

BOARD

4 August 2021

Present: **Elected Members** **Councillors Warrington (In the Chair),
Bray, Cooney, Feeley, Gwynne, Kitchen,
Ryan and Wills**
Borough Solicitor **Sandra Stewart**
Assistant Director of **Caroline Barlow**
Finance Deputy Section
151 Officer

Also in Attendance: **Stephanie Butterworth, Jeanelle de Gruchy, Nick Fenwick, Richard
Hancock, Sarah Threllfall, Emma Varnam, Debbie Watson and
Jessica Williams.**

Apologies for Absence: **Councillor Fairfoull**

72 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

73 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Board meeting on the 14 July 2021 were approved as a correct record.

74 MONTH 3 INTEGRATED FINANCE REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Lead Clinical GP / Director of Finance. The report was the second financial monitoring report for the 2021/22 financial year, reflecting actual expenditure to the 30 June 2021 and current forecasts to the 31 March 2022.

Members were advised that at period 3, Council Budgets were facing significant pressures which were not directly related to the Covid pandemic, with significant forecast overspends in Adults and Children's Social Care being the main contributors to a net forecast overspend of £6.850m. This position was after taking account of forecast underspends in some areas, and additional Covid related income in excess of forecast Covid costs. There was an underlying forecast 'Non-COVID' deficit of £8.238m.

It was reported that Children's Social Care and Adults were the greatest areas of concern with forecast overspends of £5.678m (Children's) and £2.234m (Adults). Further, the CCG was reporting an overspend of £519k which related to reimbursable Covid expenses for which a future allocated increase should be received.

The Assistant Director of Finance explained that the services that were projecting overspends had put forward mitigating actions. These actions would be included in the report for approval by Executive Cabinet.

AGREED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to:

- (i) Note the forecast outturn position and associated risks for 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 1 and detail for Council budgets as set out in Appendix 2.**
- (ii) Approve the reserve transfers set out on pages 27-28 of Appendix 2.**

75 CIVIC EVENTS 2021

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods. The report set out a vision for key events and activities in 2021.

The civic events programme spanned a full 12 months of a calendar year and featured the key events: Whit Friday Brass Band Contest, Armed Forces Day, Remembrance Services and Parades and the corporate lantern parade and town Christmas switch on events.

It was stated that with an increased focus on the Council's finances and the desire to continue to deliver events which were vibrant, safe and affordable the Events Panel had been created to oversee key civic events from Whit Friday Brass Band Contest, Armed Forces Day and Remembrance Services to the Borough's flagship Christmas celebration and its Town Switch On events. The Panel proposed that the civic event dates put forward in the report be noted and adopted.

Further, the Panel wished for the proposed plans to deliver Remembrance Services and Parades in line with 2019 to be adopted whilst it was noted that should the pandemic cause last minute alterations these could need to be considered. The report also included the proposed plans for the corporate 2021 Christmas celebrations. Whilst this had traditionally taken place in Ashton, the Panel proposed that the event continued to tour in 2021 and take place in Hyde to honour the commitment made to Hyde in 2020 due to the ongoing landscaping of Ashton Market Square.

AGREED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to agree:

- (i) The proposals relating to Town Christmas events 2021 are agreed.**
- (ii) The proposal relating to Tameside's Christmas Celebration event 2021 is agreed.**
- (iii) The plans for Summer Theatre are noted**
- (iv) The considerations for Remembrance Sunday and the associated Services and Parades are noted.**

76 MOSSLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – AREA DESIGNATION

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Employment / Director of Growth / Interim Assistant Director of Planning. The report considered the designation of the Mossley Neighbourhood Area in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), following an application by Mossley Town (Parish) Council, as a relevant body for the purposes of section 61(G) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

It was reported that an application to designate a Neighbourhood Area had been received by the Council as the Local Planning Authority from Mossley Town (Parish) Council. The application was submitted following a meeting and resolution of the Town (Parish) Council on 16 June 2021. The proposed Mossley Neighbourhood Area application complied with the requirements of the appropriate legislation and regulations and should be designated accordingly and the decision be publicised via the mechanisms as set out in **Appendix 3**.

It was explained that the Council as Local Planning Authority would, as was required and detailed within the 'Neighbourhood Planning Service Level Framework' at Appendix 4, liaise with the Town Council as their plan developed. The principal activities of the Council as Local Planning Authority, following designation of the area, arise once a draft of the Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted.

AGREED

That the report be deferred for further consideration at a future meeting of the Board to

address the issues of (a) how it fitted with Places for Everyone (b) a better understanding of what Mossley Town Council were trying to achieve and how such an approach would benefit Mossley and the Borough generally (c) clarification as to which other groups within the Borough could make such applications and the impact (d) who would pick up any shortfall in funding and (e) on what grounds the Council could refuse.

77 CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT 2021/22 - PERIOD 3

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Lead Clinical GP / Director of Finance. This report was the first capital monitoring report for 2021/22 and summarised the forecast outturn at 31 March 2022 based on the financial activity to 30 June 2021.

It was reported that the approved budget for 2021/22 was £68.234m (after re-profiling approved at Outturn) and current forecast for the financial year was £66.123m. 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 explained that the current forecast was for service areas to spend £66.123m on capital investment in 2021/22, which was £2.111m less than the current capital budget for the year. This variation was spread across a number of areas, and was made up of a number of over/underspends on a number of specific schemes (£1.848m) less the re-profiling of expenditure in some other areas (£0.263m).

AGREED

That the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel be recommended to:

- (i) Note the forecast outturn position for 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 1.**
- (ii) Recommend the approval of the re-profiling of budgets into 2022/23 as set out on page 4 of Appendix 1.**
- (iii) Note the funding position of the approved Capital Programme as set on page 9 of Appendix 1.**
- (iv) Note the changes to the Capital Programme as set out on page 10 in Appendix 1**
- (v) Note the updated Prudential Indicator position set out on pages 11-12 of Appendix 1, which was approved by Council in February 2021**

78 ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Health, Social Care and Population Health / Director of Adult Services. The report provided an update on the developments in relation to the Adults Capital Programme for schemes previously approved and the usage of the wider disabled facilities grant (DFG).

In regards to Moving with Dignity (Single Handed Care), following the review of the last year, the project was able to evidence a reduction of over 1,000 hours per week in homecare packages during financial year 2020/21.

It was stated that more recently there had been a shift in focus from the project team, who were now working collaboratively with health colleagues at the 'front door' and part of the hospital discharge process to provide more timely assessments. This was to target a reduction and avoidance at, or, as close to discharge as possible and to prevent the need for unnecessary spend on homecare provision.

It was explained that in the initial month of June, these focused Moving with Dignity assessments indicated two immediate avoidances, and a number of potential reductions within months of discharge.

In regards to the Disability Assessment Centre, a project group had been established and an outline plan of the business case and future requirements of the Disability Assessment Centre (DAC). Members were advised that a visit to Able World disability equipment retailer in Hyde had been completed. This was with a view to a potential joint venture, and unfortunately this was not a viable option going forward. Further, Loxley House and Rosscare had both been explored and neither facility had the available space required or capacity to accommodate the DAC.

It was stated that work was progressing on the replacement of ageing and obsolete equipment with Occupational Therapy staff. Further, the service was in the process of recruiting an additional Occupational Therapy post for 12 months to carry out this pro-active piece of work to avoid potential unplanned costs.

The Director of Adult Services delivered an update on disabled facilities grant and other related adaptations funding. It was reported that one aspect of the pandemic was an increase in referrals for more complex cases resulting in more requests to extend properties. The maximum grant for DFG was £30,000 and as all extension exceeded this amount, this was creating some issues with housing providers where contributions were required.

Members were advised that the current contract for delivery of building related adaptations would end in July 2022. A new framework would be required to ensure delivery of adaptations continues without disruption. The intention was to procure a new framework tender towards the end of 2021 – early 2022.

AGREED

That the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel be recommended to ask Executive Cabinet to note the progress updates, and to approve the re-profiling of £98k of Housing Assistance works into FY22/23 owing to limited capacity within the Adaptations team as discussed in section 5 of the report.

79 CHILDREN SOCIAL CARE CAPITAL SCHEMES UPDATE REPORT

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

It was reported that the current capital programme as recommended by SPCMP on 9 October 2017 and subsequently approved by Executive Cabinet on 18 October 2017, included funding support Capital Investment in Children's Social Care. The total Capital funding earmarked was £950,000.

Members were advised that the purchase of a respite property had been delayed due to the fast movement of the housing market and had proved difficult as properties were being vended rapidly, either by investors or private purchases. Following conversation with Growth and the housing partner's there appeared to be suitable properties within the Tameside housing portfolio, to deliver a respite unit, this was begin explored. At this stage the cost was still unknown, therefore it was proposed the remaining budget be utilised to purchase a property for the respite unit. In regards to the Assessment Unit, works on the unit had been completed and the unit was in the process of being handed over to Children's Services and the Ofsted registration process was now underway. Furnishing of the building was underway and expected to come in on budget.

AGREED

Members are requested to note the progress update in the report.

80 DISPOSAL OF FORMER COTTON TREE PUBLIC HOUSE, 106 MARKET STREET, DROYLSDEN, M43 6DE.

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth / Assistant Director for Strategic Property. The report sought approval to accept the highest offer for the property 106 Market Street, Droylsden, M43 6DE, which was declared surplus by the Council in March 2021.

It was reported that In March 2021, the subject former Cotton Tree Public House property was declared surplus in accordance with the disposal policy. Following on from this, the opportunity was immediately advertised for sale on the open market, using external agents Breakey & Nuttall in order to maximise the exposure.

The property had been actively marketed for approximately 3 months and with interest starting to slow, the Council asked for offers to be submitted to the agent by an agreed date. The Council received a total of 14 offers.

In accepting the offer from Brindle & Yam Solicitors, the proposed use of the site for employment purposes would help introduce a number of new jobs into the Borough. The employment and jobs provided would help sustain the nearby district centre.

AGREED

That subject to the amendments sought by the Borough Solicitor to complete the report that Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth be recommended to approve:

- (i) That following a period of marketing, the Council accept offer 11 submitted by Brindle & Yam Solicitors to acquire the subject property.**
- (ii) That the Council progress the disposal subject to the provisionally agreed heads of terms set out in Appendix 1.**

81 FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan of items for Board was considered.

CHAIR