questions regarding the application process should be emailed to och.capital@education.gov.uk .

The deadline for questions to be submitted on 01st September - 6 working days before the closing date: this will be **11.59pm on 09th September 2022**

Queries and responses will be shared with all potential bidders where applicable unless deemed commercially sensitive (the sender's identity/and any other identifying data will be anonymised).

Annex A



Grant Offer Letter Copy of Risk Register
Template - OCH.docx Template.xlsm



Department
for Education

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Report to:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date:	26 October 2022
Executive Member:	Councillor Jacqueline North, First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation)
Reporting Officer:	Julian Jackson, Director of Place
Subject:	ELECTRICITY AND ANCILLARY SERVICES - CONTRACT RENEWAL
Report Summary:	<p>The electricity contract is due for renewal on 1 April 2023. Tameside Council currently utilises Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation framework for electricity supplies. A new arrangement is required after 31 March 2023.</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to seek a delegated approval to the Corporate Director of Place and Director of Finance in consultation with Executive Member for Environmental Services and Executive Member for Finance and Governance to enter into new utility contracts for electricity from April 2023.</p>
Recommendations:	<p>The Executive Cabinet is recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) To approve the procurement of an electricity provider, with the aim to minimise energy rate increases from 1 April 2023; and(ii) delegate authority to the Director of Place and Director of Finance in consultation with First Deputy and the Executive Member for Climate Emergency & Environmental Services to enter into contract for electricity from April 2023 subject to the due diligence on the options available to the Council, including the consideration of the green energy tariff charges.(iii) Note that the current arrangements under the gas contract with Crown Commercial Services means we must provide notice in the September of each year if we are to leave the following April therefore we are to remain on this framework for gas for 2023/24 so this is not included in this report and a review of these arrangements will be undertaken separate review during April to June of 2023 to ensure any revised contract arrangements are in place from 1 April 2024 to ensure that the Council achieves vfm at the end of the existing arrangements.
Corporate Plan:	All streams of the Corporate Plan are supported as this decision will secure the best allocation of valuable funds – ensuring as best as is reasonably practicable, that Council budgets are not pressured elsewhere in the organisation.
Policy Implications:	There are no policy implications
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer)	The report sets out details of the Council's current contract arrangements for the supply of electricity and gas and the existing contract expiry dates. The existing contract arrangements for the supply of gas with Crown Commercial Services will continue for the 2023/24 financial year due to the expiry of the contract

termination notice period. This contract will be subject to a separate review during April to June of 2023 to ensure any revised contract arrangements are in place from 1 April 2024.

However, contract arrangements for the supply of electricity from 1 April 2023 need to be determined. At present there is further due diligence required on the options available to the Council prior to the award of a new contract from this date. It is essential that the Council is able to evidence that it will be ensuring value for money is realised during these unprecedented economic conditions that the energy market is exposed to.

Table 1 (section 1.2) summarises the current gas and electricity forecast adverse variance on the Council's budget in 2022/23 (£3,232,000) due to the significant contract price increases from 1 April 2022 and also estimated increases in levels of consumption across the Council estate. It is also envisaged that the cost of both utility supplies will continue to increase significantly from 1 April 2023. However, the actual level of future price increases is not currently known.

The Council will need to implement urgent consumption reduction measures to minimise the impact of the current and forecast future year cost increases. These measures will be subject to separate Member decisions. The financial implications of the proposed new electricity contract arrangements will be included in the subsequent decision report as stated in the recommendations.

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

The expiry of the council's current contract comes at a time of unprecedented prices rises and volatility in the energy market and requires the council to be especially determined to obtain the best rates possible for the energy supply whilst also ensuring consistent delivery.

The due diligence being undertaken by STaR will be critical to this procurement exercise. It is important that a full scoping exercise is undertaken of the whole market in order that a safe and informed decision as possible (under current market conditions) can be made by the council.

Currently the due diligence work is on going with STaR and officers in order that an informed decision in relation to both price and delivery can ultimately be made. That due diligence will be detailed in the future report to enter into a contract.

Risk Management:

There are risks associated with not making a swift and expedient decision about the electricity contract renewal. eEnergy and Npower have advised that they need to know as 'soon as possible' whether we are to utilise their frameworks and ideally by the end of October. This is so they can start buying energy when they deem fit in advance of commencing the contract at the start of April to secure prices when they see dips in the market.

Background Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Lindsay Johnson, Head of Asset Strategy,



Telephone: 07976974702



e-mail: Lindsay.Johnson@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Energy prices have increased significantly over the last year, by approximately 100% from the previous year (2021/22) under existing contractual arrangements. The energy market has become extremely volatile due to a number of global political and economic forces – including supply chain disruption following the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.
- 1.1 The Council’s electricity and gas consumption represents a significant but necessary cost to the Council. The volume of energy procured on behalf of Tameside is significant and in the current financial year costs are forecast to double when compared to 2021/22. Under current arrangements, energy is purchased in advance, which sets the prices we receive from Npower from April of each year. Table 1 provides a summary of the forecast significant additional cost on the Council budget in 2022/23. Table 1 includes details for Council premises and street lighting. Schools and a small number of Active Tameside sites are excluded from the summary. However it should be noted that their energy consumption is included on the Council contract but is not financed by the Council’s revenue budget. Cost increase predictions for subsequent years are not known at present but it is envisaged that they will continue to significantly increase.

Table 1

	22/23 Council Budget	22/23 Outturn Forecast	Forecast Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Electricity	2,245	4,916	(2,671)
Gas	386	947	(561)
Total	2,631	5,863	(3,232)

- 1.2 The current arrangements under the gas contract with Crown Commercial Services means we must provide notice in the September of each year if we are to leave the following April. Therefore the Council will remain on this framework for the 2023/24 financial year and the re-procurement of gas is not included in this report. A review of these arrangements is to be undertaken in the future to ensure they are still suitable. At this stage, Crown Commercial Services are unable to advise what the estimated price increase will be from 1 April 2023.
- 1.3 However, the Council needs to consider options for the supply of electricity from 1 April 2023.
- 1.4 The Council’s electricity contract is due to terminate on 31 March 2023 and therefore needs to consider options for the period from 1 April 2023. Under current arrangements, the Council procures electricity via the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation framework with Npower as our provider. Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation procure energy in advance of requirements, in order to mitigate the risk of price spikes.
- 1.5 Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation have procured a new electricity supply contract, which is to commence on the 1 April 2023 and run until the 31 March 2027 (with two additional two-year extension options to extend for a further 4 years to 2031). As wholesale electricity prices are currently at the highest ever entering into a longer-term contractual arrangement, will allow for Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation to operate enhanced trading strategies that reflect the changing world economic climate. Npower will continue to supply electricity under this arrangement.
- 1.6 Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation have been asked for their price prediction for electricity from 1 April 23 but at the time of writing, they are not able to provide that information. They advised that it will depend on the trading position, i.e. their closed volume position, market price and the eventual number of customers who return signed contracts to enter into the

new framework but have suggested it could be a further 100% increase based on current electricity rates. Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation have confirmed that they have authority to trade one third of the forecast volume without having customer contracts in place for 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. All existing customers will benefit from this as the volumes, in place will be available across the whole electricity basket.

- 1.7 Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation have advised that the purchase of 100% renewable energy is again available under the new framework, however the tariffs will cost more than brown energy tariffs (brown tariffs do still have a percentage of green energy built into them as more of the grid decarbonises each year).
- 1.8 The Pan Government Energy Project's recommended approach is to use a Public Sector Buying Organisation to purchase electricity. A Public Sector Buying Organisation (or Central Purchasing Body in EU terminology) is defined as 'a contracting authority which provides centralised purchasing activities, and which may also provide ancillary purchasing activities'. PBOs often set up and operate framework agreements which are accessible to contracting authorities such as the council. Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation and Crown Commercial Services are both examples of Public Sector Buying Organisation's with frameworks in place for the supply of electricity and gas. The use of Public Sector Buying Organisation's presents a safe, tried and tested procurement option.
- 1.9 It is essential that we strategically position ourselves in readiness for our current electricity contract ending. As most contracts take advantage of procuring energy in advance, it is imperative that the Council is in a position to enter into an agreement with a new provider well in advance of the 31 March 2023 end date. The sooner the Council is able to enter into a new agreement, the larger the procurement window for purchasing energy. The nearer to 1 April 2023 we sign a new contract, the greater risk of entering a new contract at higher rates. Whatever re-procurement route is chosen it is likely costs will remain high given the current market conditions.
- 1.10 STaR have recommended an alternative approach to re-procurement using an organisation called eEnergy. STaR are recommending a collaborative route to re-procurement under this option with the other STaR authorities - Stockport, Trafford and Rochdale. Procurement under this route is via a dynamic purchasing system operated by Gwynedd Council with eEnergy an intermediary and energy risk management expert who brokers the energy for its customers. eEnergy is not a private owned business, it is a public limited company, which requires them to be 100% transparent in their operations and finances.
- 1.11 Under this option, a reverse auction is carried out across 17 registered suppliers that is focused on ensuring supplier costs are competitively priced at the time of the auction. What is not known is how many suppliers are likely to bid in for the contract given the current market conditions. Npower (one of the big 6) have already advised that they are not taking on any new customers so are unlikely to bid under this arrangement. A recent procurement exercise undertaken by Stockport Council using the e-Energy framework saw only a few suppliers out of the 17 bid in.
- 1.12 eEnergy offer a fully flex procurement strategy utilising energy specialists as an alternative way to purchase energy that allows organisations to take advantage of the ups and downs of the wholesale market. It involves ongoing tracking of the wholesale market and purchasing smaller chunks of energy throughout the length of a contract. The aim is to buy during price dips and avoid purchasing during price spikes or when adverse market events are shorter term. A benefit of this approach could be that any high costs in energy are not locked in for a full year if the prices were to drop when market conditions settle, however rates can go up as well as down so this is also a possibility.
- 1.13 eEnergy will facilitate a workshop with senior managers from participating councils to understand, develop and agree on a risk strategy to purchasing energy. eEnergy will create

a flexible strategy that is tailored to the councils. They can offer fully fixed and flexible options with a price cap if the energy market hits a certain level. Contracts can be fixed at any point during the contract. Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation / ESPO / Crown Commercial Services do not conduct a risk workshop and if entering a flexible contract, their strategy is pre-set.

- 1.14 STaR have provided a briefing note (Appendix 1) of the proposed option which states that under normal market conditions multiple frameworks are engaged to provide prices around six to nine months, prior to finalising prices closer to the contract end date (March 2023). Unfortunately, over the last three months this has not been possible due to the severe market conditions. STaR have requested a decision on the Council's preferred route by the end of October 2022. It is unknown at this point whether the date is flexible beyond this date.

2. CONCLUSION

- 2.1 At the time of writing this report STaR have not provided the necessary options report that forms the required due diligence to proceed with the eEnergy option. A late report has since been provided by STaR and is attached as (**Appendix 2**). eEnergy is not an organisation we have previously entered into an agreement with, so there are potential unknowns with this option.
- 2.2 Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation appears to present a reliable (tried and tested) procurement option, in the current turbulent energy market, but do not appear to offer the same procurement options of the fully fixed and flexible approaches and a risk strategy that is individually designed following a risk workshop.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 As stated on the report cover

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BRIEFING NOTE

Procurement Briefing Note for Re-Procurement of 2023 Utilities Contracts (Gas & Electricity)

Report prepared by: Paul Atherton

For: Rochdale/Stockport/Tameside/Trafford Councils

1. Current Situation and Outline of Proposed Requirement

This briefing note is to outline eEnergy as the proposed route to market for the collaborative 2023 re-procurement of the following Utilities contracts:

- Rochdale Council = Streetlighting, Non Half-Hourly (NHH), Half Hourly (HH) and Gas
- Tameside Council = Streetlighting, NHH, HH and Gas
- Trafford Council = Streetlighting, NHH, HH and Gas
- Stockport Council = Streetlighting and HH

The above contracts are all aligned, with an expiry date of 31/03/2023.

STAR has identified eEnergy as the proposed route to market to deliver the re-procurement on the above contracts.

2. Identification of Options

Option Number	Description of Option
1	eEnergy Dynamic Purchasing System
2	Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO) East Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) Crown Commercial Services (CCS)

3. Reasons for Proposal of eEnergy:

Seventeen pre-approved suppliers form part of the eEnergy dynamic purchasing system to ensure a competitive process is facilitated, undertaken through a live reverse auction.

YPO/ESPO/CCS are single supplier frameworks therefore a further competition process cannot be undertaken.

YPO have this week announced that the sole supplier Npower are no longer providing prices for new business, until further notice. Seventeen suppliers on the eEnergy framework reduces the risk of not receiving any quotes.

eEnergy will facilitate a workshop with all participating councils to understand, develop and agree on a risk strategy. eEnergy will create a flexible strategy that is tailored to the councils. They can offer fully fixed and flexible options with a price cap if the energy market hits a certain level. Contracts can be fixed at any point during the contract.

YPO/ESPO/CCS do not conduct a risk workshop and if entering a flexible contract, their strategy is pre-set and fixed.

Energy volume management will be conducted by eEnergy via reforecasting and will protect the councils against volume fluctuations throughout the contract. This will be critical in the future as councils (including schools and leisure facilities) may need to take extreme actions to reduce consumption. The councils also have ambitious decarbonisation plans (net zero carbon 2038).

There is full access to eEnergy dedicated online portal for immediate access to data, performance, and market reports.

eEnergy provide data risk management which creates a meter level asset database to keep all meters on contracts, and remove any disposed sites/meters in a timely fashion to ensure each council only pays for what they use.

eEnergy provide a fully managed service that covers;

- Maintaining records of all energy suppliers, MPANs/MPRs and energy contracts
- Bill validation and dispute resolution with monthly reporting to manage debt
- Assigned a highly experience and fully dedicated Account Director who is supported by a team of consultants and analysts. The Account Director will be the designated point of contact

- Host periodic calls/meetings to review performance of the strategy. New meter connections and disconnections
- For any meter addition or removal requests, eEnergy will follow the change of tenancy (COT) procedure with the energy supplier
- Ensuring terminations are issued for both group contracts and all meter additions
- Current reports to be included (see below table)

Report	Description	Included / Excluded
Wholesale energy market monthly reports	Wholesale energy market reports, market intelligence and ad-hoc compliance updates.	Included
Annual consumption and emissions report	Report the office/commercial buildings utilities usage and carbon emissions annually.	Included
Budget Cost Report (Annual)	Creating the meter-level cost forecast for each calendar month for all meters in Appendix A and months included in the duration of this agreement	Included
Bill validation	Follow up incorrect bills with the supplier and claiming back credits where appropriate.	Included
Periodic maximum demand versus ASC reports	Comparing actual electricity usage versus agreed supply capacity (between the client and the distribution network operator)	Included

4. Extreme Market Condition

Under normal market conditions multiple frameworks are engaged to provide prices around six to nine months, prior to finalising prices closer to the contract end date (March 2023). Unfortunately, over the last three months this has not been possible due to the severe market conditions.

eEnergy have actively engaged with STAR and the councils to provide expert advice and support through this period, free of charge.

5. Next steps

- Seek cabinet approval to go out to procure and request delegated authority to a senior officer of the council, to enter into a contract
- All councils to agree to use eEnergy as a route to market
- Run a risk workshop with eEnergy to develop and agree a strategy
- Sign a consultancy agreement, this is currently with STAR legal
- Sign a call off agreement
- Run a reverse auction

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OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Procurement Options Appraisal for Electricity supply for Non Half-Hourly (NHH), Half-Hourly (HH) and Street Lighting

Report prepared by: Paul Atherton

For: Tameside Council

1. Current Situation and Outline of Proposed Requirement

This options appraisal is to outline potential routes to market for Tameside Council; and to join the STAR collaborative procurement exercise 2023.

- Streetlighting, NHH and HH

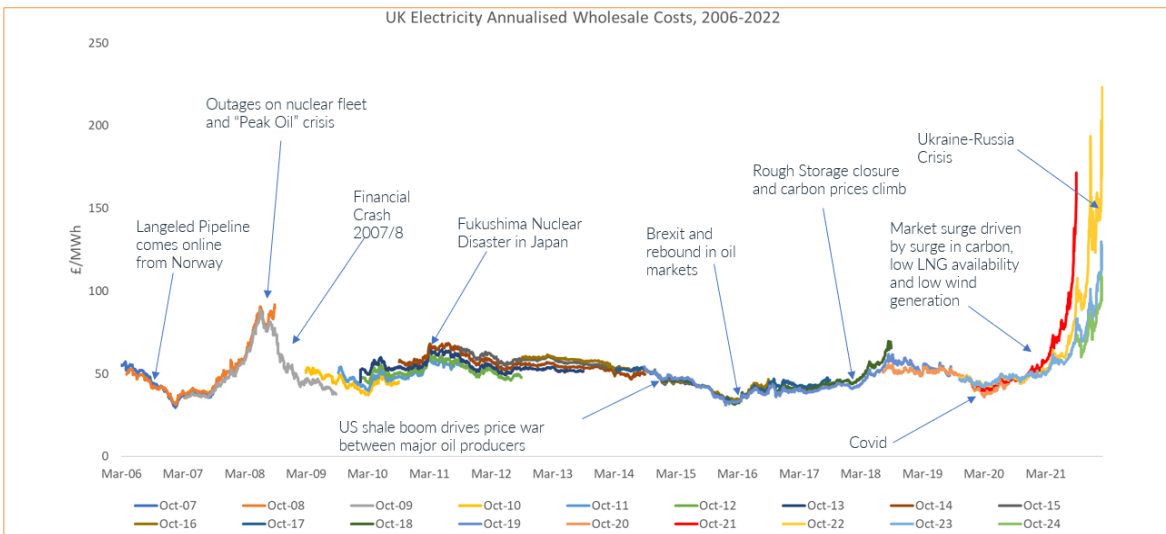
Following an audit recommendation, STAR has aligned the above contracts for Tameside with the other STAR authorities, with a collective expiry date of 31/03/2022.

STAR has identified eEnergy as the proposed route to market to deliver the collaborative 2023 re-procurement. STAR has developed this options appraisal to highlight advantages and disadvantages to each option.

2. Current Position of the Energy Market

Since early 2021, the UK wholesale energy market has experienced the highest price surges in history. Over the last 16 years, a typical Megawatt Hour (the unit in which electricity is traded in) will fluctuate from £35 on a good day, to £65 on a bad day. Since the start of the energy crisis in 2021, prices have increased to a peak of £782 p/MWh and have fluctuated on average between £200-500 p/MWh over the course of 2022. This has led to many hundreds of % increases in the cost of electricity and gas.

The below chart documents wholesale energy market prices since March 2006 and shows the significant difference in price between the average price and the spike in early 2021.



The re-opening of the global economy post-Covid is the first catalyst for this. Gas demands are very high, and supply is slow to keep up. There are wide-ranging reasons for this, but the main reasons are:

- A colder Spring in Asia resulted in the re-direction of gas (LNG) to those markets
- Lower flows of Russian gas and the delays in new pipeline commissioning
- Continued low levels of gas storage during the 2021 summer/autumn across Europe
- Carbon prices reached an all-time high in Q3 2021
- An interconnector fire which caused the loss of 1,000MW of capacity

Therefore, even before the Ukraine War, the world was already in an energy crisis.

In March 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine. This pushed wholesale market prices back up, as can be seen in the chart below. At the start of the war, gas flows from Russia were still running as usual. However, the initial March spike in the chart below is seen as sentiment-driven due to fears over the uncertainty of gas supply meeting demand.



In late August, Russia announced that it has suspended the Nord Stream 1 gas flows for unplanned maintenance. This is the major pipeline connecting Russia to Western Europe. This was initially scheduled for three days starting September 1st, however, Russia have since announced that there is an indefinite suspension. This has resulted in another significant price spike in early September which can be seen in the chart above.

Across the last six-month period the energy market has been very difficult with most suppliers not providing prices for new business. This has affected STARs ability to carry out an in depth analysis of different options. Prices are highly volatile and therefore there is no future indication of prices, hence not being able to provide accurate price comparisons of framework

Whilst the options appraisal provides dis-advantage and advantages of different frameworks, in reality the only options available to Tameside currently are; to continue with the incumbent providers CCS-Total Gas and Energy, and YPO – Npower; or to use the eEnergy framework.

There are still risks with any option as recently Stockport Council were unable to obtain twelve months prices from their incumbent provide YPO – Npower. Fortunately, they successfully receive multiple bids via the eEnergy framework and now have a contract in place. The size one business from four councils is much more likely to attract bids from energy provider, one of the reasons for collaborating.

3. Identification of Options

Option Number	Description of Option	Process/Suppliers
1	Framework Agreement - Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO)	Direct Award/1 Supplier (Npower)
2	Framework Agreement - Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO)	Direct Award/1 Supplier (Total Gas & Power)
3	Framework Agreement - Crown Commercial Services (CCS)	Direct Award/1 Supplier (EDF Energy Limited)
4	Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) - eEnergy	Reverse Auction/17 Suppliers (AvantiGas, British Gas, Bryt Energy, Corona Energy, Drax, Ecotricity, EDF Energy, E.ON Energy, SEFE, Good Energy, nPower, Opus Energy, Scottish Power, Shell Energy, Smartest Energy, SSE, Total Gas & Power)

4. Assessment (including Risk)

Option Title	Advantages	Disadvantages
1 - YPO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fixed and flexible contract procurement capability. - Pre-Agreed Terms and Conditions. - No change of supplier. - Direct history excellent customer service. - Pre-determined risk strategy - Rebate scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single supplier framework, therefore a further competition process cannot take place. - Risk of single supplier not providing prices for new business. - Do not conduct a risk workshop and if entering a flexible contract, their strategy of flex baskets is to be adhered too (12-month fixed prices). - No dedicated online portal. - No ability to apply a price cap. - No flexibility to fix flexible contracts at any point. - Inefficiency in procurement activity, running separate procurement exercises
2 - ESPO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fixed and flexible contract procurement capability. - Pre-Agreed Terms and Conditions. - Set pre-determined risk strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single supplier framework, therefore a further competition process cannot take place.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk of single supplier not providing prices for new business. - Do not conduct a risk workshop and if entering a flexible contract, their strategy of flex baskets is to be adhered too (12-month fixed prices). - No ability to apply a price cap. - No flexibility to fixed flexible contracts at any point. - Inefficiency in procurement activity, running separate procurement exercises
3 - CCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fixed and flexible contract procurement capability. - Pre-Agreed Terms and Conditions. - Set pre-determined risk strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single supplier framework, therefore a further competition process cannot take place. - Risk of single supplier not providing prices for new business. - Do not conduct a risk workshop and if entering a flexible contract, their strategy of flex baskets is to be adhered too (12-month fixed prices). - No ability to apply a price cap. - No flexibility to fixed flexible contracts at any point. - Inefficiency in procurement activity, running separate procurement exercises
4 – eEnergy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 17 approved suppliers are on the DPS to ensure maximum competitiveness through a PCR-15 compliant tender. This is done through a live reverse auction and provides current benchmarking to ensure value for money. - Procurement efficiencies in running one exercise for all STAR councils - Ability to apply a price cap if the energy market hits a certain level. - Fixed and flexible contract procurement capability. - Risk workshop will be held with all participating councils to understand, develop and agree on a strategy. - Creation of flexible hedging strategies that is tailored specifically to the councils. - Energy volume management will be conducted by eEnergy via volume reforecasting and will protect the councils against volume fluctuations throughout the contract. This is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tender period for the reverse auction. - Does not allow for a direct award. - Possibility of requiring to change supplier, implementation process required - Not directly contracted with eEnergy previously - Requires additional resource initially to decide on risk strategy / profile

critical over the first 12 months of the new contracts as councils (including schools and leisure facilities) may have to take extreme actions to reduce consumption, alongside with the councils decarbonisation projects (net zero carbon 2038).

- Contracts can be fixed at any point.
- Full access to eEnergy dedicated online portal for immediate access to your own data plus performance and market numerous reports.
- Data Risk Management which creates a meter level asset database to keep all meters on contracts, and remove any disposed sites/meters in a timely fashion to ensure each council only pays for what they use.
- Pre-Agreed Terms and Conditions.
- eEnergy provide a fully managed service that covers;
 - o Maintaining records of all energy suppliers, MPANs/MPRs and energy contracts.
 - o Bill validation and dispute resolution with monthly reporting to manage debt.
 - o Assigned a highly experience and fully dedicated Account Director who is supported by a team of consultants and analysts. The Account Director will be the designated point of contact.
 - o Hosting periodic calls/review meeting to review performance of the hedging strategy
 - o New meter connections and disconnections
 - o For any meter addition or meter removal request, eEnergy will follow the change of tenancy (COT) procedure up with the energy supplier
 - o Ensuring terminations are issued for both group contracts and all meter additions
 - o Current reports to be included (see below table).

Report	Description	Included / Excluded
Wholesale energy market monthly reports	Wholesale energy market reports, market intelligence and ad-hoc compliance updates.	Included
Annual consumption and emissions report	Report the office/commercial buildings utilities usage and carbon emissions annually.	Included
Budget Cost Report (Annual)	Creating the meter-level cost forecast for each calendar month for all meters in Appendix A and months included in the scope of this agreement	Included
Bill validation	Follow up incorrect bills with the supplier and claiming back credits where appropriate.	Included
Periodic maximum demand versus ASC reports	Comparing actual electricity usage versus agreed supply capacity (between the client and the distribution network operator)	Included

Procurement C
Lighting

Half-Hourly (NHH), Half-Hourly (HH) and Street

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5. Fee Structures and Services

None of the frameworks charge the councils directly for services, however the suppliers are charged for being part of the framework agreement. The fees funds the frameworks costs and the charging structures are different for each option

- YPO - 0.12p per KW/h of usage
- eEnergy – 0.75% of the contract value
- ESPO – Charges per meter (HH - £149.65 per annum and NHH - £40.15 per annum)
- CCS – Unknown – have not responded to communication

Annual charges per framework are shown below. There is the assumption that the cost of the framework will be included in the price of the tendered contract prices.

Tameside		
Framework	Electricity	Gas
YPO	£20,452.41	£23,983.61
ESPO	£13,917.45	NA
eEnergy	£57,225.00	£20,325.00
CCS	Unknown	Unknown

YPO have a rebate scheme which is around approximately 0.01% each year, equating to £2500 per annum if both electricity and gas contracts were awarded via YPO.

To compared YPO and eEnergy directly the eEnergy framework charges suppliers an additional £33,114.

eEnergy are providing a higher level of service outlined below

- Bespoke flexible hedging strategy managed by a risk and trading team
- Complete portfolio management including meter additions and removals, change of tenancies, supplier relationship management and general day to day management.
- Bill validation including
 - o Every meter will be on the automated bill validation system
 - o Access to the Head of Bureau, added layer of support
 - o Dedicated bill validation platform via an online portal, and
 - o Follow up incorrect bills with suppliers and claim back credits
- Bureau management, each council will receive market condition reports and intelligence, with expert advice and support for future contract renewals
- eEnergy are a market leading sustainable partner with a huge commitment to achieving net zero designed to help councils reduce consumption

6. Recommendation

STAR recommends that option 4 (eEnergy) offers best value for Tameside Council and collaborate with the other STAR authorities in the 2023 re-procurement exercise.

Reasons for Selection of Preferred Option:

The reasons for selection of Option 4 are:

- Reverse auction which demonstrates a competitive process
- Ability to apply a price cap
- Access to a dedicated online portal
- Review calls/meetings as often as necessary to review the hedging strategy
- Creation of flexible hedging strategies that is tailored specifically to the councils.
- Energy volume management which is key towards working with the councils volume reduction strategy.
- Assigned a highly experience and fully dedicated Account Director who is supported by a team of consultants and analysts.

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Report to:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date:	26 October 2022
Executive Member:	Councillor Vimal Choksi – Executive Member (Towns and Communities)
Reporting Officer:	Julian Jackson, Director of Place
Subject:	ASHTON PUBLIC REALM - ASHTON MARKET SQUARE AND OUTDOOR MARKET
Report Summary:	The report provides an update on the draft proposal for the redevelopment of Market Square and the outdoor market including the key findings of consultation and engagement work to date, a documentation pack for public consultation will be presented at the meeting, which will include a proposal for the redevelopment of Market Square and the outdoor market at Ashton.
Recommendations:	<p>That Executive Cabinet be recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Note the work to date in preparing the proposal for Market Square and the outdoor market for Ashton Town Centre, including the key findings of the consultation and engagement to date;(ii) To review the proposal and associated costings for the redevelopment of Market Square and the outdoor market; and(iii) Approve the undertaking of public consultation for a period of 4 weeks from the start of November 2022 on the draft proposal for Market Square redevelopment which includes the future provision of the outdoor market.
Corporate Plan:	Key aims of the Corporate Plan are to provide opportunities for people to fulfil their potential through work, skills and enterprise and to ensure modern infrastructure and a sustainable environment that works for all generations and future generations. The interventions that will be supported by the proposed Ashton Development Zone will deliver against these aims in the areas of job creation, modern infrastructure and a sustainable environment.
Policy Implications:	The proposed interventions will support the policy aims of the Council's Inclusive Growth Strategy 2021, Tameside Climate Change & Environment Strategy, the Council's growth priorities agreed at Council February 2020 and the draft Greater Manchester Places for Everyone joint development strategy.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer)	<p>The report requests approval to commence a consultation on the public realm strategy and related works in Ashton Town Centre.</p> <p>The related works will be financed via levelling up capital grant funding awarded to the Council of £19,870,000 (total grant</p>

award). Within this sum, £11,200,000 is allocated to finance public realm improvements in the town centre.

In addition to this sum the approved capital programme has a budget allocation of £4,916,000 for public realm works across the whole borough. A total budget allocation of £16,116,000.

The estimated maximum total cost of the proposals set out in table 1 section 3.7 is £10,832,846. There is also additional estimated expenditure of £1,000,000 envisaged as explained in section 3.7. Therefore the maximum cost of the proposal is estimated to be £11,832,846 which will be financed via the £16,116,000 available budget.

The outcome and implications of the consultation will be subject to Member approval via a further report at a later date. The report will need to include details of the proposed capital works and related cost implications.

The report will also need to include details of the implications on the revenue budget of the Council. This will include (but is not limited to) the evaluation and impact of rent and service charge income received via market stall holders and market ground kiosk tenants together with the future maintenance related expenditure of the proposed option selected (as set out in table 1, section 3.7).

Legal Implications :
(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

This report details the steps taken to date and the next steps required in relation to the proposals for Market Square and the outdoor market for Ashton Town Centre

12 weeks is considered the optimal period for an effective consultation process. Clearly this is part of an on- going consultation process as there has already been consultation to engage with key partners and the public to help shape the next phase of consultation. The outcome from the consultation should then be given careful and meaningful consideration by the decision makers as this project progresses. Noting that it will be monitored through Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.

Risk Management:

Risks associated with the project are being monitored through the Ashton LUF programme risk register. Delays to the consultation process could have significant implications on the overall delivery programme.

Background Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Damien Cutting, Economic Growth Lead



Telephone: 07989 425 566



e-mail: damien.cutting@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 On 27 October 2021, it was announced that the £19,870,000 Levelling Up Fund (LUF) bid for Ashton Town Centre had been successful. The specific interventions proposed in the LUF bid were prepared in accordance with the requirements of the LUF and are critical to unlocking the comprehensive redevelopment of the Town Centre; supporting a coherent vision and completing of the final phase of Vision Tameside.
- 1.2 The Council has now commenced delivery of the Ashton Town Centre LUF programme in the context of an emerging wider strategic vision for Ashton Town Centre following the decision by Executive Cabinet on 24 November 2021. A Memorandum of Understanding with Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) was signed in February 2022, which has enabled the first payments of the grant to be drawn down by the Council. A further update was provided to Executive Cabinet on 9 February 2022. Progress on delivery of the Ashton Town Centre LUF programme and public realm works is reported quarterly to the Council's Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel
- 1.3 The interventions supported by the LUF are critical to unlocking the comprehensive redevelopment of the Town Centre and integrating with other as part of a coherent vision, completing of the final phase of Vision Tameside. The enabling works will act as a catalyst for significantly accelerating delivery of the comprehensive transformation of the Town Centre and unlock its full potential.
- 1.4 Work has commenced on the preparation of a draft proposal (Phase One) for the improvement of Market Square and the outdoor market in Ashton that will be used to shape future design proposals for this key public space in the Ashton Town Centre. The draft proposal has been costed and formulated from feedback received at the Love Ashton Event in March and from discussions with Council officers, key stakeholders and market traders.
- 1.5 Within the wider Ashton LUF programme grant funding of £5,300,000 has been secured associated with the former interchange site. The Council is currently finalising the acquisition of this site from Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) that will be the subject of a separate report to Executive Cabinet later in 2022. Following acquisition the Council will be able to commence enabling infrastructure works, comprising land remediation and service diversions, to unlock the site for new uses. This work will be undertaken in the context of longer term opportunities for redevelopment, public realm and movement within the Town Centre.

2. ASHTON PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY

- 2.1 A multidisciplinary team led by Planit IE were procured via STaR in January 2022 to prepare a strategy for the redevelopment Ashton Town Centre. The Public Realm Strategy will cover the whole of the town centre of Ashton however, given the successful Levelling Up Fund monies, Phase One of the strategy includes further detail on a draft proposal for the redevelopment of Market Square and the outdoor market.
- 2.2 Pre-consultation has been undertaken including discussions with Council officers, key stakeholders, Ashton Towne Team, Ashton market traders and with the local community at the Love Ashton event held in Ashton Market Hall on 12 March 2022. A consultation strategy includes a summary of comments received at the Love Ashton event, all of which have led into the emerging proposals and concepts of the next stage consultation brochure, which will be presented at the meeting. It was very clear from feedback at the Love Ashton event that residents and visitors to Ashton want to see change and an improved offer of the Market Square with many people favouring the idea of a canopied structure in the square. Anti-social behaviour associated with the existing market stalls was also high on the number of comments that people made with many references to feeling unsafe in the area.

- 2.3 An emerging vision aims to ... *to create a fantastic town centre for Ashton-under-Lyne. We are creating a plan to breathe new life into Ashton, to bring more shops, people, and homes, and create a healthier town centre for all people*. In response to this emerging vision and the consultation carried out so far, a draft proposal is included in the Executive Summary illustrating how a rejuvenated Ashton Market Square could be delivered. The draft proposal focuses on providing a high quality and flexible Market Square to meet a host of different user needs including local people, visitors, market traders and event providers.
- 2.4 Consultation and engagement to date has identified that delivery of significant improvements to the outdoor market and Market Square in Ashton is a priority for the local community. Market Square and the market stalls continue to attract anti-social behaviour which in turn, deters people from visiting the area, new businesses from setting up in the centre of Ashton and a general overall negative perception of the town centre. Furthermore, the market stall structures detract from the visibility of key heritage assets in Ashton Town Hall and Ashton Market Hall, they are costly to maintain, have problems with drainage, and the ground levels where the market stalls are situated are uneven resulting in difficulties getting around for elderly people or those with mobility issues.
- 2.5 The Council has secured funding of £19,870,000 from LUF, of which £11,200,000 is identified for public realm works in the Town Centre for delivery by 31 March 2025. As the priority area of focus is to deliver works linked to Market Square, the public realm strategy and some of the design principles are primarily focused on this area and its immediate surrounds. However, the Public Realm Strategy includes proposals, strategies and design principles for the whole of the Town Centre. It will be important that Ashton Town Centre has a clear vision and plan in place in order to respond positively to future funding initiatives as and when they emerge in order to deliver these later phases of works.

3. PHASE ONE - MARKET SQUARE / ASHTON MARKET DRAFT PROPOSAL

- 3.1 The draft proposal for the redevelopment of Market Square (including Ashton outdoor market) has been costed and falls within the identified LUF budget allocated for the public realm in the town centre. Further detail on costings for the draft proposal is identified in Table 1 below. The next stage will focus on the Detailed Design and Construction of Market Square. If there is agreement following the consultation period on the draft proposal, work will commence on detailed costings. The detailed design for this scheme has a 12 month programme for completion.
- 3.2 The proposed works for Market Square will look to improve the quality of the public realm, accessibility and mobility of the square, an improved outdoor market offer including the creation of a flexible town square to incorporate a range of uses and possibilities that will enhance the area and the town as a visitor destination in its own right. The extent of adaptations and improvements to Market Square is dependent on the future ambition and provision of the outdoor market.
- 3.3 The total cost of the draft proposal is £10,832,846 and will include the removal of all of kiosks and market stalls and replacing them with the construction of a large canopy or a series of canopied structures (including a canopy attached to Market Hall) that will include flexible market units to meet the needs of modern market traders.
- 3.4 Costings for the draft proposal has been based on the Gold Standard of public realm delivery and include an annual 8.4% inflation allowance. Silver and Bronze Standards have also been costed for the draft proposal but will result in a lower quality material of public realm and so it is considered neither Silver or Bronze Standards would achieve the desired ambition for the public realm in Ashton. The draft proposal for a flexible, modern Market Square with canopies will include the entire clearance of all existing market stalls and kiosks. Concepts for this approach are based on feedback received from stakeholders and the local community at the

Love Ashton Event. This includes the installation of a large canopy with the opportunity for flexible units for market traders beneath the canopy and elsewhere in the square. The total cost of the draft proposal is estimated at £10,832,846 (excludes VAT, professional fees, other Local Authority fees and other 'On-Costs') and includes an 8.4% inflation allowance on top of total costs detailed (between 2022 and 2024).

- 3.5 There are a significant number of advantages of progressing the draft proposal which include the opportunity to open up the views to heritage buildings in the square, shelter for traders and visitors from the elements, reduce the likelihood of ASB by removing the fixed stalls and providing modern market facilities. Ultimately, the clearance of the existing stalls and kiosks will enable the comprehensive redevelopment of Market Square that will deliver a much more flexible space for a multitude of uses in addition to a modern outdoor market, to enable small and larger scale events to take place. The main disadvantages of the draft proposal is that it will inevitably lead to disruption to market traders whilst the work takes place. Measures will need to be put in place to ensure disruption caused to traders is minimised. Specialist consultants in market operations will be included in the multi-disciplinary team to support the practicalities and logistics when the scheme is to be delivered.
- 3.6 A high level breakdown of the costs for the draft proposal are included in table 1 below. These costings will be subject to detailed design work due to commence imminently.
- 3.7 The £10,832,846 estimated cost for delivery of the works excludes VAT (which is recoverable for a council), professional fees, other Local Authority fees and other 'On-Costs'. However the analysis of these additional costs that will be incurred under the detailed design package, to be procured via STaR for the period covering outline design to practical completion, is that these will total £1million. There is an existing budget allocation of £4,916,000 for public realm works in the approved capital programme. The detailed costings will be undertaken in the detailed design package.

Table 1

	Element/Phase		Area (m2)	Gold £	Silver £	Bronze £
A	PUBLIC REALM WORKS					
	Phase 1	Market Square	10,638			
		Site Clearance		265,950	265,950	265,950
		Paving		3,989,250	3,510,540	2,978,640
		Steps/Seating Plinths		250,000	150,000	150,000
		Tree Planting		500,000	400,000	210,000
		Other Planting		150,000	120,000	80,000
		Drainage		265,950	212,760	159,570
		Service Diversions		250,000	150,000	40,000
		Lighting		425,520	265,950	212,760
		Furniture		350,000	275,000	200,000
		Power and Water		100,000	100,000	50,000
		Maintenance		80,000	80,000	80,000
		Preliminaries (20%)		1,325,334	1,106,040	885,354
		Inflation (8.4%)		667,968	557,444	446,234
		Contingency (10%)		893,550	734,285	583,839
		Sub Total		9,513,522	7,927,969	6,342,347

B	MINOR BUILDING WORKS					
	Phase 1	Market Square Canopy		1,098,208	1,098,208	1,098,208
	Phase 2	Market Hall Alterations		221,116	221,116	221,116
TOTAL				10,832,846	9,247,293	7,661,671

4. PROGRAMME

- 4.1 Timescales for delivery are very tight in line with the Levelling Up Funding agreement of works being completed in full by March 2025. Some of the key milestones are included below:
- Procurement of design team to undertake detailed design and construction: October 2022 – October 2023
 - Consultation on Phase One of the Ashton Public Realm Strategy: End of October 2022/beginning of November for a period of 4 weeks to the first week in December.
 - Technical survey work: December 2022 – February 2023
 - Start of early physical works which could include the removal of redundant stalls and kiosks: May 2023
 - Procurement of contractor: February 2024
 - Main construction phase: February 2024 – March 2025

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The Council are now seeking to undertake public consultation on Phase One of the Public Realm Strategy, which includes the draft proposal for the redevelopment of Market Square using funding secured from Levelling Up Fund. It is proposed that consultation will begin week commencing at the end of October 2022/start of November for a period of 4 weeks. Briefing updates to Ashton Ward members, Ashton Town Team, a market traders group and other key stakeholders will take place before consultation commences.
- 5.2 Consultation material will be available online and an event will also be held at Ashton Market Hall where the local community will be able to speak with Council officers and members of the consultant team around the emerging proposals which will be displayed on exhibition boards at various locations in the town centre.
- 5.3 Once the consultation period has ended, comments and feedback will be collated. This will inform preparation of the final proposals for the Phase One works for Executive Cabinet approval.
- 5.4 The team are in the process of procuring a detailed design and construction team that will be multidisciplinary and include architects, landscape architects, market specialists and engineers. Once appointed, the team will begin to refine the detail around the draft proposal and will be subject to further public consultation.
- 5.5 Timescales for delivery of the works to Market Square is challenging and the funding agreement is clear that monies need to be spent and works completed by March 2025. This is achievable within the current delivery programme on the assumption that this phase of consultation is completed by November 2022 to enable the first stages of the detailed design stage to progress.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Report to:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date:	26 October 2022
Executive Member:	Councillor David Sweeton, Executive Member - Inclusive Growth, Business & Employment
Reporting Officer:	Julian Jackson, Director of Place
Subject:	UKSPF SME WORKSPACE BID PROPOSAL (E22)
Report Summary:	The report seeks approval for the submission of a bid by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SME Workspace E22).
Recommendations:	That Executive Cabinet note that a bid to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SME Workspace E22) has been submitted from Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council for the deadline of 19 October 2022.
Corporate Plan:	Key aims of the Corporate Plan are to provide opportunities for people to fulfil their potential through work, skills and enterprise and to ensure modern infrastructure and a sustainable environment that works for all generations and future generations. The interventions that will be supported by the proposed bid will deliver against these aims in the areas of job creation, modern infrastructure and a sustainable environment.
Policy Implications:	The interventions that will be supported by the bid will support the policy aims of the Borough's Inclusive Growth Strategy 2021 and the Council's growth priorities agreed at Council February 2020.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	This is a bid and therefore if not successful the outline proposal will not go ahead and if successful governance will be required to demonstrate can be delivered within budget and on time in line with any grant agreement.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	This is a competitive bidding process and the Council has sought creative ways to achieve deliverables whilst addressing existing financial liabilities in a difficult and challenging financial climate. There is no expectation that the Council will be required to match funds but there will be a call against officer resources so this must be meeting our priorities.
Risk Management:	Potential for loss of external funding opportunity to support future growth and diversification of the Tameside Economy, improved infrastructure and the securing of investment in the Borough and act as a catalyst for further investment and regeneration.
Background Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Sarah Jamieson, Head of Economy, Employment & Skills  Telephone: 0161 342 3629  e-mail: sarah.jamieson@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Tameside Council has been required to submit bids to Government, either directly or via GMCA for multiple funds, in recent months, which has been very resource intensive in terms of pulling together. Table 1 below sets out recent bids together with current status.

Table 1:

Fund	Amount available	What value does this give Tameside?	Funding secured?
Levelling Up – Bid 1	Up to £20m per Parliamentary constituency	The Fund is focused on three themes; Transport Investments; Regeneration and Town Centres; and Cultural Investment. Details and governance Cabinet 28.04.21	Yes - £19.9m for Ashton Town Centre
Levelling Up – Bid 2	Up to £20m per Parliamentary constituency not yet in receipt of LUF funding	As above Details and governance here .	Bid submitted for Stalybridge Town Centre (£19.9m). Decision anticipated November 2022.
Levelling Up – Bid 3	Up to £20m per Parliamentary constituency not yet in receipt of LUF funding	As above. Details and governance March Cabinet and here	Bid submitted for Denton Town Centre (£16.5m) Decision anticipated November 2022.
Homes England – Revenue Departmental Expenditure Limits (RDEL)	£100,000 revenue funding available to Tameside. Requirement to spend and complete work by the end of March 2023.	Revenue funding to support feasibility work that helps to support new residential development.	Yes - £70,000 for Stalybridge West and £30,000 for Car Parking Strategy secured.
UKSPF – Communities & Place	£1.9m to Tameside, funding was allocated by GMCA to each LA	Funding is available to focus on improving town centres and high streets; improvements to greenspaces and support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities. All of these elements support our Corporate Plan and help our residents live and work in a better environment.	In process: Proposal submitted to GMCA to be submitted to Govt as part of the GM proposal
UKSPF – SME Workspace	£15m across GM, competitive bid process means not all LA's may succeed in gaining funds	As detailed in section 4 of this briefing this will provide business support across all areas of Tameside, bring additional growth space for emerging businesses and provide some relief to current internal budget pressures.	Bid proposal to be submitted by deadline of Wednesday 19 October 2022.

- 1.2 This report provides information on the suggested bid proposed for the **SME Workspace investment, part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund**. GMCA have set a deadline of Wednesday 19 October for bids to be submitted, via an Excel template, which Officers are completing.
- 1.3 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a £2.6bn fund designed to succeed and improve upon EU structural funds. Funding is split across Investment Priorities as shown in the table

below. The figures for GM are shown below in Table 2 – highlighted is the SME Workspace intervention that is the focus of this document.

Table 2 Total UKSPF across the Investment Priorities

	Year One 2022/23	Year Two 2023/24	Year Three 2024/5	Total
Communities and Place	£7,269,019	£10,038,086	£9,689,466	£26,996,571
SME Workspace (E22)	£2,000,000	£3,000,000	£10,000,000	£15,000,000
Local Business (E22)	£500,000	£6,500,000	£9,500,000	£16,500,000
People and Skills	£0	£0	£22,000,000	£22,000,000
Admin Fee 4% (Flat rate applied)	£407,020	£814,071	£2,132,934	£3,354,024
Total by Year	£10,176,043	£20,352,086	£53,322,466	£83,850,595

1.4 Devolved authorities are responsible for submitting implementation plans, working to set Government timescales. An overarching implementation plan was submitted to Central Government in July 2022. Subject to the provision of more detailed Implementation Plans for each Investment Priority, GMCA anticipate agreement from Central Government in October 2022 in order to provide the grant agreements to GM Local Authorities (LA's), including Tameside.

1.5 The GM UKSPF Investment Plan identified a limited number of cross cutting priorities that would be reflected across all UKSPF investment. It is suggested that all proposals for UKSPF will be asked to outline their approach to delivering and reporting on each of the cross-cutting priorities. These are:

- Contribution to GM's 2038 net zero ambitions,
- Contribution to reducing inequalities, and:
- Embedding social value.

2. E22: SME WORKSPACE

2.1 The definition, provided by Government, for E22: SME Workspace is *“an investment in enterprise infrastructure and employment / innovation site development projects. This can help to unlock site development projects which will support growth in places.”*

2.2 Unlike the Communities and Place Intervention, no GM authority has been allocated a specific amount. Districts are invited to bid to be evaluated and prioritised against other bids with a maximum of a single bid per district as it is anticipated that the total bid for grant by Districts will exceed the £15m available. Therefore, it is not guaranteed that each District will be successful.

2.3 The spend profile is; 22/23 - £2m, 23/24 - £3m and 24/25 - £10m, spend in 22/23 may slip to 2024 subject to commitment and planned spend.

2.4 Total spend is suggested to be capital (20%) and revenue (80%) however individual bids do not have to achieve this split. Revenue Funding is assumed to be either/both Up Front Design/Technical Investigation or Early Delivery Business support.

2.5 The deadline for bids to be submitted to GMCA is 19 October 2022. This has recently been amended from an earlier date by GMCA who have noted to LA's that the grant funding

agreement remains outstanding from Government.

3. DRAFT PRIORITISATION CRITERIA, WEIGHTING AND SCORING

- 3.1 The UKSPF SME Funding Prioritisation report to GMCA Wider Leadership Team (September 2022) sets out the evaluation criteria with a breakdown of the key components which are required to secure scoring award shown in Table 3 below.

Table 3 Prioritisation Criteria, Scoring and Weighting

Prioritisation Criteria	Weighting
Deliverability	30%
Strategic Fit	20%
Demand	20%
Value for Money and Leverage	20%
Output & Additionality	10%

- 3.2 Assuming 10 schemes/bids are received, scheme cost ratio calculated for all schemes with the highest ratio scoring 10 and the lowest ratio scoring 1, with the other schemes sorted in order of scoring.
- 3.3 Assuming 10 schemes/bids are received, scheme grant £/m2 is calculated with the lowest grant ratio scoring 10 and the highest grant ratio scoring 1, with the other schemes sorted in order of scoring.
- 3.4 The expectation (not scored) is that all schemes promote and move GM closer to Net Zero 2038, address inequalities, maximise Social Value and have an approach to embed and report on these items.
- 3.5 The detail for each criteria is set out in the body of the report :
- **Deliverability** - The closer a scheme is to being delivered on site without barriers and has a business plan which is credible and sustainable the higher the score.
 - **Strategic Fit** - Evaluation based on Town/District-wide centres, Growth Location, or both Town Centre and Growth Location locations
 - **Demand & Supply** - Scoring will be awarded where demand is evidenced including proximity of demand and supply where it does not currently exist.
 - **Value For Money & Leverage** - includes three elements:
 - Scheme cost to grant ratio
 - Leverage of District, Non District Public Sector & Private Sector
 - Private Sector Leverage proposed to have greater multiplier
 - **Outputs and Additionality has two elements:**
 - Total m2 output in floor area in relation to grant ask
 - £ per m2
- 3.6 The fund can support investment in intervention that start from 1 April 2022 where they fit with the relevant interventions and funding requirements. This also includes administrative and preparatory costs
- 3.7 GMCA have advised that LA's are expected to have briefed Members of Parliament (MPs) prior to submitting the template. All GM MP's will also be asked to agree the overarching GM proposal before it is submitted to Government by GMCA. In light of the challenging timescales to complete the proforma with the necessary information, we intend to brief the Executive board on the 19 October 2022 and MPs by email with an invite to discuss further.

4. E22: SME WORKSPACES TEMPLATE FOR TAMESIDE

4.1 The template for Tameside is being developed by officers to ensure a close fit to the requirements of this funding. The finalised template will also provide indicative outputs and outcomes as identified in the GM Investment Plan with additional outcomes, such as contribution towards Local Authority indicators, also recorded. These will be monitored throughout the funding period to allow clear reporting.

1.4 The projects detailed in Table 4, below, have been identified as suggested bids for Tameside.

Table 4

Project Name & funding ask	Tameside Value for Money	Project Detail	Potential scoring / Comments
Ashton Old Baths (AOB): SME Hub £1.8m	Provides support for growing and new businesses which is currently limited across all of Tameside whilst improving the suitability of AOB to SME's, which is seen by businesses as an attractive business base receiving many enquiries. The funding may also relieve some internal budget pressures for the ongoing upkeep of this historical building.	Elements to the bid includes: - Creation of new SME workspace from undeveloped space - Creation of Business Support Officer role to work across Tameside and encourage new business birth, working to raise Tameside's position currently at the lowest business birth rate in GM - Building improvements to increase sustainability and work towards GM Net Zero targets by the introduction of low carbon infrastructure to improve the sustainability of the building.	High – meets target of metres squared changed to SME workspace, business support and potential new job start targets. Additional benefits of working towards Net Zero aims. Project can be delivered expediently within the challenging UKSPF timescales.
Town Centre Flexible Work Space Hubs £0.5m	Request is for a small proportion of the overall funding available and is for a new scheme which would need to be delivered at pace and may compete with other co-working spaces available through private entities.	Elements to the bid includes: - Conversion of vacant town centre units in Mossley, Droylsden, Stalybridge, Hyde & Ashton into flexible working space that can be used by local SME businesses - Hub staff to manage the spaces and provide support.	Medium – meets floorspace targets however lacks Net Zero outputs. Management of the spaces across multiple locations may be questioned.

5. NEXT STEPS

5.1 These plans are being finalised and the submission template completed to allow the proposals to be sent to GMCA before the deadline of Wednesday 19 October 2022.

5.2 The MPs have been consulted in writing.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 As set out at the front of the report.

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