

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

5 July 2021

Commenced: 14:00

Terminated: 15:10

Present: Councillors Warrington (Chair), Fairfoull, McNally, Ryan and Dickinson

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| In Attendance: | Sandra Stewart | Director of Governance and Pensions |
| | Ian Saxon | Director - Operations and Neighbourhoods |
| | Kathy Roe | Director of Finance |
| | Sandra Whitehead | Assistant Director of Adult Services |
| | Ian Duncan | Interim Assistant Director of Finance |
| | Debbie Watson | Assistant Director of Population Health |
| | Tim Bowman | Director of Education (Tameside and Stockport) |
| | Paul Smith | Assistant Director of Strategic Property |

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Cooney and Feeley who participated in the meeting virtually.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declaration of interest.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel meeting on the 15 March 2021 were approved as a correct record.

4 CAPITAL OUTTURN REPORT 2020/21

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Finance. The report summarised the outturn position on capital expenditure at 31 March 2021.

Members were advised that the detail of this monitoring report was focused on the budget and forecast expenditure for fully approved projects in the 2020/21 financial year. The approved budget for 2020/21 was £47.448m and outturn for the financial year was £43.593m. There were additional schemes that had been identified as a priority for the Council, and, where available, capital resource had been earmarked against these schemes, which would be added to the Capital Programme and future detailed monitoring reports once satisfactory business cases had been approved by Executive Cabinet.

It was reported that throughout the year there had been a number of requests for re-profiling of budgets into 2021/22 and 2022/23 due to delays across projects, much of which had been attributed to COVID. Re-profiling of £4.091m was requested in this report which when combined with amounts requested in previous reports this year equated to £34.982m of budget slippage.

RESOLVED

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

5 ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Health, Social Care and Population Health / Director of Adults Services providing an update of the developments in relation to the Adults Capital Programme for:

- schemes previously approved and still underway; and
- the usage of the wider disabled facilities grant (DFG) including the housing adaptations budget.

Details were given of approved projects for 2020/21, as follows:

| | Project | Total Funding Approved | 20/21 Allocation | Projected Outturn | Re-profiling |
|----|--|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Christ Church Community Developments(CCCD) | £150k | £120k | £120k | £0k |
| 2. | Moving with Dignity (Single Handed Care) | £375k DFG | £179k | £163k | £16k |
| 3. | Disability Assessment Centre | £250k DFG | £250k | £0k | £250k |
| 4. | Brain in Hand | £20k DFG | £0k | £0k | £0k |
| 5. | Mount Street | £100k DFG | £100k | £100k | £0k |

Members were advised that the replacement of ageing and obsolete equipment was also approved, however, it had been profiled with allocated funds in 2021/22 of £45,593 with on costs. Details of the wider DFG and other related adaptation funding and discretionary non-adaptations funding were also contained within the report.

Works at Mount Street were completed as described in the previous report and no further costs were anticipated on this scheme.

Full details of the Adult Services capital programme were included in an appendix to the report.

The report concluded that a number of projects were completed or due for completion shortly including Mount Street supported accommodation, that was up and running; Day Services review, which was a medium term piece of work; and Brain in Hand, whose contract expiration was at the end of May. 4C was due to open in line with the nation's roadmap proposed date of all restrictions easing towards the end of June, if all the tests were met. This was a testament to the service, which continued its best to deliver projects and meet improved outcomes for people through challenging times. All costs and benefits were being monitored and reviewed regularly taking into account people's changing needs and ensuring the right support was in place; whether that be assessment staff or adaptations to enable people to remain as independent as possible in their own homes.

RESOLVED

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the progress updates and that the budget for Adaptions in 2021/22 be approved at £2.0m, to be funded from Disabled Facilities Grant.

6 CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE CAPITAL SCHEMES UPDATE REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Assistant Director for Children's Social Care, which provided an update on the Children's Social Care Property Scheme and set out details of the major approved capital schemes in this Directorate.

The Director of Children's Services delivered a progress update on the capital projects and advised Members that the original plan was to purchase a property to deliver an assessment unit. However, the report proposed St Lawrence Road, which was originally identified to be a respite unit, be repurposed to deliver an assessment unit. Work would continue to pursue a property to deliver a

respite unit. It was explained that in consultation with colleagues in Growth St Lawrence Road was considered to be a more appropriate building to deliver an assessment unit from given the size of the building and its location with easy access to public transport and local amenities.

It was further explained that purchasing a property to deliver a respite unit is a matter of urgency to fulfil this requirement. A suitable property search was underway and would be fully completed in 2021. It was anticipated that the cost of this would be less than that of purchasing a property for an assessment unit. At this stage, the cost was unknown until an appropriate property had been identified, therefore it was proposed that the remaining budget of £397,297 originally approved for the assessment unit be utilised to purchase a property for the respite unit.

RESOLVED

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to:

- (i) Note the 2020/21 Capital Expenditure Outturn position in Appendix 1 and approve the budget slippage.**
- (ii) Approve the repurpose of St Lawrence Road to become the Assessment Unit rather than the Respite Unit as originally planned.**
- (iii) Approve the additional drawdown of £3,800 to allow completion of the St Lawrence Road scheme.**
- (iv) Note the delays in relation to the purchase of the new residential property, which approval is now sought to purchase a property for the respite unit.**
- (v) Approve the utilisation of the approved budget available of £397,327, which was originally to purchase a property for an assessment unit to purchase a property to become a respite unit.**

7 GROWTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member of 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.

It was reported that the Denton Baths Site Clearance capital project was now complete. The report requested an additional £0.025m to stabilise the sidewalls of the deep excavation where it adjoins the highway. However Members were advised that a technical solution had been found so the recommendation would be removed prior to consideration at Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.

The report detailed additional work required at the former Two Trees School due to previously undiscovered asbestos. Additional contingent budget was required to remove previously undiscovered Asbestos. The area in question was contaminated by asbestos dust after a break in. The area could not be properly surveyed until after an environmental clean. The Council had been alerted to this via an Early Warning Notice issued from the LEP. The cost of the additional asbestos removal was £0.060m. It was proposed that a budget of £0.060m be allocated to the scheme. The asbestos must be removed in order to complete the demolition scheme and achieve the full amount of GMCA grant funding allocated to this scheme.

Members were advised that part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) funding for Stalybridge was for a replacement roof on Stalybridge Civic / Market for which a budget of £567,100 was allowed. However, as survey work to inform the contract had identified additional works that needed to be carried out, this included replacement of the extensive roof lights which were in too poor a condition to re-use and the replacement of an essential health and safety access system which is also unable to be reused. The estimate for the contract was £1.7m and this report requested an additional £1,132,900.

RESOLVED

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the report and 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 £28,956.16.**
- (ii) **That additional budget of £0.060m be allocated to the former Two Trees school site clearance scheme to remove previously undiscovered asbestos. The contingent budget to be financed by the approved capital programme.**

8 EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Executive Member for Finance and Growth / Director of Education / Assistant Director of Strategic Property. The report provided an overview of the Council's Education Capital Programme.

Members were advised that on the 27 April 2021 Devolved Formula Capital for Tameside Schools was announced and was £264,244 for Maintained Local Authority Schools and £174,553 for Voluntary Aided Schools. A query had been submitted to the DfE due to DFC funding not being received for 5 schools who currently have academy orders in place but have not yet converted.

It was reported the School Condition Grant Funding available in 2020/21 was £2,941,924. On 27 April 2021, the Government announced an allocation for Tameside of £1,328,013 for 2021/22 School Condition Funding. Full detailed of existing and proposed schemes were set out in Appendix 2.

The High Needs Provision Capital Allocation was provided to local authorities as a un-ringfenced grant and was intended to address the need for high need places for the academic year 2022/23. On the 9 April the Government announced an allocation for Tameside of £1,223,336 for 2021/22 work was underway to establish how the funding could be utilised.

It was reported that the current focus of the Council's Basic Need programme was to complete the two remaining scheme at primary schools and create additional places in secondary and special schools where forecasts had indicated a need. Members were provided with an update on schemes that had already been approved by Executive Cabinet. The Council had £12,010,447 of Basic Need available to spend in 2020/21. This was a balance of unspent grant from previous years the council did not receive any allocation in 2020/21. Notification had been received of an additional allocation of £12,231,816 for 2021/22 and £6,348,338 for 2022/23.

In regards to the School Condition Grant the Council had £2,941,924 of School Condition funding available to be spent during the 2020/21 financial year, to improve and maintain the school estate. Notification had been received for an allocation of £1,328,013 for 2021/22. It was stated that the budget available was insufficient to meet the demands placed upon it and the surveyors were asked to identify priorities of works required within each school and across the portfolio of schools. In addition to the works identified in the condition survey there were other calls on the School Condition Allocation budget. This was the only central source of grant money to spend on schools other than Basic Need which was purely to create new school places.

The Director for Education explained that the report sought approval for the budget slippage and proposed changes to the Basic Need Funding, School Condition Funding, Special Provision Funding and Healthy Pupil's Funding. The Assistant Director of Strategic Property explained that the slippage and proposed changes were due to projects that had not been completed in 2021/22 that had been moved to be completed in 2022/23.

RESOLVED

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the progress set out in the report and approve the following:

- (i) **That the 2020/21 Capital Expenditure Outturn position is noted in Appendix 1, 2 and 3.**
- (ii) **Budget slippage of (£220,405) and proposed changes of £14,843,100 to the Basic Need Funding as detail in Appendix 1.**

- (iii) Budget slippage of £657,755 and proposed changes of £1,516,150 to the School Condition Funding as detail in Appendix 2.
- (iv) Budget slippage of £176,342 to the Special Provision Funding as detail in Appendix 3.
- (v) Budget slippage of £134,000 to the Healthy Pupil's Funding as detail in Appendix 4.

and note that a further report will be drafted to Cabinet to consider:

- (vi) Approval for £264,244 of Devolved Formula Capital grant to be added to the Capital Programme for 2021/22
- (vii) Approval of £1,328,013 of School Condition grant to be added to the Capital Programme for 2021/22.
- (viii) Approval of £1,223,336 of High Need Provision grant to be added to the Capital Programme for 2021/22.
- (ix) Approval of £12,231,816 of Basic Need grant to be added to the Capital Programme for 2021/22.
- (x) Approval of £6,348,338 of Basic Need grant to be added to the Capital Programme for 2022/23.

9 LEISURE ASSETS CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Director of Population Health providing 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.

Details were given of the following completed schemes:

- (a) Active Copley heating system replacement (£0.369m)
- (b) Active Copley pitch replacement scheme (£0.177m)
- (c) Active Medlock roof replacement scheme (£0.120m)
- (d) Active Dukinfield development (ITRAIN) – (£1.3m Council investment & £1m repayable loan by Active Tameside).
- (e) Active Longdendale Development (Total Adrenaline) – (£0.600m repayable loan by Active Tameside)
- (f) Active Medlock Synthetic Turf Pitch Replacement (£0.120m) – (£0.013m underspend)
- (g) East Cheshire Harriers Floodlight Replacement Scheme – (£0.100m)
- (h) Tameside Wellness Centre (£16.374m)

It was explained that Schemes a) to g) had been delivered within budget. As set out in the approved financial comments, an overspend of £0.036m on the Tameside Wellness Centre scheme had been offset from an underspend on the Medlock Synthetic Turf Pitch Replacement scheme and the Hyde Pool extension scheme. This approach was approved Executive Cabinet on 24 March 2021.

In respect of Active Hyde Pool Extension (£4.034m), it was reported that the Hyde Pool extension scheme was due to achieve practical completion on the 4 June 2021, which was 5 weeks later than previously reported to Panel in March. The delay was due to the need to retile sections of the pool tank due to noncompliance issues. The Council was not liable for any costs in relation to the delay. Active Tameside continued to be updated on progress. This had supported their mobilisation planning in readiness for the buildings handover, which in turn reduced the time required to get the facility operational to an absolute minimum.

RESOLVED

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the report and that future updates of the Leisure Assets Capital Investment Programme with any further updates be included in the Growth Update report.

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods. The report provided information with regards to the 2020/21 and 2021/22 Operations and Neighbourhoods Capital Programme.

The Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhood explained to allow all MCF schemes to be developed the Council has secured Development Cost Funding to the value of £1,937,125. This funding had been included in the Capital Programme. In addition, approval for the full construction costs had also been received for the Hill Street and Chadwick Dam schemes. The total MCF grant approved for both schemes was £686,951, which included £80,000 activation funding that would be used to increase awareness and use of the new routes by residents and businesses. These works were progressing well and are on track to be complete by summer 2021.

Members were advised that Appendix 1 provided a summary of the Mayor's Challenge Fund schemes which were prioritised at this time along with the estimated costs and approved development costs. Good progress had been made in developing the remaining schemes with a key focus on high quality provision for active travel, to meet new and emerging standards, including the recent GM Interim Active Travel Design Guide. In April 2021, TfGM asked the Council to review the latest scheme costs and agree a phasing strategy, in line with the programme budget of £10.3m. The MCF schemes would continue to be developed, in line with the agreed development budget, but the delivery costs for some schemes would be removed from the current allocation, awaiting further funding opportunities.

It was explained that a sum of £3.576m for Tameside's 2021-22 Transport Grant and Pothole and Challenge funding was subject to approval by the GMCA at a future meeting. If approved, it was proposed that £1.289m be ring fenced for Pothole and Challenge funding in the Highways 2021-22 Revenue budget and £2.287m be added to the Highways 2021-22 Capital budget. Members should note that the proposed 2021-22 grant allocation was £0.417m less than the 2020-21 grant allocation. If approved, a programme of Highway capital works would be presented to Members for approval.

It was stated that the work on the replacement of cremators and mercury abatement, filtration plant and heat recovery facilities was progressing well. A four week extension to the project timeline was anticipated due to unforeseen circumstances with an unknown floor void. The void required filling before steel structures could be erected as part of the construction works. Following a structural survey on the steeple, it had become apparent that urgent work was needed to ensure that the fabric and integrity of the steeple is safe. Work had been undertaken with the LEP as to how best to deliver the works to the Steeple which would cost in the region of £400K to be met from the project contingency.

RESOLVED

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the following:

- (i) **The progress with regards to the Tameside Asset Management Plan (TAMP) and the Highways Maintenance Programme completed in 2020/2021. 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 progress with regards to the replacement of Cremators and Mercury Abatement, Filtration Plant and Heat Recovery Facilities.**
- (vi) **The progress of capital schemes in section 2.14-2.23, and external grant schemes in section 3 and 4.**
- (vii) **The progress being made to secure external grant funding in order to deliver a number of walking and cycling infrastructure schemes as set out in section 3 and the requirement to undertake consultation on a number of schemes being developed.**

And EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to approve:

- (viii) The addition of £0.687m to the Council's 2021/22 Capital Programme for the Full Delivery and Activation costs for the Mayor's Challenge Fund schemes at Chadwick Dam, Ashton / Stalybridge and Hill Street, Ashton as set out in section 3.7.
- (ix) The re-phasing of the Mayor's Challenge Fund Walking and Cycling schemes as set out in Appendix 1.
- (x) Subject to GMCA approval on 25 June 2021, £2.415m Highways grant funding be added to the Council's 2021-22 capital programme and £1.500m Pothole and Challenge funding of the same grant be added to the 2021-22 Operations and Neighbourhood's directorate Highways revenue budget as set out in section 4.12.
- (xi) To approve the expenditure of up to £0.400m from the approved project contingency budget to undertake urgent repair works to the steeple at Dukinfield Crematorium. In addition, undertake further detailed surveys of the steeple and roof to establish a scheme of restoration to be procured through the LEP. The cost of the surveys to be met from the £0.400m contingent budget as set out in section 2.13. Additional works to the steeple and roof will be subject to separate approval by Members.

11 URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

CHAIR