

BOARD

3 March 2021

Present: **Elected Members** **Councillors Warrington (In the Chair), Bray, Cooney, Fairfoull, Feeley, Gwynne, Kitchen Ryan and Wills**
 Borough Solicitor **Sandra Stewart**
 Section 151 **Kathy Roe**
 Officer

Also in **David Berry, Steph Butterworth, Ilys Cookson, Jeanelle De Gruchy, Catherine**
Attendance: **Moseley, Dr Ashwin Ramachandra, Ian Saxon, Paul Smith, Jayne Traverse,**
 Sarah Threlfall, Debbie Watson, Tom Wilkinson

239 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

240 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of Board meeting on the 17 February 2021 were approved as a correct record.

241 MONTH 10 FINANCE REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth) / Lead Clinical GP / Director of Finance, which outlined month 10 of the 2020/21 financial year, reflecting actual expenditure to 31 January 2021 and forecasts to 31 March 2021.

It was reported that as at Month 10, the Strategic Commission was forecasting a net underspend of £0.155 by 31 March 2021. This was a significant improvement on the position reported at Month 9 and reflected additional Covid related income on Council budgets, which had reduced the forecast overspend to £0.358m. On the assumption that the anticipated Covid top up was received in full, a surplus of £512k was projected at year-end on CCG budgets.

It was stated that whilst the overall forecast position was looking more positive, there remained significant variances in some service areas, which were not attributed to Covid and which presented ongoing financial risks for future years.

The Director of Finance advised Members that there was a forecasted in year deficit on the Collection Fund for both Council Tax and Business Rates due to the impact of the Covid Pandemic. This forecast deficit would need to be funded in 2021/22 and the forecast deficit was reflected in the 2021/22 budget approved by Full Council on 23 February 2021.

The third capital monitoring report for 2020/21 summarised the forecast outturn at 31 March 2021 based on the financial activity to 31 January 2020. The approved budget for 2020/21 was £56.338m and the forecast for the financial year was £46.410m.

Members were advised that the CCG had a cumulative surplus held with NHS England, which had built up over a number of years and was reported in the CCG annual accounts. NHS England had offered the opportunity to access this resource in 2020/21 financial year to support the financial pressures faced by the system to tackle delays incurred in implementation of the next phase of the transformation as a result of Covid. It was proposed that this surplus be accessed and utilised to facilitate ongoing financial sustainability across the economy. This additional funding would enable the Strategic Commission to invest in integrated transformation programmes, to improve outcomes

and efficiency.

AGREED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to: -

- (i) Note the forecast outturn position and associated risks for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 1.**
- (ii) Note the significant pressures facing Council Budgets as set out in Appendix 2.**
- (iii) Approve the budget virements and reserve transfers set out on pages 23 and 24 of Appendix 2.**
- (iv) Note the forecast Collection Fund position for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 3.**
- (v) Note the Capital Programme 2020/21 forecast and approve the re-profiling of capital budgets as set out in Appendix 4.**
- (vi) Note the forecast position in respect of Dedicated Schools Grant as set out in Appendix 5.**
- (vii) Approve the proposals for accessing the CCG cumulative surplus and the utilisation of funds for the purposes set out in section 6, including the creation of earmarked reserves to support specific initiatives.**

242 BREATHING SPACE SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth) / Assistant Director Exchequer Services that detailed a new statutory breathing space scheme, which aimed to help people in problem debt to better manage their finances, seek professional debt advice and reach sustainable solutions.

Members were advised that a new government backed statutory scheme, the Debt Respite Scheme (Breathing Space Moratorium and Mental Health Crisis Moratorium) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, aimed to incentivise more people in problem debt to access professional debt advice sooner. The scheme published in December 2020 enabled those in debt to enter the debt solution that was most appropriate in view of their individual circumstances. According to the Institute of Revenues Rating and Revaluation (IRRV) an estimated 1.5 million people in England and Wales sought advice to help with their debts each year.

The Breathing Space Moratorium was expected to provide protections for people in problem debt by pausing enforcement action and freezing charges, fees and certain interest on qualifying debts for up to 60 days. Some specific public sector debts were considered ineligible to be included as a moratorium debt such as debts incurred because of fraudulent behaviour; fines imposed by a court, including criminal fines; confiscation orders; child maintenance payments and debts that had arisen after an order made in family proceedings; social fund loans; student loans and personal injury liabilities. There was no limit on the amount of any individual debt, or total debts that could be protected in a moratorium.

People receiving mental health crisis treatment would receive the protections of the Breathing Space scheme but through a different entry mechanism. This group would be able to enter a mental health crisis moratorium without engaging with a debt advisor. The policy protections would apply for the duration of their crisis treatment and then for a further 30 days. If eligible, debtors could then have access to the 60-day Breathing Space moratorium accessed via professional debt advice. There would be no limit on the number of times that people receiving mental health crisis treatment may enter a moratorium via this mechanism.

The scheme was positive in helping those with significant debts or who had mental health problems and in debt, however uptake could have resource implications and collection implications however this could not yet be quantified. While the numbers of people entering the Breathing Space scheme could not be quantified, it was clear that additional resource was required in terms of managing these accounts and for which the government had made clear no New Burdens Funding would be made available to any local authority.

AGREED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to note the report.

243 DISPOSAL OF COUNCIL OWNED LAND AND PROPERTY

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth) / Assistant Director of Strategic Property, which sought permission to declare the former Cotton Tree Public House, Droylsden surplus to requirements of the Council.

Members were reminded that due to issues around crime and community safety, on 15 August 2013, the Council acquired the subject property at 106 Market Street for £150,000. Following on from acquisition the Council marketed the vacant property for alternative use and on 7 January 2016 entered into an agreement with a tenant who was looking to operate the former Public House as a restaurant. Unfortunately, the tenant made minimal lease payments since completing the lease initially and had not made any payments since 25 March 2017. The property had not been occupied by the lessee or his trading business for a number of years, leaving the property vacant and in a derelict state.

During the period of void, the Council had received unsolicited interest from developers who were keen to acquire the property from the Authority and both convert and refurbish the building to provide a combination of uses, primarily involving retail uses to the ground floor and residential uses to the upper floors. It was therefore proposed that the Council formally seek to declare the property surplus to its requirements so that, the Authority could explore disposal options that would seek to see the building brought back into a meaningful use.

Members agreed that a covenant/restriction should be added to the land sale to prevent the property being used as a public house in the future given its previous history and the reason why the Council bought the premise in the first place.

AGREED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to agree that:

- (i) an appropriate absolute restriction/covenant be added on the land sale to prevent the property being used as a public house in the future.**
- (ii) the premise, known as the former Cotton Tree Public House, Droylsden be declared surplus to the requirements of the Council.**

244 AUTHORITY'S MONITORING REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment) / Director of Growth, which sought approval to publish an updated Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR) for 2019/20 to satisfy the requirements of Section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Members were reminded that Section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 required every local planning authority to prepare an Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR) at least every 12 months. It was reported that the Council's most recent AMR was published in September 2020 and covered the monitoring period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. It was therefore timely to update the AMR to reflect on monitoring activities for 2019/20 and to meet the Council's legal requirements.

AGREED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to agree to the publication of those documents which comprised the 2019/20 AMR as listed in paragraph 2.1 and appended to this report.

245 SUPPORTING MENOPAUSE AT WORK

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader / Assistant Director for People and Workforce Development, which detailed a guide, which had been developed called *Supporting the Menopause at Work* in order to support those employees going through menopause.

The guidance pulled together the latest information on how the menopause affected some employees at work. The guidance was aimed at managers and employees to support those going through menopause and offer practical guidance on how hold to open and honest discussion and improve workplace environments.

The guidance had been developed in order to encourage open and honest discussions between affected employees and their line managers, or another supportive individual, in order to ensure those employees felt supported at work. Managers had an important role to play in ensuring that anyone who experienced menopausal symptoms was offered the same support and understanding as they would if they had any other health issue, and that support was tailored appropriately to the individual.

The organisation had a legal duty to make a suitable and sufficient assessment of the workplace risks to the health and safety of their employee; which included ensuring menopausal symptoms were not made worse by the workplace, and making changes to help an employee manage their symptoms when doing their job.

Moreover, it was important to recognise within an organisation where over 70% of its employees were female and the average age of the work force was above 51 years of age, which was also the average age for menopause that this was a significant issue for the Council and therefore even more essential that the appropriate support was put in place to support and get the best from our workforce.

In regards to raising menopause awareness in the workplace, Menopause awareness sessions had been delivered, with 61 females attending the available sessions and providing extremely positive feedback. Future menopause sessions would build on this established platform to increase awareness across the workforce and enable managers to effectively support employees affected by the menopause.

AGREED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to agree:

- (i) To implement the proposed Guide to Supporting the Menopause at Work, as detailed in Appendix A for Tameside Council and to recommend implementation to the Tameside & Glossop CCG Governing Body for its employees.**
- (ii) That the Guide to Supporting the Menopause at Work as detailed in Appendix A be recommended for adoption by all Governing Bodies of all community, voluntary controlled and voluntary aided schools.**

246 INCLUSIVE GROWTH STRATEGY 2021-26

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth) / Director of Growth, which detailed the Inclusive Growth Strategy for review and approval following public consultation.

Members were reminded that the Tameside Inclusive Growth Strategy had been approved for consultation on the 2 November 2020. The consultation was robust and successful and ended on the 22 January 2021 with high levels of support for the Strategy.

It was reported that the consultation took place between 4 November 2020 and 22 January 2021 with 7 bespoke workshops engaging multiple demographics attended by 49 people, 22 people responded to the online consultation and two written submissions were received (one being the restated outcomes from a workshop session). The consultation was widely marketed through media, business and community networks.

Overall the consultation found a high level of support for the Strategies Vision, Aims, Opportunities and Strengths in response to the challenges faced.

The 2 November 2020 Cabinet report set out the Governance arrangements for the Strategy. The new Inclusive Growth Board chaired by the Executive Member Finance and Growth would lead on the implementation of the Inclusive Growth Strategy and associated cross cutting Public Service Reform projects with Lead Executive Members involved as appropriate in the delivery and monitoring.

AGREED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to agree that the Inclusive Growth Strategy be adopted.

247 INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT 2019-2020

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment) / Director of Growth, which provided a summary of financial contributions secured by the Council through section 106 agreements from new developments for off-site infrastructure works and affordable housing provision.

Members were advised that Councils were required to publish Infrastructure Funding Statements annually on their websites, which set out the years' income and expenditure that related to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 (S106) agreements. This was a requirement of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations (amended 2019). Tameside Council did not operate a CIL charging schedule and, therefore, this Infrastructure Funding Statement was provided only in respect of income and expenditure in relation to Section 106 agreements.

Members were presented with a breakdown of the amount of money to be provided under any planning obligations which had been entered into during the reported year. Further, it confirmed the total number of affordable housing units that would be provide on-site. Full details for each of the obligations entered into during this monitoring period were available at **Appendix 1**.

AGREED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to agree that the report be published on the Council's website to meet legal requirements.

248 ASHTON MOSS - PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth) / Director of Growth, which provided a summary of progress to date, confirmed next steps and sought approval to expenditure on specific commissions required to take matters forward.

Members were reminded that the Executive Cabinet had approved reports on the 23 September and 16 December 2020 which set out the background and way forward on the redevelopment of land at Ashton Moss East (AME) and Ashton Moss West (AMW).

Working in conjunction with colleagues at GMCA and Midas, officers believed a potential window of opportunity existed for a bid to Government as part of the levelling up agenda for major funding that would be required to address the significant cost of remediating the land and providing key infrastructure at AME and AMW. To be ready for this process officers believed it was necessary to engage specialist consultants to develop a detailed business case as part of this major funding bid. The cost of such a commission at £20,000 could be met from the existing Ashton Moss capital budgets.

At its December 2020 meeting, Cabinet approved a budget of £350k to support the undertaking of various site investigation and services studies at AME and AMW. The Consulting Engineers would produce the specification and tenders for these detailed studies. This whole process however,

although critical to determine and specify the actual works required, would take some time and would not be concluded in time to feed into any bid to Government. It was therefore proposed to engage Arup Consulting Engineers to produce a short summary report of the ground conditions and a high-level strategy to address and bring land forward for development to form part of the funding bid. The cost of the study would be £3,250.

At its September 2020 meeting Cabinet approved the appointment of a specialist resource to lead on all property and development matters at AME and AMW working to a comprehensive brief and reporting direct to the Assistant Director of Growth and the Head of Investment and Development. This resource had proved to be valuable to the Council in progressing all matters at Ashton Moss including the Project Fold enquiry. It was considered vital to retain this resource and with this in mind a provision of £20,000 should be allocated as part of the approved budget on Ashton Moss.

AGREED

That an Executive Decision by the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth) and the Director of Growth be recommended to approve the draw down against approved budgets for the following specific elements of consultancy work:

- (i) The appointment of Arup Consulting Engineers to produce advice on high level cost estimates for the remediation of the land at AME and AMW in the sum of £3,250 plus VAT.**
- (ii) The appointment of consultants at a budget cost of £20,000 plus VAT to produce a business case which would form part of a major funding bid to Government for the cost of remediating the land and providing key infrastructure at AME and AMW.**
- (iii) The continued appointment of SMT Projects at a budget cost of £20,000 to lead on all property and development matters.**

249 ACTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD PROPOSALS - DUKINFIELD

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Transport and Connectivity) / Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods, which outlined proposals to promote and consult on the delivery of a pilot Active Neighbourhood scheme in Dukinfield, to be led by Transport for Greater Manchester.

It was explained that an Active Neighbourhood was a place where the movement of people was prioritised over cars, with a particular focus on residential streets. Schemes were designed to create barriers to cars on residential streets within a defined neighbourhood area to preventing “rat running”. The design would ensure that residents and emergency vehicles can still access their homes.

It was stated that TfGM’s specialist team had reviewed a number of areas across Tameside and had recommended that the area identified in **Appendix 1** be progressed. The area was based on people being able to walk across the area in 10 minutes, with a 5 minute walk or less to key services and facilities.

It was essential that the development of the Active Neighbourhood scheme was community led from the outset. This would ensure that local issues were identified and understood before appropriate design solutions were developed. Temporary / trial solutions were also envisaged as a key part of the consultation and engagement process. The programme of the proposed consultation activities was detailed in the report. It is essential that the development of a pilot Active Neighbourhood scheme is community led from the outset. This will ensure that local issues are identified and understood before appropriate design solutions are developed. Temporary / trial solutions are also envisaged as a key part of the consultation and engagement process.

AGREED

That the Executive Member (Transport and Connectivity) be recommended to approve the implementation of a programme of engagement and consultation, as set out in section 7 of this report.

250 LAND ADJACENT TO MANCHESTER ROAD, AUDENSHAW.

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth) / Director of Growth, which sought to formalise an existing encroachment and facilitate a request from a developer who had sought to provide a more comprehensive redevelopment opportunity. This would generate a one off capital receipt for the Council.

Members were reminded that on 30 September 2020, the Council had approved an updated policy which allowed the Authority to consider the disposal of its assets. The policy advocated a 'two step' approach, with Executive Cabinet initially declaring an asset surplus after prior consultation with Ward Councillors, prior to officers seeking to negotiate terms for a sale which, could then be approved by the Director Growth in consultation with the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth). The subject asset was declared surplus at Executive Cabinet on 30 September 2020 as part of an initial 'batch' of assets that the Council were now looking to bring forward for sale.

It was stated that the Council owned the area of land off Manchester Road, which measured approximately 220sq.m (or 0.054 acres). In recent months, a local Registered Provider Mosscafe St. Vincent's Housing ('MSV') had approached the Council and advised that they were in the process of acquiring the former Nursery site and seeking planning permission to develop the land for 16 houses and 18 apartments (20/00129/FUL). In recent days, it was understood that the application had been approved and therefore, MSV had advised that they are keen to fulfil their grant requirements and commence with the affordable rent scheme in early 2021.

The planned scheme incorporated the Council's land edged green into the development and MSV were looking to acquire the subject area in order to deliver the scheme as proposed. The subject area was declared surplus and in line with the policy agreed, delegation would now pass to the Director of Growth as part of an Executive Decision in consultation with the Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth. Terms had been agreed for the Council to sell its Freehold interest in the subject area of land to MSV for £25,000 (twenty five thousand pounds)

AGREED

That an executive decision by the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth and Director of Growth be recommended to approve that:

- (i) the Council enter into a direct agreement to sell the subject area of land to the adjoining landowner and provide an easement to address surface water run off generated as part of the development, subject to the Council obtaining a satisfactory independent valuation confirming that the terms agreed are representative of market value.**
- (ii) Subject to obtaining any approval under The School Playing Fields General Disposal and Change of Use Consent (No 5) 2014 (if required), provide an easement (in the form set out in Appendix 1 to the report) to the Register Provider to install a surface water drain over the Council's adjoining land, as indicatively shown on the blue dotted line A-B-C-D-E. Appendix 1.**

251 FINANCE AND IT CAPITAL UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Finance and IT, which provided a summary of the progress to date in relation to the delivery of the Council's Capital Investment Programme in the Finance and IT Directorate.

It was stated that the equity investment of £5.6m in a £56m investment with the other 9 GM districts at Manchester Airport to fund the construction of 7,500 space multi-storey car park was funded by prudential borrowing. The investment was drawn down in three tranches during March (£1.4m in the 2019/20 financial year) and April 2020 (£3.2m in the 20/21 financial year). Also in April 2020, Executive Cabinet approved a further investment of £9.7m in Manchester Airport in the form of an equity loan, which would be funded by prudential borrowing.

With regard to Digital Tameside schemes, in January 2018 the DCMS announced a second round of LFFN funding. The Tameside element of the successful bid was £2.500m and was based on expanding the existing re-use of public assets model, with the further commercialisation through the Digital Cooperative. It was reported the work on DCMS Wave 2 was 90% complete, time lost due to Covid had been recovered.

The initial phase of the Microsoft Licensing scheme in regards to procurement and design was completed and many of the licenses relating to the Microsoft Office 2016, the main Data Centre and Disaster Recovery site had been placed and the new software had started to be rolled out across the Councils laptop fleet and server infrastructure. Work upgrading the operating systems on 97 servers and 122 SQL databases was underway, with just 20 servers and associated databases still to be completed.

AGREED

That the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel be recommended to note the report and the details of the status of the schemes in the programme.

252 ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Health) / Director of Adult Services, which provided an update of the developments in relation to the Adult Capital Programme.

Members were presented with the projects already approved in the Adults Capital Plan. It was reported that the Day Time Offer scheme would not proceed for time being and would be reconsidered as part of a wider review of the offer of daytime provision.

The Christ Church Community Developments (CCD) 4 Cs Community Centre was scheduled to formally open in spring 2021. Progress on the building works continued, internal walls and associated work were now completed and the plumbing and electrical work had now started. Since the last report, it had been confirmed that the registration of the charge with Companies House and the Land Registry had been formally completed. Due to the current government restrictions in place due to Covid-19, structural and internal design changes had been made to ensure that the building was safe for members to attend post Covid and with social distancing guidelines and practice in place

With regard to the Moving With Dignity (MWD) scheme, the team had been recruited to, however, pressures from the Covid wave had an impact on waiting times for assessment and intervention. There were also pressures across the system, staff were working across other parts of the service to assist with flow of work. Work on the mandatory Moving and Handling training to incorporate the Single Handed Care approach across the board was underway and a risk assessment had been submitted to Health and Safety to be able to deliver this safely.

It was stated that no further progress had been made on determining if Hyde Market Hall was a viable option for the Disability Assessment Centre.

It was reported that work continued to identify and support people who would benefit from the Brain in Hand technology. However, it had proved significantly challenging to identify suitable people through the pandemic and to set them up on this technology remotely.

The Director of Adult Services advised that Irwell Valley Housing Association (IVHA) developed the supported accommodation scheme in Mount Street, Hyde. The scheme converted the building to meet the requirements of supported living. The £100k of work had already been completed by IVHA to adapt the property to meet the identified client needed including pressure-operated doors, adapted showers, and other improvements that would make Mount Street more suitable for a broader range of range of service users, and improve the experience and safety of the users already in situ.

The Housing Adaptations Service within the Growth Directorate was the delivery mechanism for the adaptations budget within the borough. Expenditure of this budget was by approval of individual grants to residents where there was an assessed need and in many cases, it supervised the work for the resident. In order to continue to deliver adaptations it was felt appropriate to confirm the service was authorised to continue to approve mandatory and discretionary grant applications within the terms of the Councils Housing Assistance Policy 2018-2023 under the terms of the Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance)(England and Wales) Order 2002. The service would deliver the grant eligible adaptations via a number of procured contracts.

Housing Adaptations was embarking on a program to replace all stair lifts and hoists 20+ years old thereby reducing the maintenance implication to the Council. 30 units were due to be, or had been, replaced since beginning of December. These units would become part of the lifetime warranty scheme. Once this was complete units of 15+ years old would be targeted.

AGREED

That Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel recommend to Executive Cabinet:

- (i) the replacement of the ageing and obsolete equipment through the employment of a dedicated Occupational Therapist for 12 months (£45,593 with on costs to be funded via DFG.**
- (ii) that the Housing Adaptations Service be authorised to continue to approve mandatory and discretionary grant applications**

253 GROWTH UPDATE REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth) / Director for Growth, which provided an update on the 2020/21 Growth Capital Programme and set out details of the major approved capital schemes in this directorate.

Members were updated on the progress on the approved capital projects. It was stated that The Droylsden library relocation scheme had an earmarked sum of £ 1.4m in the capital programme. A Key Decision in February 2021 approved a request to increase the budget to £ 2.2m.

With regard to the Denton Baths Site Clearance, works to clear the site had started and would be completed in late May 2021. The cost would be offset by a GMCA Brownfield Homes grant of £0.300m approved by Key Decision on 17 February 2021

The Tameside One installation of fire detection equipment invest to save scheme, had been approved on 10 February 2021. The installation would save future costs on increased insurance premiums and allocate £1.249m from the Councils Insurance Reserve to capital funds to fund the work. The work would begin in April 2021 and had an anticipated completion schedule of 65 weeks.

Members were advised that the bid made via GMCA for the Decarbonisation of the Public estate had been approved. Tameside element of this bid was estimated at £2.3 million. An executive decision report would be required on receipt of the grant condition letter to formally agree to accept the funding into the Councils capital funds

A report on Ashton Town Hall was being prepared for discussion with Members in March 2021.

Approval to undertake a Playing Pitch Strategy and Schools Sports Facilities Strategy was approved by Executive Cabinet on 16 December 2020. A specialist consultant had been appointed to develop the PPS and a working group created including representation from Sport England, It was anticipated that the PPS would be ready for consideration by Members in Late summer 2021.

AGREED

That the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel recommend to Executive Cabinet that the following be added to the approved Council Capital Programme

- (i) **The Corporate Landlord Statutory Compliance capital expenditure for the period identified in Appendix 4 of £137,350.46.**
- (ii) **That the Growth directorate 2020/21 capital budget is rephrased as set out in Appendix 5.**

254 EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME MARCH 2021

AGREED

The item Education Capital Programme March 2021 be deferred to a future meeting of the Board.

255 LEISURE ASSETS CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment) / Director of Population Health, which provided a summary of progress to date in relation to the delivery of the Council's capital investment programme to improve sports and leisure facilities approved by Executive Cabinet on 24 March 2016.

It was reported that the Hyde Pool Extension, had kept within the projected scheme costs. The scheme which commenced on site in February 2020 and due for completion in late March 2021 was reporting a completion delay of 5 weeks. The practical completion was due on the 30 April 2020. The main reason for the delay was Covid restrictions causing a slowing down in the main contractors supply chain. The delay had resulted in the need to re-phase the capital spend profile for the scheme with £0. 500m that would be re-profiled into 21/22. However, it should be noted as an all risks fixed price contract whilst taking longer, the Contractor not the Council was bearing this cost risk.

With regard to the Tameside Wellness Centre the buildings 12-month defects liability period ended on the 6 February 2021. Once all outstanding defects had been resolved to the satisfaction of the Council and the Contract Administrator the retention sum would be released. The final account had been provisionally agreed at £0.262m. The budget for the scheme stood at £0.230m leaving a negative budget balance of £0.032m. The variance was attributed to the cumulative effect of vary minor changes throughout the lifetime of the project.

The Pitch Replacement scheme at Active Medlock was completed in January 2020 with and under spend of £0.013m. It was proposed that the underspend be used to offset the negative balance leaving a new negative balance of £0.020m. It was proposed that the negative balance be passed over to the Hyde Pool scheme where an underspend was evident across a number of provisional sum items. The completion of the Hyde Pool scheme would bring to an end the current approved Leisure Asset investment programme. The balance of the Sport England grant funding, (£0.045m), would be drawn-down by the Council at the end of the defects liability period.

AGREED

That Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel be recommended to agree that the contents of the report be noted and the following recommendations be made to Executive Cabinet for approval:

- (i) **That the underspend of £0.013m from the Active Medlock Pitch Replacement scheme be used to part fund the negative balance of the Tameside Wellness Centre scheme and**
- (ii) **The remaining negative balance of £0.020m from the Wellness Centre final account be passed over to the Hyde Pool scheme.**

256 FORWARD PLAN

AGREED

That the forward plan of items for Board be noted.

CHAIR