

**EXECUTIVE CABINET**  
**28 July 2021**

**Commenced: 2.30pm**

**Terminated: 3.40pm**

**Present:** Councillors Warrington (Chair), Cooney, Fairfoull, Gwynne (part meeting), Ryan and Wills

|                       |                           |  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>In Attendance:</b> | <b>Steven Pleasant</b>    | <b>Chief Executive &amp; Accountable Officer</b>                 |
|                       | <b>Sandra Stewart</b>     | <b>Director of Governance &amp; Pensions</b>                     |
|                       | <b>Kathy Roe</b>          | <b>Director of Finance</b>                                       |
|                       | <b>Steph Butterworth</b>  | <b>Director of Adults Services</b>                               |
|                       | <b>Richard Hancock</b>    | <b>Director of Children's Services</b>                           |
|                       | <b>Ian Saxon</b>          | <b>Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods</b>                 |
|                       | <b>Tim Bowman</b>         | <b>Director of Education (Tameside &amp; Stockport)</b>          |
|                       | <b>Jeanelle De Gruchy</b> | <b>Director of Population Health</b>                             |
|                       | <b>Debbie Watson</b>      | <b>Assistant Director of Population Health</b>                   |
|                       | <b>Caroline Barlow</b>    | <b>Assistant Director of Finance</b>                             |
|                       | <b>Ian Duncan</b>         | <b>Interim Assistant Director of Finance</b>                     |
|                       | <b>Ilys Cookson</b>       | <b>Assistant Director, Exchequer Services</b>                    |
|                       | <b>Sarah Threlfall</b>    | <b>Assistant Director, Policy, Performance and Communication</b> |
|                       | <b>Paul Smith</b>         | <b>Assistant Director, Strategic Property</b>                    |

**Apologies for absence:** Councillors Feeley and Kitchen – Tameside MBC who participated in the meeting virtually  
Councillor Bray – Tameside MBC

**19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

| <b>Member</b>     | <b>Subject Matter</b>   | <b>Type of Interest</b> | <b>Nature of Interest</b> |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Councillor Gwynne | Agenda Item 11<br>FOSTER CARER OFFER<br>UPDATE AND<br>IMPLEMENTATION PLAN | Prejudicial             | Special<br>Guardianship   |

**20. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE CABINET**

**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet meeting held on 23 June 2021 be approved as a correct record.

**21. MINUTES OF STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD**

**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Commissioning Board held on 23 June 2021 be noted.

**22. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meetings of Executive Board held on: 9 June and 7 July 2021 be noted.

## **23. 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 5 July 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 5 July 2021, be noted; and**
- (b) That the following recommendations be approved:**

### **CAPITAL OUTTURN REPORT 2020/21**

#### **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.**

### **ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN**

#### **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.**

### **CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE CAPITAL SCHEMES UPDATE REPORT**

#### **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.**

### **GROWTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

#### **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.**

### **EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

#### **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.

## **LEISURE ASSETS CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE**

### **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.

## **CAPITAL PROGRAMME - OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS (MAY 2021)**

### **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**

## **24. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP**

### **RESOLVED**

**That the Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Climate Emergency Working Group held on 16 June 2021 be noted.**

## **25. 2021/22 INTEGRATED FINANCE REPORT MONTH 2**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member of Finance and Economic Growth / Lead Clinical GP / Director of Finance. The report covered the Month 2 2021/22 financial position, reflecting actual expenditure to 31 May 2021.

It was reported that at Period 2, the Council was forecasting an overspend against budget of £5.8m. Children's Services were still the biggest area of financial concern, with expenditure forecast to exceed budget by £4.717m. The overspend was predominantly due to the number and cost of external placements. There was also a pressure of £198k in the Growth Directorate, resulting from a shortfall in customer and client receipts. A pressure of £891k had been reported for Operations and Neighbourhoods due to a combination of additional costs and non-recovery of income, including an income shortfall on car parks.

It was further reported that CCG was reporting an overspend of £194k, this related to reimbursable Covid expenses for which a future allocation should be received. A financial envelope for the first 6 months of the year had been agreed at a Greater Manchester level, from which the CCG had been allocated £221.3m of resource. It was not yet clear what the financial regime would look like in the second half of the year. As such it was difficult to estimate what the full year allocation would ultimately become.

Members were advised that the Council had recently received notification of grant allocations for Capital Investment in Schools. Members were asked to note the Education Capital Grants and approve the inclusion of these amounts on the Capital Programme for the financial years 2021/22 and 2022/23, as follows:

- £264,244 of Devolved Formula Capital grant for 2021/22
- £1,328,013 of School Condition grant for 2021/22
- £1,223,336 of High Needs Provision Capital grant for 2021/22.
- £12,231,816 of Basic Need grant for 2021/22
- £6,348,338 of Basic Need grant for 2022/23.

### **RESOLVED**

- (i) That the forecast outturn position and associated risks for 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 1 to report, be noted;**
- (ii) That the indicative 2021-22 Integrated Commissioning Fund be approved and the roll forward of the existing Section 75 Agreement and Financial Framework which has been to reflect the transition year of the CCG, be agreed; and**
- (iii) That the recent notifications of Education Capital Grants be noted and the inclusion of the amounts set out in paragraph 4.1 on the Capital Programme for the financial years 2021/22 and 2022/23, be approved.**

## **26. ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader / T&G CCG Co-chairs / Assistant Director for Policy, Performance and Communications, providing an update on the delivery of engagement and consultation activity in 2020/21.

It was stated that much of the Engagement work had been undertaken jointly, coordinated through the Tameside and Glossop Partnership Engagement Network (PEN) – by NHS Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group, Tameside Council and Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust. Each of the three agencies undertook work individually where necessary and appropriate for the purposes of specific projects.

It was further explained that the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic had also meant that different ways to engage local communities had to be identified. The report sets out some examples of the ways in which this had been achieved, including the establishment of both the Community Champions programme and the Inequalities Reference Group.

The Assistant Director Policy, Performance and Communications highlighted the key headlines from June 2020 to date:

- Facilitated 32 thematic Tameside and/or Glossop engagement projects
- Received 4,186 engagement contacts (excluding attendance at virtual events)
- Supported 27 engagement projects at the regional and Greater Manchester level
- Promoted 33 national consultations where the topic was of relevance to and/or could have an impact on Tameside and/or Glossop
- Established the Community Champions Network to provide residents and workforces with the coronavirus information they need to lead the way in their community, with over 250 members now registered
- Established the Tameside & Glossop Inequalities Reference Group in response to how the coronavirus pandemic, and the wider governmental and societal response to this, has brought equalities (and indeed inequalities) into sharp focus
- Delivered two virtual Partnership Engagement Network (PEN) conferences attended by over 150 delegates in total
- Delivered four virtual Partnership Engagement Network sessions focusing on the impact of COVID-19 and how we can build back better. These were attended by over 50 participants.
- Held a virtual engagement session with young people to understand the impact of the pandemic on them and how they feel things can be done differently in the future.
- Undertook the third joint budget conversation exercise for Tameside Council and NHS Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group
- Achieved 'Green Star' top rating for public and patient engagement as part of the CCG Improvement and Assessment Framework (IAF). Tameside and Glossop CCG attained the highest score possible, one of only 40 out of 195 areas in the country to do so \*

### **RESOLVED**

**That the content of the report be noted and future engagement and consultation activity with the communities of Tameside and Glossop, as detailed in the report, be supported.**

## **27. PROPOSALS FOR THE USE OF THE RING-FENCED GRANT TO HELP THOSE WITH OBESITY TO LOSE WEIGHT**

Consideration was given to report of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Population Health / Clinical Lead for Long Term Conditions / Assistant Director of Population Health, outlining the proposals to spend the £209,741 provided to Tameside Council as part of the Government's Adult Weight Management Tier 2 services grant fund 2021/22. The report also provided information on a recent bid to expand weight management services for children and families.

It was reported that the investment was one-off funding in the financial year 2021/22. Following advice received from STAR procurement, it was proposed that the Be Well tier 2 service expansion be delivered via a contract variation with Pennine Care NHS Trust. Further, it was proposed that Active Tameside should be awarded a grant to expand the tier 2 Live Active provision, this was allowed within the terms of the grant.

It was explained that Be Well Tameside provided the current self-referral tier 2 weight management service. The grant funding would be used to increase the 1:1 support they provided for people in the community.

Members were advised that, based on the grant criteria, Tameside Council had submitted an application of £153,468 to support healthy weight in children and families via extended brief intervention and Tier 2 weight management services.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the content of the report be noted and the proposals outlined in the report be agreed.**

### **28. PERFORMANCE SCORECARD**

A report was submitted by the Assistant Director, Policy, Performance and Communications, giving details of the Corporate Plan scorecard, as attached to the report, which provided evidence to demonstrate progress towards the achievement of the Corporate Plan and improving the services provided to residents, businesses and key stakeholders within the locality.

It was explained that, supporting the corporate scorecards were thematic scorecards which were monitored by services to inform their ongoing delivery and improvement work. The thematic scorecards were:

- Corporate
- Health and care (incl. adult care)
- Children and family
- Inclusive economic growth (incl. planning and transport)
- Community and culture
- Environment and place

It was noted that the Corporate Plan scorecard would be reported on a regular basis to the Overview Panel and the Strategic Commissioning Board / Executive Cabinet, and then subsequently to the two Scrutiny Panels to inform their work programmes.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the content of the scorecard, as attached to the report, be noted and reported on a regular basis to the Overview Panel and the two Scrutiny Panels – Place and External Relations; and Integrated Care and Wellbeing – to inform their work programmes.**

### **29. SAVINGS DELIVERY 2021/22**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Finance, which provided Members with an update on the savings monitoring exercise for delivery of 2021/22 savings, and highlighted any risks or delays to delivery.

Members were reminded that if savings of £8.930m were delivered in 2021/22 and a further £4.921m of savings delivered in 2022/23, the Council still faced a forecast budget gap of more than £14m in 2022/23. It was therefore important that the Council embarked on early forward planning for 2022/23 and beyond. In order to meet the challenges of the 2022/23 financial year it was vital that all the proposed savings for 2021/22 be delivered.

It was stated that progress on the delivery of proposed savings as part of the 2021/22 budget process was being monitored on a monthly basis, with a proportion of schemes reviewed in detail at different points during the year.

**RESOLVED**

**That the progress report and risk areas for delivery in 2021/22 and future years' savings, be noted.**

**30. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Finance. The report sought approval of the updated Council's Financial Regulations and Procedures.

Members were advised that the revised format was intended to allow easy navigation of the regulations so that quick reference could be made and so that the reader could fully understand the importance and reason for the regulations in safeguarding the finances of the Council. This should be particularly helpful to new officers to the Council. The Financial Regulations and Procedures covered all areas of the financial management of the Council's affair. The updated Financial Regulations were attached to the report at Appendix 1.

**RESOLVED**

**That Executive Cabinet RECOMMENDS to Full Council: that the updated Financial Regulations and Procedures be approved and formally adopted by Full Council.**

**31. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2022-2023**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Assistant Director, Exchequer Services detailing the procedural requirement in deciding if changes were required to the Council Tax Support scheme (CTS).

Members were advised that additional monies were made available to all Local Authorities by MHCLG in April 2020 in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. The additional monies had to be used primarily on reducing CTS claimants Council Tax liability by £150 for the 2020/2021 financial year with remaining monies supporting Council Tax payers suffering hardship. In total £2m assisted 12,691 all working age CTS claimants and £344k supported non-CTS claimants with a Council Tax liability.

Further additional monies had been made available in the current financial year by MHCLG in respect of COVID and which could be used towards Council Tax Support for 2021/22. The total monies for Tameside were £2.025m. Unlike last year there was no clear stipulation on how this money had to be used however, guidance stated that the money was aimed directly at supporting councils to meet the anticipated additional costs of providing Local Council Tax support in 2021-22, resulting from increased unemployment".

Members were further advised that caseloads fluctuated throughout the year and on a daily basis and last year a total of 12,691 claimants of CTS at some point in the year benefitted from the reduction. The report detailed matters that had to be taken into consideration in terms of how the grant monies could be best used in the context of a potential shortfall on the Council Tax collection fund at the end of the year.

It was explained that there was a need to balance the needs of those already claiming CTS and managing to pay and those who were just above the CTS threshold and in financial difficulty. There was generally less overall cost to the Councils budget to support such claimants by the award a one off Section 13a Hardship Policy payment than to claim CTS longer term.

A number of options had been considered and £1,012,500m grant monies was proposed to be used to directly support Council Tax Support claimants and financially vulnerable households as follows:

| <b>Claimant support</b>          | <b>Cost</b> | <b>Notes</b>  |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---|
| £50 awarded to each CTS claimant | 634k        | £378k remaining for further new claims and hardship cases under Section 13a Hardship Policy |

The above struck the balance between benefitting existing and new Council Tax Support claimants and those just above the threshold and were experiencing significant financial hardship and unable to pay Council Tax. The remaining £1.012m grant money would contribute to the overall Council budget and which may be used to offset a shortfall in Council Tax collection.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) That the Council Tax Support scheme for 2022/23 in principle remains the same scheme as that set effective from April 2019, subject to annual benefit uprating as detailed in the scheme and any further guidance which may be issued by MCHLG; and**
- (ii) That the Local Council Tax Support grant monies for 2021/22 be used to award £50 to each existing and new Council Tax Support claimant, subject to the conditions set out in Section 3.16 of the report, with remaining monies supporting hardship cases considered on a case by case basis under Section 13a Hardship Policy.**

*At this juncture, Councillor Gwynne left the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, having declared a prejudicial interest, and took no part in the discussion nor decision thereon.*

### **32. FOSTER CARERS OFFER UPDATE AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Assistant Director for Children's Services providing a detailed review of the Foster Carer Offer that was a commissioned piece of work as part of the 7 Looked after Children sustainability projects.

Members were advised that in house foster care was widely recognised to provide the best option for the majority of children who required care from their Local Authority. It enabled children to remain local to their family, friends, home community and services such as schools and health and represented by far the best value for money, at significantly less than half the cost per placement when compared to independent (private) fostering providers.

It was explained that unfortunately over recent years the fostering service had not been given the attention required in order to grow its size or maintain or improve its performance and as a result the proportion of the cared for children who were placed with Independent Fostering Agencies (IFAs) had grown disproportionately and was now at close to 50%. The ambition of the investment proposal, which sat alongside an ambitious three year recruitment strategy, was to make it more attractive to become an in-house foster carer for Tameside Council, helping to ensure that children were able to be placed with local foster carers wherever possible by initially stabilising the fostering cohort and then to expand. To do nothing would most likely lead to further reductions in capacity and an increased reliance on IFAs, children being more often placed out of Borough and the associated increased costs of both.

It was explained that it had to be recognised that the Council were operating in an increasingly difficult context in terms of recruiting and retaining foster carers, as Local Authorities and IFAs competed for a largely finite resource of individuals who wished to foster against a nationally increasing number of children who required these placements. Whilst it was recognised the Council could not compete like for like with independent fostering agencies in terms of fees paid, there could be better rates when compared to other Local Authorities and to compete with IFAs for those families who wanted to foster locally but for whom the difference in rates currently made it unaffordable. The



ambition was to eventually realign the figures from a 50/50 split figures to the optimum provision of 85% in-house fostering placement capacity.

It was reported that a financial uplift in level 2 skills payments of £30 per week per child would shift Tameside into the top half of GM median entry level skill payments to approved foster carers and to increase Level 3 skill payments by 10% (£15 per week per child). This would also apply to the existing foster carers giving a much better chance of retaining those carers. The estimated costs of this uplift alongside a number of other improvements foster carers had told us would make Tameside a more attractive recruiter, the proposed investment for the revised fostering offer is £686,072. It was highlighted that in order to cover the increased costs of in-house fostering allowances a transfer of 27 children from the Independent Fostering Agencies into in-house fostering care would cover the increased costs represented in this proposal, or 3 children from residential care into in-house fostering at the average cost.

Members were further advised that there would also be a corresponding increase in payments to Special Guardianship Order (Special Guardianship) carers as a result of the Council's non-detriment policy, for foster carers who converted to Special Guardianship carers. This was estimated to be £475,800. Therefore the total cost of this initiative was £1,161,872. The cost in the current year was recommended to be financed from the central contingency provision.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) That the proposals for the foster carer offer be approved for consultation as set out in the report;**
- (ii) That prior to any final decision being made as to the Foster Care Offer an implementation delivery plan be presented to Cabinet together with the consultation feedback and an equality impact assessment; and**
- (iii) The cost in the current year be financed from the central contingency provision.**

### **33. WELCOME BACK FUNDING ALLOCATION**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth / Assistant Director of Investment, Development and Housing seeking approval to sign the Grand Funding Agreement, manage the programme of work and procure in line with criteria and procurement rules, state aid and the council's standing orders, items up to but not exceeding the allocation of £200,741.

Members were advised that the Welcome Back Fund allocation was designed to follow on and back up the work already carried out under RHSF and help Build Back Better from the pandemic. The funding built on the Reopening High Street Safely Fund (RHSSF) allocated to councils on 1 June 2020. It formed part of wider support government was providing to communities and businesses with the aim of protecting jobs, supporting the most vulnerable businesses and people in the community.

The Welcome Back Fund would enable the Council to put in place additional measures to create and promote a safe environment for local trade and tourism, particularly in high streets as their economies reopened and began to welcome back visitors. The impact of Covid-19 on the local economy had been significant and the fund could therefore be used for the Council to develop action plans for responding to these impacts.

A Grant Activity Plan (GAP) would be required which would enable the CLGU to sense check the work for eligibility and gave CLGU an idea of the type of activities, from the draft action plans, that would be undertaken. The main aim was to ensure eligibility of the expenditure submitted in subsequent grant claims. The GAP would be used to form the amended Grant Funding Agreement.

#### **RESOLVED**

**It be agreed:**

- (i) The Draft Grant Action Plan at Appendix 1 to the report;**

- (ii) **Any necessary funding variances on the activity detailed in the Draft Grant Action Plan (Appendix 1), within the funding envelope of £0.201m (together with any remaining balance of the £0.210m Reopening the High Street Safely Funding) to ensure all the funding is spent by 31 March 2022;**
- (iii) **In principle entering into the grant funding agreement subject to the necessary due diligence being undertaken in advance;**
- (iv) **Entering into the necessary contracts to deliver the works detailed in the Draft Grant Action Plan (Appendix 1);**
- (v) **That it is agreed expenditure on some projects will initially be funded from 2021/22 Operations & Neighbourhoods revenue budget and retrospectively claimed via the grant once the Grant Funding Agreement is signed; and**
- (vi) **That delivery against the grant funding obligations/milestones is reflected in the monthly financial reporting arrangements.**

#### **34. PERMANENTLY EXCLUDED YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK OF NEET**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Director of Education, explaining the exacerbated risk of a cohort of young people becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and set out the proposed support programme developed by Education, Growth and Policy.

Members were advised that Young people in Alternative Provision (AP) to mainstream education were often at higher risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training). The impact of COVID and lockdown periods on attendance had exacerbated this risk. As at May 2021 12.2% of Tameside young people aged 16-24 years were claiming out of work benefit, according to the Office of National Statistics, this show an increase of 7.2% from April 2018 and highlighted the significant impact of the pandemic. This was above the Northwest average of 9.4% and national rate of 8.3%. It was explained that a group of 46 young people both with a Social Worker and on roll in AP had been highlighted as presenting a significantly high risk due to poor/non-attendance. 22 of these young people were Looked After Children. It was further explained that 25 of these young people were in Year 11 presenting a short time period to engage and move into education, apprenticeship or employment.

It was explained that funding was needed to create the support programme for the 25 identified young people in Year 11 at risk of NEET. Members were advised that whilst not all would have employment as their preferred route this was costed at the maximum to ensure all were able to access this route should they wish to do so. Remaining funding could be utilised to support other young people including a focus on the Leaving Care cohort. Total funding requested was £285,880 to allow National Living Wage (NLW), based on previous YES placements for 16-24 year olds the average payment per 6 month period was £6,000 which could create an underspend of £58,500 or the opportunity to create additional job roles for other NEET or at risk of NEET young people

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) **That a Budget allocation of a maximum of £285,880 from the COVID budget to support this programme, be approved;**
- (ii) **That it be noted that this initial project would act as a proof of concept for future support to those young people who had been permanently excluded from mainstream education. Further reports would be prepared for Cabinet to measure the success to date and consider the longer-term proposals following the timetable shown.**

#### **35. PLACES FOR EVERYONE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Employment / Director of Growth / Interim Assistant Director of Planning, which sought approval to publish the Places for Everyone (Pfe) Publication Plan 2021 and recommended that Full Council approve the

submission of PfE to the Secretary of State following the period of public consultation. The report also sought delegation to make minor or non-material amendments to the plan and background documents prior to publication for consultation and recommended the publication of an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS).

Members were advised that in 2014, the Council resolved to work collaboratively with those in Greater Manchester to prepare jointly a strategic planning document for the city region, the GMSF. It was explained that while recent decisions meant this was now a joint plan of nine boroughs, Places for Everyone 2021 was considered to have substantially the same effect as GMSF 2020, as previously presented to Members for consideration. It was proposed, therefore, to proceed to publish the plan at the next consultation stage, which represented a move towards the culmination of the plan making process, prior to submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

The plan, alongside thematic policy content, identified three strategic sites in Tameside for growth and twelve sites for further protection as additions to the designated Green Belt. Alongside this, it also sought to provide the borough with an up to date housing target, the strategic context for the borough's Local Plan and updated development management policies to be used in the determination of planning applications.

## **RESOLVED**

**It was noted that on the 20 July 2021 the Council had approved the submission of the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 to the Secretary of State for independent examination following the period for representations and :**

- (i) Approved Publication of the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021, including strategic site allocations and green belt boundary amendments, and reference to the potential use of compulsory purchase powers to assist with site assembly, and the supporting background documents, pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 for a period for representations of 8 weeks, commencing no earlier than 9 August 2021;**
- (ii) Authorised the Director of Growth, in consultation with the Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment), to approve relevant Statement of Common Ground(s) required on this and other planning matters, pursuant to the National Planning Policy Framework 2019;**
- (iii) Delegated authority to the GMCA Portfolio Lead Chief Executive, for Housing, Homelessness & Infrastructure, in consultation with the GMCA Portfolio Leader for Housing, Homelessness & Infrastructure, to agree any minor amendments or non-material amendments to the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 and background documents prior to the consultation beginning; and**
- (iv) Approved the updated timetable for the production of the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021, as presented to and agreed by the Joint committee, and Tameside Local Plan by publishing and bringing into effect in accordance with the date of this decision the updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) as at Appendix 1 to the report.**

## **36. FORMER HATTERSLEY DISTRICT CENTRE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth, which proposed the disposal of Council owned land in Hattersley to Onwards Homes Ltd to facilitate a wider development scheme.

It was explained that Onward Homes owned adjoining land which would be included in the development. The disposal would enable Onward to develop the site via £28m of external funding.

It was stated that the overall scheme would be unviable without the inclusion of the Council land. Supporting the proposals would generate much needed inward investment to this area of the community.

It was further explained that the purchase price would be £1 (one pound); with a separate overage provision of £350,000 benefitting the Council, in the event of future disposals of properties identified within the overall development.

## **RESOLVED**

**That the disposal of the Freehold interest in the land areas, which includes the Hattersley District centre shaded green and blue on the drawing 18-012/02 attached to the report at Appendix 1 for £1, be approved, subject to an overage provision in favour of the Council of £350,000 together with a contractual obligation for the Council to receive Nomination Rights in respect of a completed development for less than the best price reasonably obtainable on the basis it will promote or improve the economic, social or environmental well-being of the Borough.**

## **37. GM CLEAN AIR FINAL PLAN**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods setting out the proposed Greater Manchester Final Clean Air Plan and policy following a review of all of the information gathered through the GM CAP consultation and wider data, evidence and modelling work which was to be agreed by the ten Greater Manchester local authorities.

It was reported that the proposed final GM CAP policy, which was summarised in the report, was attached at Appendix 1. In relation to the Clean Air Zone (CAZ), it covered the operation and management of the GM CAZ. The anticipated implementation date of the charging CAZ was Monday 30 May 2022 when the charges would apply to non-compliant buses, HGVs, and Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles licensed outside of Greater Manchester. Non-compliant LGVs, minibuses and coaches, and GM-licensed Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles would be subject to the charges from 1 June 2023 when a temporary exemption expired.

It was explained that feedback from the consultation and consideration of the impact of COVID-19 on Greater Manchester had been used to better understand the requirements of those businesses, individuals and organisations who most needed the support to upgrade. It was therefore proposed to amend the support funds from those consulted upon. The final proposed policy increased the funding per vehicle for Private Hire Vehicles, coaches, HGVs and vans whilst remaining the same for other vehicle types. There were also more options for replacement and retrofit for hackney carriages, PHVs, minibuses and vans.

## **RESOLVED**

- 1. That the progress of the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan be noted;**
- 2. That the progress in the distribution of Bus Retrofit funding be noted;**
- 3. That Ministers' agreement to include the sections of the A628/A57 in Tameside which form part of the Strategic Road Network within the Greater Manchester's Clean Air Zone (CAZ) and their request for Tameside MBC, TfGM and Highways England to establish the most appropriate solution for the charging mechanism to be applied on this section of the Strategic Road Network (SRN), be noted;**
- 4. That the GM Clean Air Plan Policy, at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved, noting that the policy outlines the boundary, discounts, exemptions, daily charges of the Clean Air Zone as well as the financial support packages offered towards upgrading to a compliant vehicle, including the eligibility criteria to be applied.**
- 5. That the Equalities Impact Assessment, as set out at Appendix 2 to the report, be agreed;**
- 6. That the AECOM Consultation Report, as set out at Appendix 3 to the report, be agreed;**
- 7. That the proposed Response to the Consultation at Appendix 4 to the report, which has been prepared by TfGM on behalf of the ten GM local authorities, be agreed;**
- 8. That the Impacts of COVID-19 Report, as set out at Appendix 5 to the report, be agreed;**
- 9. That the Modelling report of the final CAP package, as set out at Appendix 6 to the report, be agreed, and in particular that the modelling outputs of the final plan scheme show the**

- achievement of compliance with the legal limits for Nitrogen Dioxide in the shortest possible time and by 2024 at the latest as required by the Ministerial Direction;
10. That the economic implications of the CAP Report, as set out at Appendix 7 to the report, be agreed;
  11. That the update on the GM Minimum Licensing Standards, set out in section 3.1 of the report, be noted, and in particular that licensing conditions will not be used to support delivery of the GM Clean Air Plan;
  12. That a 6-week public consultation on the inclusion of motorhomes classified as MSP1 in the GM Clean Air Zone and on the inclusion of the A575 and A580 at Worsley commencing on 1 September 2021 and delegate authority to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment) to approve the consultation materials, be approved;
  13. It be noted that the GM Clean Air Charging Authorities Committee has the authority to make the Charging Scheme Order which establishes the GM Charging Scheme in line with the agreed GM Clean Air Plan Policy;
  14. It be noted that the GM Charging Authorities Committee has the authority to vary the Charging Scheme Order if this is established as the most appropriate charging mechanism to be applied on sections of the A628/A57 part of the Strategic Road Network (SRN) in Tameside;
  15. It be noted that the Air Quality Administration Committee has the authority to agree the final form of the Operational Agreement for the Central Clean Air Service, and to authorise the making of the Agreement, on behalf of the ten GM local authorities;
  16. It be noted that the Air Quality Administration Committee has the authority to:
    - (a) establish and distribute the funds set out in the agreed GM Clean Air Plan policy;
    - (b) approve the assessment mechanism agreed with JAQU to ensure that Clean Air Funds can be adapted if necessary;
    - (c) keep the use of the funds under review and to determine any changes in the amounts allocated to each and their use and
    - (d) Monitor and evaluate the joint local charging scheme.
  17. That the reallocation of funding from the Try Before You Buy scheme to provide additional electric vehicle charging points dedicated for use by taxis, be approved;
  18. That authority be delegated to the GM Charging Authorities Committee to determine the outcome of the consultation on both the inclusion of motorhomes classified as MSP1 within the scope of Clean Air Zone charges and on the inclusion in the GM Clean Air Zone of the A575 and A580 at Worsley following the conclusion of that consultation;
  19. That the Clean Air Zone ANPR and signage locations, as set out at Appendix 10 to the report, be agreed;
  20. That delegation be given to the Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods to approve the submission of the Interim Full Business Case if required and Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment) the Full Business Case (FBC) to the Government's Joint Air Quality Unit to support the GM Clean Air Plan and any supplementary information to that Unit.

### **38. A REVIEW OF WASTE SERVICES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods. The report proposed a pilot scheme to evaluate the viability of adjusting the collections frequency of the paper and cardboard and co-mingled recycling bins from two weekly to three weekly.

The report provided a detailed plan of the pilot scheme and corresponding consultation process and to seek approval for its commencement.

The Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods advised Members that the pilot areas had been chosen as they will provide invaluable information due to the varied housing stock, illustrative of the borough, and varied population demographics. Residents would be engaged in the process by way of a public consultation and by the services following a detailed Communications Plan.

It was explained that both the operational results from the pilot areas and the feedback from the consultation process would be evaluated to inform the suitability of a wider rollout of the scheme. A further report detailing these findings would be presented for the consideration of Members at a later date.

The report further outlined the proposal to charge for all wheeled bins and provided details of why that was proposed and what steps were being taken to mitigate against any hardship this could potentially cause. Exemptions to the proposed charges were also provided.

Discussion ensued with regard to the proposals and Members suggested that, given the size of the sample areas and types of properties/bin service provided, Richmond Park, Dukinfield be removed from the pilot scheme.

#### **RESOLVED**

**(i) That the following areas for the pilot scheme be approved:**

- Ridge Hill – Stalybridge
- Hyde Central – Hyde
- Haughton Green – Denton

**The collections frequency of the paper and cardboard (blue) and co-mingled (black) recycling bins in these areas will be adjusted from two weekly to three weekly collections for a duration of 12 weeks. The impact and viability of the trial will then be reviewed;**

**(ii) It be noted that a future report evaluating the pilot scheme's suitability for a wider rollout across the borough will be presented to Members at a later date; and**

**(iii) That the commencement of a consultation process be approved, that will run in parallel with the 12 week trial pilot period; to review the wider Waste Services offer to residents, via the Waste Policy and Enforcement Strategy, which includes the charging for all wheeled bins and the potential collection frequency change for blue and black bins across the borough.**

#### **39. SEND CAPACITY RECOVERY PROPOSAL**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Education Tameside and Stockport providing an overview of the demands on Tameside's Statutory Assessment team and a request for additional capacity, to mitigate the risks this posed.

Members were advised that Tameside maintained 1780 Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). The number of plans maintained had been rising steadily since 2017. The number of EHCPs in Tameside had more than doubled since 2017, when the Local Authority maintained 828 plans. Tameside was now in line with statistical neighbours. The Director of Education explained that it would be confidently concluded that the growth in EHCP's was appropriate and necessary. However, increased and continuing growth in this area could present a significant financial risk to the authority

It was further explained that whilst a short term investment would not provide a sustainable long term solution, it would address the most pressing immediate issues of statutory compliance and increasing costs. A long term solution to these capacity challenges would be investigated as part of the transformation and collaboration work with Stockport MBC. This was proposed as it would afford time to ensure that opportunities for economies of scale were maximised and to assess the actual level of future demand, as recent intelligence showed that requests for new assessments were slowing down. By 2023-4 it was projected that the number of assessment requests would have dropped significantly, allowing more capacity within the team to manage and respond to other demands.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the capacity challenges currently experienced by the SEND team be noted and the**

**proposal to make a short term investment to support increased staffing at an estimated cost of £280,091, be agreed, to be funded by the Education Reserve.**

#### **40. AMENDMENTS TO SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGMENTS FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Director of Children's Services, which detailed the determination following a referral to the School Adjudicator and the implications for the school admission arrangements for community and voluntary schools.

Members were advised that the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools were determined on an annual basis and the Executive Cabinet last considered them at the January 2021 meeting for admission in September 2022. Subsequent to that meeting and following school budget planning, the Council was approached by Buckton Vale Primary School who were making plans to avoid a potential budget deficit that was being projected for future years due to falling numbers coming into the school.

It was explained that, in order to address the issue of a potential future funding gap, the school requested that the published admission number be reduced to 30 from September 2022. This was supported to avoid the potential for significant budget deficit in future years.

Members were further advised that as part of the process of considering the proposal, the School Adjudicator reviewed the council's guidance in relation to schools admissions and raised a number of issues, set out in this report for the council to address to ensure that its admission arrangements were as clear as possible as required under the School Admission Code.

The amendments proposed in this report were intended to address those issues to ensure that the process is as clear as it can be for those seeking admission for children. It also ensures that the council has confidence in its processes which were fair and robust against potential challenge.

It was reported that the Department for Education has notified admission authorities that there would be a new School Admissions Code from September 2021 subject to parliamentary approval. All admission authorities were required to amend their admission arrangements to comply with the new mandatory elements of the Code. The report set out the amendments that had been made to the in-year transfer section of the admission arrangements.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the admission arrangements for Tameside primary, junior and secondary community and voluntary controlled schools be amended as set out in Appendices 2, 3 and 4 to the report, be approved.**

#### **41. STALYBRIDGE CIVIC HALL ROOF REPLACEMENT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director for Growth / Assistant Director for Strategic Property, providing an update on the status Stalybridge Civic Hall Roof project and sought approval for an additional budget of £1,138,721.

Members were advised that following inspection of the site by Robertson surveyors and specialist contractors, a number of additional items had been identified and added to the scope of works and were subsequently included in Robertson's indicative price. This included replacement of existing roof lights/ windows, replacement of the roof access and fall arrest systems which had deteriorated beyond safe reuse, and new cast iron guttering to two of the external slopes.

Inclusive of the revised scope, the indicative price now stood at £1,697,671, Appendix 1 to the report detailed a breakdown of the indicative price. It was explained that following approval the Council

would instruct the LEP to commence design and tendering work, confirm a programme and to submit a request for Listed Building Consent.

**RESOLVED**

**That approval be given to an additional budget of £1,138,721 be allocated to the Stalybridge Civic Hall roof replacement project (Stalybridge High Street Heritage Action Zone scheme) and added to the approved capital programme.**

**42. URGENT ITEMS**

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

**CHAIR**