

EXECUTIVE CABINET

24 March 2021

Commenced: 2.05pm

Terminated: 3.00pm

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

In Attendance:

Dr Ashwin Ramachandra	Co-Chair, Tameside & Glossop CCG
Dr Asad Ali	Co-Chair, Tameside & Glossop CCG
Steven Pleasant	Chief Executive & Accountable Officer
Sandra Stewart	Director of Governance & Pensions
Kathy Roe	Director of Finance
Steph Butterworth	Director of Adults Services
Richard Hancock	Director of Children's Services
Jayne Traverse	Director of Growth
Tom Wilkinson	Assistant Director of Finance
Debbie Watson	Assistant Director of Population Health
Sarah Threlfall	Assistant Director, Policy, Performance and Communication
Tracy Brennand	Assistant Director, People and Workforce Development
Emma Varnam	Assistant Director, Operations and Neighbourhoods
Tim Bowman	Assistant Director, Education

Apologies for absence: Councillors Gwynne and Kitchen

152. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Agenda Item	Personal / Prejudicial	Nature of Interest
Councillor Cooney	Agenda Item 7	Prejudicial	Acquainted with a person who has declared an interest in the premise/land, which is the subject of the report.

153. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet meeting held on 10 February 2021 be approved as a correct record.

154. MINUTES OF STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Commissioning Board held on 10 February 2021 be noted.

155. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meetings of Executive Board held on: 3 February, 10 February, 17 February and 3 March 2021 be noted.

156. LIVING WITH COVID BOARD

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meetings of Living with Covid Board held on: 20 January and 24 February 2021 be noted.

157. 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 15 March 2021. 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 15 March 2021, be noted; and
- (b) That the following recommendations be approved:

CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING REPORT - MONTH 10

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the Capital Programme 2020/21 forecast and approve the re-profiling of capital budgets as set out in Appendix 1.

FINANCE AND IT CAPITAL PROGRAMME

That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the report and the details of the status of the schemes in the programme.

ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN

That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to approve:

- (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.

LEISURE ASSETS CAPITAL INVESTMENTS PROGRAMME UPDATE

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to agree that the contents of the report be noted and the following be approved:

- (i) 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.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME – OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS (FEBRUARY 2021)

That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the following:

- (i) Rescheduling to the Tameside Asset Management Plan (TAMP) and the Highways Maintenance Programme. The commencement of the works programme was revised due to Covid 19;
- (ii) The progress with regards to Flooding: Flood Prevention and Consequential Repairs;

- (iii) The progress with regard to the Slope Stability Programme and potential additional works required;
- (iv) The progress with regards to the Cemetery Boundary Walls Programme;
- (v) The rescheduling to Replacement of Cremators and Mercury Abatement, Filtration Plant and Heat Recovery Facilities Programme by the significant impact Covid 19 has had on the operation of the Crematorium and the suppliers of cremator equipment; and
- (vi) The progress of capital schemes in section 2.12-2.24, and external grant schemes in section 3 and 4.

And RECOMMEND to EXECUTIVE CABINET: -

- (vii) The addition of £0.985m to the Council's 2021/22 Capital programme for the Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 as stated in sections 3.18 to 3.22; and
- (viii) The re-phasing of the Operations and Neighbourhoods directorate 2020/21 capital budgets as set out in Appendix 4.

GROWTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

That the EXECUTIVE CABINET RECOMMEND 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; and
- (ii) That the Growth directorate 2020/21 capital budget is rephrased as set out in Appendix 5.

EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME

That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to approve:

- (i) Proposed changes to the Education Capital Programme, Basic Need Funding Schemes Appendix 1, Special Provision Fund and Healthy Pupils' Capital Fund as outlined in Appendix 2A and 2B and School Condition Allocation Funding Schemes Appendix 3;
- (ii) The allocation of an additional £49,000 from Basic Need to cover the additional costs at Discovery Academy and Birch Lane as described in paragraph 4.25;
- (iii) To re-profile the budget for the works to provide a secure entrance at Denton St Anne's into 2021/22 as described in paragraph 6.8;
- (iv) The allocation of an additional £11,657 for additional emergency works at Russell Scott Primary School already incurred, (paragraph 6.15);
- (v) Accept the Sport England Award of £75,000 by the deadline of 31 March 2021 subject to the conditions detailed in paragraphs 6.16 and 6.17;
- (vi) The allocation of a further £50,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant funding towards the two schemes at Gee Cross Holy Trinity (paragraph 6.18);
- (vii) The allocation of £11,058.04 from currently unallocated School Condition Grant funding in respect of safety works to glass balustrades at three primary schools (paragraph 6.19);
- (viii) To set aside £300,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant for replacement boilers at Gorse Hall, Hurst Knoll CE and Audenshaw Primary Schools noting that if successful, some costs will be reimbursed from the decarbonisation scheme (paragraph 6.30);
- (ix) The allocation of £29,000 in respect of surveys of CLASP and other system built schools' fire compartmentalisation (paragraph 6.31);
- (x) The allocation of a high level estimate of £35,000 to remove a life expired mobile unit at Arlies Primary School in summer 2021 (paragraph 6.33);
- (xi) The allocation of £30,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant for further stock condition surveys (paragraph 6.34);
- (xii) The allocation of £40,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant for asbestos management works (paragraph 6.35); and
- (xiii) The allocation of £5,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant for structural engineers' fees (paragraph 6.436).

158. CONSOLIDATED 2020/21 REVENUE MONITORING STATEMENT AT 31 JANUARY 2021

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth / CCG Chair / Director of Finance, which updated Members on the financial position up to 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 reported 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 forecast in year deficit on the Collection Fund for both Council Tax and Business Rates due to the impact of the Covid Pandemic. The 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 2021. The approved budget for 2020/21 was £56.338m and the forecast for the financial year was £46.410m.

In respect of the Designated Schools Grant (DSG) it was explained that the Council was facing significant pressures on High Needs funding and started the 2020/21 financial year with an overall deficit on the DSG reserve of £0.557m. The projected in-year deficit on the high needs block was expected to be £2.838m due to the continuing significant increases in the number of pupils requiring support. If the 2020/21 projections materialised, there would be a deficit on the DSG reserve at the end of this financial year. This would mean it was likely a deficit recovery plan would have to be submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) outlining how this deficit was expected to be recovered and how spending would be managed over the next 3 years and would require discussions and agreement of the Schools Forum.

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.

Members were further advised that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government had announced the distribution of £125m nationally to support the implementation of the Domestic Abuse Bill when it came into law (subject to Parliamentary approval). Tameside were eligible for £0.548m towards this to be spent in the 2021/22 financial year, with a robust needs assessment to be prepared by August 2021. To access this funding the MHCLG required the Council to sign a memorandum of understanding to confirm that they would use the funding towards the necessary preparations and meet the obligations yet to be made law. As the funding was in excess of £500K in accordance with the Council's Constitution, a further report would be necessary for Executive Cabinet approval of the proposed allocation of the funding.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the forecast outturn position and associated risks for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted;**

- (ii) That the significant pressures facing Council Budgets as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, be noted;
- (iii) That the budget virements and reserve transfers set out on pages 23 and 24 of Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;
- (iv) That the forecast Collection Fund position for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 3 to the report, be noted;
- (v) That the Capital Programme 2020/21 forecast be noted and the re-profiling of capital budgets as set out in Appendix 4 to the report, be approved;
- (vi) That the forecast position in respect of Dedicated Schools Grant as set out in Appendix 5 to the report, be noted;
- (vii) That the proposals for accessing the proposals for accessing the CCG cumulative surplus and the utilisation of funds for the purposes set out in section 6 of the report be approved, including the creation of earmarked reserves to support specific initiatives; and
- (viii) That the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding to accept £0.548m of funding to support the preparation for the Domestic Abuse Bill, be including the submission of a further report to agree the implementation strategy in Tameside, as outlined in Section 8 of the report, be approved.

159. SUPPORTING MENOPAUSE AT WORK

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader / Assistant Director for People and Workforce Development, which gave a details of a guide, called *Supporting the Menopause at Work*, which had been developed 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 the menopause and offered practical guidance on how to hold open, honest discussion and improve workplace environments. 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 whilst 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.

Members were advised that 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.

RESOLVED

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

160. ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO PREPARE A JOINT DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Housing Planning and Employment / Director of Growth explaining that on the 11 December 2020, following the withdrawal of Stockport Council from the production of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, the AGMA Executive Board agreed to consider producing a joint Development Plan Document (DPD) of the nine remaining Greater Manchester (GM) boroughs. The joint plan of the nine GM boroughs was to be known as 'Places for Everyone',

Members were advised that each borough was requested to authorise the establishment of a new joint committee of the nine relevant boroughs; Bury, Bolton, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan, and to delegate the preparation of the joint development plan document to the new joint committee. The purpose of formulating the committee would be to oversee the production of the joint development plan document.

In the event that the draft joint development plan document was considered to have substantially the same effect on the nine boroughs as the GMSF 2020 had, the next stage would be publication (Regulation 19 stage of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012), as was considered previously by Tameside's Executive Cabinet on 2 November 2020. As with the GMSF, the Council's Executive Cabinet would be responsible for approving the Regulation 19 version of the plan, ahead of a period for representations to be made. Similarly, as with the GMSF, Council would be responsible for approving the joint plan for Submission to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination. It was understood that these approvals would equally be needed across the eight other boroughs also.

As a result of the changes outlined, the Council's Local Development Scheme would need updating. The Local Development Scheme identified the timetable for the production of local development documents, such as Places for Everyone, and their geographical coverage. Similarly, there was also need to review Tameside's Statement of Community Involvement, which needed to make reference to Places for Everyone appropriately, as consultation on it, as a development plan document, would need to be in accordance with each borough's Statement of Community Involvement.

An updated Local Development Scheme and Statement of Community Involvement would be reported separately for approval in due course.

It was noted that, whilst Stockport Council had withdrawn from the joint planning process of the GMSF, and would prepare its own local plan, under s33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 required a formal Duty to Co-operate, which included neighbouring boroughs. As part of preparing Places for Everyone, the nine boroughs, including Tameside as a directly adjacent neighbour, would need to enter into dialogue with Stockport as appropriate, on matters of strategic, cross-boundary significance. Details of such discussions would be set out in a Statement of Common Ground in due course.

RESOLVED

Note the following agreed at the Council meeting of the 23 February 2021:

- (i) Approved the making of an agreement with the other eight Greater Manchester Councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Trafford, Wigan) to prepare a joint development plan document to cover strategic policies, including housing and employment land requirements and, as appropriate, strategic site allocations and Green Belt boundary amendments and associated infrastructure across the nine districts.**
- (ii) Agreed that the Executive Member Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment) (currently Cllr Gerald P Cooney) be the Tameside lead Member for the joint committee and Cllr Claire Reid as the Assistant Executive Member(Planning and Civic Design) be the nominated deputy to attend and vote as necessary.**

- (iii) Noted that Executive Cabinet will be asked to delegate the formulation and preparation of the draft joint development plan document to a joint committee of the nine GM authorities.
- (iv) Noted that a further report will be brought to Full Council seeking approval to submit the joint development plan document to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

That Executive Cabinet:

- (i) Note that Full Council has approved the making of an agreement with the other eight Greater Manchester Councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Trafford, Wigan) to prepare a joint development plan document to cover strategic policies, including housing and employment land requirements and, as appropriate, strategic site allocations and Green Belt boundary amendments and associated infrastructure across the nine districts.
- (ii) Delegate to the joint committee of the nine Greater Manchester councils the formulation and preparation of the joint development plan document to cover housing and employment land requirements including, as appropriate, strategic site allocations and Green Belt boundary amendments and associated infrastructure across the nine Greater Manchester districts insofar as such matters are executive functions.
- (iii) Note that the following are the sole responsibility of Full Council:
 - a. Responsibility for giving of instructions to the Executive to reconsider the draft plan submitted by the Executive for the authority's consideration;
 - b. The amendment of the draft joint development plan document submitted by the Executive for the Full Council's consideration;
 - c. The approval of the joint development plan document for the purposes of submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination; and
 - d. The adoption of the joint development plan document.

Councillor Cooney having declared a prejudicial interest in the following item, left the meeting and paid no part in the discussion nor voting thereon.

161. 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 advised 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.

It was further proposed that the Council would look to include a restriction whereby, it would not be possible to reuse the property as a Public House. This would help avoid the anti-social behaviour issues which prompted the initial property purchase in 2013.

RESOLVED

It be agreed that the premise, known as the former Cotton Tree Public House, together with an area of parking land to the rear be declared surplus to the requirements of the Council. Any disposal of the former Cotton Tree Public House is to include an absolute restriction/covenant restriction to stop it becoming a public house in the future.

162. 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 advised 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.

RESOLVED

That the publication of those documents which comprise the 2019/20 AMR as listed in paragraph 2.1 and appended to the report, be agreed.

163. 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 advised 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 Economic 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.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the report and consultation findings be noted; and**
- (ii) That the Inclusive Growth Strategy be adopted.**

164. 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 provided on-site. Full details for each of the obligations entered into during this monitoring period were provided in an appendix to the report.

RESOLVED

That the publication of the Infrastructure Funding Statement on the Council's website be approved.

165. TAMESIDE AND STOCKPORT PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Deputy Executive Leader, Children and Families / Director of Children's Services, which sought approval for scoping work, to explore opportunities related to enhanced partnership in the Education and SEND service.

It was stated that Tameside and Stockport had a track record of working successfully together in Children's Services over the past three years, including through the DfEs Innovation Program and as Partners in Practice. It was believed that it was the time to explore the opportunities that exist to potentially extend and accelerate this partnership. A position given further impetus as a result of the impact of the current pandemic and the wider financial pressures for Local Authorities, not only in 2020/21, but for the foreseeable future. The collaboration therefore, provided an opportunity to respond to the challenges of the pandemic and to help deliver on shared 'build back better' ambitions. This initial scoping exercise undertaken jointly across, in the first instance both Local Authorities Education and SEND departments, would underpin the development of more detailed options appraisals, where the evidence supported this, which would in turn then be available for consideration through the due governance processes of each Authority.

The report detailed five key areas that the scoping work would initially focus on:

- Leadership
- School Improvement
- SEND sufficiency and commissioning plan
- Technical posts
- Traded Services

Further to this proposal it was anticipated that in parallel to this initial scoping work in relation to Education and SEND services that preliminary work would also begin to scope out potential wider opportunities across Children's Services. This was likely to include areas such as placement commissioning and sufficiency, quality assurance and independent review.

The program would be overseen by a Program Board from both LAs including Lead Members, Directors of Children's Services, finance, legal, HR and school representation. An explicit objective

of this programme board would be to initially identify and firm up the areas for collaboration including an appropriate options appraisal and in doing so quantify the risks, impact and outcomes, including the tangible savings that could be achieved within an agreed timeframe. Then steer proposals through due diligence and appropriate governance including any necessary policy changes and then oversee implementation.

RESOLVED

- (i) That content of the report and the potential opportunities that it presents, be noted;**
- (ii) That the scoping work proposed be supported, to explore in the first instance, the opportunities related to “enhanced partnership” in the Education and SEND service and the intention to scope out the opportunity and options with a view to establishing an agreed model within 9-12 months for consideration and approval by Executive Cabinet; and**
- (iii) That the proposed arrangements (for an initial period of 2 years) for a single “Director of Education” position working across both Local Authorities be approved, to lead this work which will be undertaken by Tameside’s Assistant Director for Education subject to a service level agreement with Stockport to ensure that appropriate reimbursement is recovered, which will also enable any additional resources to be put in place to ensure sufficient capacity. The Assistant Director will in undertaking this role retain his current position in the Council’s structure in accordance with the Council’s current existing pay and grading framework.**

166. CARED FOR CHILDREN FORMALISATION

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Director of Children’s Services, detailing a proposal to change the language used regarding Cared for Children in line with the views of young people.

It was explained that over the past two years young people had shared their views at the Children in Care Council (CICC) and during other consultation opportunities, with regard to the language that was used by professionals. They did not like the language or acronyms relating to Cared for Children. Further, they did not want to be referred to as Looked after Children (LAC), or have LAC reviews or LAC medicals. They had co-produced the Coming into Care pack and the new pledge. This had used the language they wanted to see going forward.

Members were advised that the Children in Care Council were aware that changing the language relating to Cared for Children could take some time. They understood that there were some national documents that would still have the terminology ‘Looked after Child’. They hoped that this national approach would change over time but TMBC had an opportunity to change the language in line with the commitment to LISTENing in Tameside and the Voice of the Child Strategy which gave a commitment to co-production, inclusivity and Cared for Children’s views carrying the same weight as that of adults.

RESOLVED

That the change of language relating to Cared for Children be approved. This will enable an implementation plan to be progressed.

167. CARED FOR CHILDREN PLEDGE

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Director of Children’s Services, which sought approval for the Cared for Children’s Pledge.

Members were advised that the Corporate Parenting Panel Partnership and Engagement group for young people had developed a Cared for Children’s Pledge. This was considered and endorsed by the Corporate Parenting Panel on 13 October 2020, which resolved that: that the content of the

report be noted and that the 'New Pledge' be taken through the Council's formal governance process for adoption by the Council. The Cared for Children's Pledge (as appended to the report), encapsulated the thinking of the Cared for Children.

It was explained that endorsing and actively promoting this Pledge would help and support engagement with Cared for Children and enhance the delivery of the Corporate Parenting responsibilities.

RESOLVED

That the Cared for Children's Pledge be agreed and actively supported and promoted across the Authority and partners.

168. HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AND FOOD FUNDING GRANT

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Director of Children's Services, which set out the proposals for spending the HAF Grant, which had been allocated to the Local Authority from the DFE to fund local coordination of free holiday activities and healthy food for disadvantaged children during 2021.

Members were advised that on 8 November 2020, the government announced that the Holiday Activity and Food programme, which had provided healthy food and enriching activities to disadvantaged children since 2018 would be expanded across the whole of England in 2021.

It was reported that Tameside received a Grant determination letter 11 February informing of the total maximum amount payable of £1,162,030. A delivery report was submitted 19 February 2021 to HAF programme, which outlined the proposal of delivery and how Tameside would build upon the delivery from Summer 2020.

The programme would cover one week at Easter, four weeks over summer and one week at Christmas holidays in 2021. All children in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals were eligible.

It was further explained that local authorities had flexibility about how they spent the grant and delivered this provision to best serve the needs of the children and families in their areas. In Tameside, a multi-agency steering group had been established to oversee and support the implementation of the HAF programme.

In order to enable a robust plan for summer and Christmas a HAF coordinator would be appointed through a secondment to Tameside. The HAF coordinator would work with schools and providers across Tameside to develop a plan to enable the full delivery of the programme to all eligible families.

It was explained that as Active Tameside were already commissioned by the Council to deliver holiday activity provision for a broad range of vulnerable children and given the short timescales given by the DFE to deliver Easter provision and because of Active Tameside's existing track record in delivery, it was proposed that via an amendment to their existing arrangements, the Local Authority would allocate £116,880 from the HAF grant for Active Tameside to build upon the previous school holiday provision, nutritional food and support offered throughout COVID for vulnerable families. This would ensure all targets were met for the programme at Easter.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the HAF grant be spent on supporting vulnerable families who are eligible for 'free school meals' in the holiday period;**
- (ii) That a HAF coordinator be appointed to oversee the project and coordinate activity and planning for Summer and Christmas;**
- (iii) That Active Tameside be commissioned to deliver the Easter holiday programme to be funded by the 2020/21 grant of £116,860;**

- (iv) That the remaining allocation for 2021/2022 of £1,045,170 be spent on HAF project over the summer and Christmas period 2021 as outlined within the HAF grant conditions;
- (v) That the HAF coordinator role to lead on mapping and scoping out a financial spend and procurement delivery plan for 2021/2022 to be agreed by Executive Cabinet in June and delivered through the HAF partnership steering group;
- (vi) That it be agreed to develop a preferred provider list for delivery of the programme Summer 2021 and Christmas 2021.

169. NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK AND NATIONAL MODEL DESIGN CODE (GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION)

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Housing Planning and Employment / Director of Growth, which detailed the Council's proposed response to the Governments' consultation on National Planning Policy Framework and National Model Design Code.

Members were advised that the Government's consultation sought views on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. The text had been revised to implement policy changes in response to the Building Better Building Beautiful Commission "Living with Beauty" Report and was intended to promote quality of design of new development. The Building Better, Building Beautiful Commission was an independent body set up to advise government on how to promote and increase the use of high-quality design for new build homes and neighbourhoods. The "Living with Beauty" report set out the Commission's recommendations to government which proposed three overall aims: ask for beauty, refuse ugliness and promote stewardship and made 45 detailed policy propositions.

In addition, the consultation also sought views on the draft National Model Design Code, which provided detailed guidance on the production of design codes, guides and policies to promote successful design. The government expected this to be used to inform the production of local design guides, codes and policies and wanted to ensure it was as effective as possible.

It was reported that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government was consulting on the draft text of the revised National Planning Policy Framework and sought views on the draft National Model Design Code. In responding to the consultation, the government would appreciate comments on any potential impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty. Through a series of focussed questions, it provided the opportunity for comments to be submitted by 27 March 2021, and the proposed responses from the Council were set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

RESOLVED

That the submission of the response at set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be agreed as the Council's response to the Government's consultation "National Planning Policy Framework and National Model Design Code: consultation proposals".

170. IMPACT OF COVID – FUTURE DELIVERY AND RESOURCING OF SPORT AND LEISURE 2021/22 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Executive Member, Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Assistant Director, Population Health / Assistant Director of Finance, submitted a report, which updated Members on the plans for short term financial sustainability of the Council's Sport and Leisure facilities provided by Active Tameside, as the sector recovered from the worldwide pandemic and national lockdown measures.

The report outlined the short term financial support required to allow key sports and leisure facilities to be successfully re-opened to the local community and Tameside residents.

It was explained that the Covid Pandemic had had a huge impact on the finances of the Council's leisure provider, Active Tameside and was likely to continue throughout 2021/22 as the nation recovered from the pandemic.

The pandemic had proven that those who were fit and healthy had been least affected by the impact of catching the virus. A sustainable leisure offer for Council residents was key to reducing health inequalities and improving the health resilience of the borough's population.

A separate Sport and Leisure review was being undertaken across the leisure estate over the next six months that set out the long term requirements of the Council to ensure the long term future sustainability of provision for residents. This was currently being consulted on and was reported to Executive Cabinet in February 2021.

RESOLVED

- (i) That a supplementary management fee of £0.77m to Active Tameside for the 2021/22 financial year be approved, to be drawn down on an open book basis, if, as and when the cash is required and that this supplementary management fee is repayable if any additional government support is received and/or there are additional funds received by Active Tameside by way of insurance settlements;**
- (ii) It be agreed that any decision around the treatment of the prudential borrowing debt will be subject to an additional report once all other funding routes have been exhausted and the broader insurance claim has been settled;**
- (iii) It be agreed that any further support by way of the 2022/23 management fee is agreed as part of the 2022/23 budget process; and**
- (iv) It be agreed that a contingency of £0.5m be set aside from carried forward Covid grants as support in case of the delayed relaxation of restrictions or subsequent additional national restrictions being imposed by the Government.**

171. COVID-19 WINTER GRANT EXTENSION

A report was submitted by the Executive Leader / Assistant Director, Policy Performance and Communications, which set out proposals for spending the extended 'Covid Winter Grant' before the 31 March 2021 to support families who were struggling to access food and warmth.

It was reported that Tameside had been allocated £311,000. Funding would be ring fenced and covered the period until 17 April 2021.

Details of the eligibility framework and categories of spend were given. An update on the organisations which had been funded to support those struggling to access food and essentials through the Winter Covid Grant (original grant), was also provided.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Covid Winter grant be spent on supporting vulnerable families and individuals as set out at appendix 1 to the report;**
- (ii) That a voucher scheme for children eligible for free school meals be established. This scheme will enable children eligible for free school meals to receive two £15 a week food vouchers for the Easter Holiday period;**
- (iii) That any families who are not eligible for FSM but are in need to support online contact the Early Help Access Point for help, support and advice;**
- (iv) That the voucher scheme be extended out to Care Leavers for the Christmas period (to a value of £30);**
- (v) That the scheme is further extended to low income sixth form and college students (to a value to £30). Administration of grants to students via the colleges will be formalised by letter to the colleges containing any appropriate conditions in relation to the administration of the grants on behalf of the Council;**

- (vi) That an amount of money be invested in welfare rights and Willow Wood to provide food vouchers to those who are in financial need (120 vouchers in total); and
- (vii) To work with the following supermarkets to distribute vouchers, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Morrisons and Asda, we will have written terms and conditions attached to the purchase order.

172. RE-OPENING HIGH STREETS FUND

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth giving an update on the governments Re-Opening High Streets Fund and changes by central government to programme delivery timescales and eligibility criteria, which had resulted in the council having to update its Re-Opening High Streets Fund Delivery Plan (as detailed in an appendix to the report.

It was explained that, at the time of announcing the RHSS Programme, central government encouraged Council's to get on with drafting delivery plans and accordingly, proposals were considered by Tameside Council's Executive Cabinet in August 2020. However in late September 2020, MHCLG appointed Contract Managers to liaise with Councils on their programmes and to provide advice on expenditure. Councils were advised they must prepare a formal Grant Action Plan (GAP), to be agreed by MHCLG. Once agreed, the GAP informed a Grant Funding Agreement (GFA) between Tameside MBC and MHCLG.

The Government Guidance for the funding originally covered four areas of eligible activity:

- a) Support to develop an action plan for how the local authority may begin to safely reopen their local economies;
- b) Communications and public information activity to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely;
- c) Business-facing awareness raising activities to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely;
- d) Temporary public realm changes to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely.

A public consultation was undertaken virtually to provide the opportunity for residents and businesses to provide views on the programme. The consultation also provided an opportunity for the community to assist in highlighting 'pinch points' that may require temporary alterations in order to allow social distancing to take place and none were raised. The consultation ran from the 3 August for 6 weeks ending on the 11 September 2020 and was accessed through the authority's website and had dedicated communications running alongside to raise awareness. In total, 278 responses were received. The report gave details of the findings and council responses.

Consultation had also taken place with local business owners including shopping centre management to inform of the allocation and to ensure that a co-ordinated approach could be undertaken. Members and the Chairs of the town teams were also contacted by the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth to brief them about the allocation, restrictions of the ERDF funding and the public consultation.

The report further set out the current areas of expenditure contained in the Grant Action Plan (Appendix 1 to the report) and being actively worked on through constant dialogue with MHCLG. These areas of expenditure will form the Grant Funding Agreement between MHCLG and the Council.

A timeline for the project was also presented in the report.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Grant Action Plan, as at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;**

- (ii) That any necessary funding variances on the activity detailed in the Grant Action Plan (Appendix 1), be approved, within the funding envelope of £0.201m, to ensure all the funding is spent before 30 June 2021; and
- (iii) That entering into the necessary contracts to deliver the works detailed in the Grant Action Plan (Appendix 1 to the report), be approved.

173. LICENSING ACT POLICY EXTENSION

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Neighbourhoods Community Safety and Environment / Assistant Director, Operations and Neighbourhoods. The report recommended the re-instatement of the current Statement of Licensing Policy for one year and for a full review and consultation to be conducted in 2021/22.

Members were advised that Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 required Tameside Council to review its Licensing Policy every 5 years. Due to the extraordinary impact of the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020, this full review had not been able to take place. The Government had clarified that primary legislation would not be amended to delay the requirement for Councils to review statements of licensing policy. Therefore, it was proposed to carry over the current policy subject to a full review being carried out in 2021/2022. Responsible authorities and licensed trade networks had been informally consulted on this proposed approach.

It was explained that the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on licensed premises and night time economy had been severe. Several licensed premises had closed due to the pandemic and venues such as nightclubs had been unable to open since March 2020 and it was not clear what the lasting impacts on the sector would be. The revised policy would need to effectively reflect the situation post-Covid.

RESOLVED

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

174. URGENT ITEMS

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

CHAIR