

## BOARD

11 August 2021

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Elected Members</b>	<b>Councillors Warrington (In the Chair), Bray, Fairfoull, Feeley, Gwynne, Ryan and Wills</b>
	<b>Chief Executive</b>	<b>Steven Pleasant</b>
	<b>Borough Solicitor</b>	<b>Sandra Stewart</b>
	<b>Assistant Director of Finance Deputy Section 151 Officer</b>	<b>Tracy Simpson</b>
<b>Also in Attendance:</b>	<b>Jeanelle de Gruchy, Richard Hancock, Catherine Moseley, Ian Saxon, Jayne Traverse, Sandra Whitehead, Anne Whittingham and Jessica Williams.</b>	
<b>Apologies for Absence:</b>	<b>Councillors Cooney and Kitchen</b>	

### 82. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 83. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Board meeting on the 4 August 2021 were approved as a correct record.

### 84. THE COUNCIL'S SPORT AND LEISURE FACILITIES – FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY PROPOSALS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment) / Assistant Director of Population Health which updated Members on progress of the first phase of a review of the Council's Sport and Leisure assets and the financial sustainability of the provider Active Tameside.

It was explained that the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant detrimental impact on Active Tameside. Throughout 2020/21 enforced closure due to the pandemic meant that centres were open for business for only 40 out of a possible 52 weeks of the year. This led to operational losses of £1million per month.

Prior to COVID-19, several centres operated at a loss that was subsidised by profit making sites. This was a means of tackling health inequalities amongst the most disadvantaged and under-represented communities. Offering equitable access across the borough ensured that local, affordable provision was in place, irrespective of commerciality of the site, or the means of local people to participate.

In a report presented to Executive Cabinet on 10 Feb 2021, approval was given to implement a public consultation from 12 Feb 2021 to 26 March 2021, to seek views on the initial proposals outlined in the report, in particular regarding the future use of Active Oxford Park, Adventure Longdendale and Active Etherow, to inform the Council's future commissioning approach. Supporting information and demographic and facility information regarding the sites which accompanied the consultation was appended to the report at **Appendix 1**. Executive Cabinet also recommended that a further review was carried out of all Sport and Leisure facilities in Tameside, including conditions surveys, aligned to the review of the Operational Estate and Portfolio of Council land and property holdings.

The report set out the findings and analysis of the consultation, recommendations for operation of the buildings for the remaining financial year, and an update on the progress of the Sport and Leisure Asset Review included in the Councils Operational Estate and Portfolio review of Council land and property holdings, which is due to report to Executive Cabinet in Autumn 2021.

The results of the public consultation and engagement supported community activity being delivered from the facilities in a sustainable way, with some suggestions on how that may be achieved, targeting those that needed the service most, whilst ensuring access for all.

It was further explained that a review of the operational estate commenced in late 2020 and would conclude with the "Worksmart" transformation strategy, which was anticipated in autumn 2021 with implementation soon after. This project incorporated three key principles of people, place and technology to create organisational transformation and inform a rationalisation of the property portfolio. The asset review, conditions surveys and results of the consultation would be considered as part of the process.

Currently, the commissioning and administration of the management agreement with Active Tameside and the delivery of the leisure assets investment programme rested with the Director of Population Health. Work to establish proposals for the future management and operation of the Council's leisure assets, to come in to effect from April 2024, had begun and would be managed from this point forward by the Director of Growth. This shift in responsibility was required to ensure that all property decisions were aligned to corporate priorities and would ensure the cost effective delivery of services by the Council and its partners.

The longer term future of the sites would be included in the review of the operational estate which commenced in late 2020 and would conclude with the "Work smart" transformation strategy, which was anticipated in autumn 2021 with implementation soon after. The Population Health Directorate would work with Growth Directorate to ensure that delivery from these sites continued to support the health needs of local people.

#### **AGREED**

**That Executive Cabinet be recommended to:**

- (i) That the results and recommendations of the public consultation from 12 Feb 2021 to 26 March 2021, be considered;**
- (ii) That the proposal outlined in section 6 of the report describing sustainable utilisation of facilities at Active Oxford Park, Adventure Longdendale and Active Etherow for the current financial year, be agreed; and**
- (iii) That the progress made against the Sport and Leisure asset review be noted and it be agreed to receive further recommendations following the Council's review of the operational estate commenced in late 2020 and will conclude with the "Worksmart" transformation strategy, which is anticipated in autumn 2021.**

#### **85. GM MINIMUM LICENSING STANDARDS - STAGE 1 (DRIVERS, OPERATORS AND LOCAL AUTHORITY)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods giving information in respect of the proposed Greater Manchester Minimum Licensing Standards (MLS) which would help deliver improved safety, customer focus, higher environmental standards and accessibility.

Members were advised that, in 2018, Greater Manchester's ten local authorities agreed to collectively develop, approve and implement a common set of minimum licensing standards (MLS) for taxi and private hire services. At that time, the primary driver for this work was to ensure public safety and protection, but vehicle age and emission standards in the context of the Clean Air and the decarbonisation agendas were now also major considerations. In addition, by establishing standards around common livery and colour, MLS was an important mechanism that permitted the

systematic improvements to taxi and private hire service across Greater Manchester and their visibility.

Ultimately, the collaborative approach that the MLS represented would help achieve the vision of a strong, professional and healthy taxi and private hire sector providing safe and high quality services to residents and visitors across the whole of Greater Manchester. This vision saw Taxis and Private Hire as a crucial part of the overall transport offer that could consistently deliver safe and high-quality services for the public. The proposed MLS, together with funding from the GM Clean Air Plan, would help deliver improved safety, customer focus, higher environmental standards and accessibility. The collaborative approach sought to establish a basic and common minimum in key areas, whilst allowing Districts to exceed these minimums where they considered this to be appropriate. As licensing was a local authority regulatory function, the Standards had been devised by the GM Licensing Managers Network who worked in partnership across Greater Manchester to drive innovation, partnership and change agendas.

The MLS were divided into four distinct sections as follows:

- Licensed Drivers; including criminal records checks, medical examinations, local knowledge test, English language requirements, driver training including driving proficiency and common licence conditions.
- Licensed vehicles; including vehicle emissions, vehicle ages, common vehicle colour and livery, vehicle testing, CCTV, Executive Hire and vehicle design common licence conditions
- Licensed private hire operators; including common licence conditions, DBS checks for operators and staff every year, fit and proper criteria for operator applications and common licence conditions.
- Local Authority Standards: including application deadlines and targets, GM Enforcement Policy, Licensing Fee Framework, annual councillor training requirements and Officer delegations.

Due to the breadth of proposals to be considered by Members, and the complexity of the vehicle standards (and their link to the Clean Air Plan), the report provided Members with detailed consultation feedback and officer recommendations on the Drivers, Operator and Local Authority Standard elements at Stage 1. A Stage 2 report outlining the proposed Vehicle Standard recommendations would be provided in the autumn.

It was noted that, as this and similar reports were going through District governance contemporaneously, the recommendations were also being outlined to Combined Authority for endorsement at their September meeting. It was proposed that all the standards that were recommended to be implemented, were done so by 30 November 2021 for a go live date of 1 December 2021.

## **AGREED**

**That the Greater Manchester MLS consultation feedback, as detailed in the report, be noted and it be RECOMMENDED to Council to approve the implementation of the Minimum Licensing Standards as outlined in paragraph 4 of the report, and in the appendices.**

## **86. NHS SYSTEM OVERSIGHT FRAMEWORK**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Adult Social Care and Health / CCG Co-Chair / Director of Commissioning setting out NHS England and NHS Improvement's approach to oversight for 2021/22.

It was explained that the approach to 2021/22 oversight was characterised by the following key principles:

- (a) working with and through ICSs, wherever possible, to tackle problems

- (b) a greater emphasis on system performance and quality of care outcomes, alongside the contributions of individual healthcare providers and commissioners to system goals
- (c) matching accountability for results with improvement support, as appropriate
- (d) greater autonomy for ICSs and NHS organisations with evidence of collective working and a track record of successful delivery of NHS priorities, including tackling inequality, health outcomes and access
- (e) compassionate leadership behaviours that underpin all oversight interactions.

The framework had five national themes that reflected the ambitions of the NHS Long Term Plan with a single set of 80 metrics plus a sixth theme based on local strategic priorities that complemented the national NHS priorities set out in the 2021/22 Operational Planning Guidance and aligned to the four fundamental purposes of an ICS. Oversight conversations would reflect a balanced approach across the six oversight themes, including leadership and culture at organisation and system level.

NHS England and NHS Improvement would monitor and gather insights about performance across each of the themes of the framework. Regional teams would work with ICSs to ensure that oversight arrangements at ICS, place (including PCNs) and organisation level and the level of involvement of the ICS depended on their relative level of development and governance arrangements. Given the maturity of GM it was hoped that the ICS would lead the oversight of place based systems and individual organisations and co-ordinate any support and intervention carried out by NHS England and NHS Improvement, other than in exceptional circumstances and there would be the least number of formal assurance meetings possible.

It was further explained that the CCG annual assessment would include a mid-year self-assessment with an end-of-year meeting between the CCG leaders and the NHS England and NHS Improvement regional team. It focused on the six key lines of enquiry, as detailed in the report, five of which were the themes in the oversight with the sixth a focus on engagement, performance against the oversight metrics and an assessment of how the CCG worked with others (including the local health and wellbeing board(s)) to improve quality and outcomes for patients.

The final narrative assessment would identify areas of good and/or outstanding performance, areas of improvement, as well as areas of particular challenge across: quality (including reducing health inequalities), leadership, and finance and use of resources.

The 81 metrics in the five oversight themes reflected the NHS Long Term Plan/People Plan and 2021/22 Planning guidance (as at **Appendix 3** to the report). They were system wide with 63 being specifically associated with the CCG. They covered a range of areas including access, service delivery, safety, vaccination and workforce. The metrics against each theme and the area they covered were detailed in the report.

It was concluded that Tameside and Glossop Locality should see minimal difference in the methodology used in the Oversight Framework and were in a strong position for many themes. Whilst some of the metrics may continue to be a challenge, if progress continues there may be a move from the default of Segment 2 into Segment 1.

Discussion ensued with regard to the content of the report and Members commended everyone involved on the progress to date. Members further acknowledged Elaine Richardson, – Tameside & Glossop CCG, who was retiring at the end of August. They thanked Elaine for her dedicated work and support over many years and wished her well for the future.

#### **AGREED**

**That the NHS England and NHS Improvement's approach to oversight of the CCG for 2021/22, be noted.**

## **87. COMMISSIONING INTENTIONS - HEALTH IMPROVEMENT SERVICE**

Consideration was given to a report by the Executive Member, Adult Social Care and Health / Clinical Lead Long Term Conditions / Director of Population Health summarising the outcome of a recent public consultation and outlined commissioning intentions for the Health Improvement Service from April 2022.

Members were advised that Tameside experienced wide health inequalities, with life expectancy lower than the national average. Higher rates of cardiovascular disease (including stroke), cancer and respiratory disease all contribute to this and place additional burden on local health and social care services. Lifestyle and behaviours all contributed to these health outcomes and the importance of public health interventions for smoking, weight management and wellbeing had been highlighted in the recent Marmot cite region report. The Health Improvement service commissioned by public health provided support to the community on these and other lifestyle choices and behaviours.

In November 2020, the council's spending review identified Health Improvement Services for a 20% saving against the budget allocated for Smoking Cessation and Healthy Weight support. The budget reduction required changes to the service plans to be made. In order to carry out a full re-design of the service and a comprehensive public consultation exercise on the revised plans, an extension to the contract was agreed until 31 March 2022.

Details were given of the public consultation, which ran for a period of 12 weeks from 18 February, 2021 to 13 May 2021. There were 131 respondents to the online survey component of the consultation. Feedback was also gathered from a series of 6 focus groups/workshops held with 4 different community organisations and also collected through a group session with staff from the Be Well service themselves. Concerted effort was made to gather feedback from under-represented and protected characteristic groups. The use of a mixed approach aimed to maximise opportunity for the public to take part in the consultation process.

A summary of the responses to the consultation was provided in an appendix to the report. The results of the public consultation supported the previously proposed changes to the service, the main features of which were:

- A mixed digital/telephone and face-to-face model.
- Group sessions alongside one-to-one support where required.
- Maintaining an integrated, broader wellness offer as well as smoking cessation and weight management services.
- Continuing to work with communities and other organisations to provide support and prevention of ill health.
- Targeting those that need the service most whilst ensuring access for all

An expression of interest (EOI) exercise was conducted with the support of STAR procurement as a form of soft market testing. The previous tender exercise for this service was unsuccessful, so the aim was to understand the optimum way of packaging the services to encourage providers, including charities, social enterprises and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and new entrants to the market, to bid.

It was explained that with the results of the consultation and the EOI exercise, the opportunity had been taken to review the options for service delivery. In addition to this, the ongoing and likely future impact of the COVID-19 pandemic had been taken into account and all original assumptions revisited. As a result, it was concluded that an element of flexibility would be required going forwards, in order to adapt and respond to the needs of the population and the Council's financial position. Maintaining a holistic service and keeping the smoking cessation and community wellness elements of the service together were also highlighted as important and more cost effective, and this had been taken into account when considering the options, which were outlined as follows:

1. Re-tender the service for a contract period of up to 5 years commencing 1 April 2022 with an annual contract price of £885,910; or

2. Terminate the contract and transfer the service in-house with the Council retaining all income and expenditure and control over the service.

The advantages and disadvantages for both options were detailed and discussed.

In conclusion, it was felt that on balance, the option to transfer the service in-house (Option 2) was preferable. This was because it provided additional financial savings and allowed a greater flexibility around continued provision of the service to meet priorities and service demand. Whilst there were risks associated with both options, the risks associated with bringing the service in-house were considered more acceptable and manageable.

Information was also given in respect of the Oral Health Service and it was proposed that the core oral health offer would continue unchanged with the service within the Council to enable closer integration and alignment with public health and children's services/early years when the contract was terminated on 31 March 2022. This would support a sustainable population approach to oral health, as capacity to deliver could be incorporated and increased within these services. Oral health would continue to be funded from the budget identified within the report with an annual budget of £80,000.

#### **AGREED:**

**That Strategic Commissioning Board be recommended to agree:**

- (i) That the outcome and recommendations of the 12 week public consultation held from 18 February, 2021 to 13 May 2021, be noted;**
- (ii) That the proposal to transfer the Oral Health Service into the Council's Population Health team when the contract terminates on 31 March 2022, be agreed; and**
- (iii) That the options appraisal set out in section 5 of the report be considered, and Option 2 – to transfer the service in-house within the Council, be agreed.**

#### **88.. POPULATION HEALTH EARLY YEARS - PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMMES COMMISSIONING**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Adult Social Care and Health / Starting Well Clinical Lead / Assistant Director of Population Health, which gave details of two Peer Support Programmes: The Family Peer Support Service and the Breastfeeding Peer Support Service and sought authorisation to:

- Retender the Breastfeeding Peer Support Service jointly with Oldham MBC with Tameside MBC as the lead commissioner; and
- Award a direct contract to HomeStart HOST for to the provision of the Family Peer Support Service.

In respect of the Breastfeeding Peer Support Service, it was explained that in 2017, Tameside Council (as lead commissioner) and Oldham Council jointly commissioned the Breastfeeding Support Service with the current contract due to end on the 31 March 2022. It was proposed to recommission this service for a further 5 years (3+2 contract) ensuring break clauses were built into the contract.

The current Breastfeeding Peer Support Service consistently met service targets and had received positive feedback from local parents. The service regularly provided case studies, an example of which was appended to the report.

The current performance of the provider against the current contract specification was in line with the commissioners' expectations. The full years 2018/19 to 2022/21 performance data was detailed in the report.

Options for consideration were outlined with the preferred option being to end the contract and re-tender with current contract value: £203,392 per annum (£114,713 – Tameside Council, £88,679 – Oldham Council) with a 3+2 year contract (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2025, with option to extra to 31 March 2027). (Option E at 6.1 of the report).

With regard to the Family Peer Support Service, it was reported that since 2017, the Early Help Offer in Tameside had grown significantly, with the development of an Early Help Access Point, better Early Help Assessments tools, building 'Team Around' Approaches, Early Help Panels with joint decision-making and shared workforce development, such as Signs of Safety. Pivotal to the successes had been integral and collaborative working with partners, including but not exclusive to: Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust, Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, Action Together, Greater Manchester Police, Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership and Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group.

HomeStart Oldham, Stockport and Tameside (HOST) was a long-standing partner of the Council with a unique, tried and trusted peer support model, with a successful track record of grass-roots community volunteering, valued by volunteers and professionals alike. HomeStart had been a significant partner in the development of the Early Help Offer, regularly attending panel meetings and providing a crucial pathway and intervening early to prevent family breakdown. They had adapted their service delivery and aligned to new ways of working, including asset based and relational approaches using Signs of Safety methodology. HomeStart were champions and delivered interventions supporting early attachment, infant feeding, child development and school readiness, which all have strong evidence of effectiveness and return on investment.

Options for consideration were outlined with the preferred option being to end the grant and award a direct contract. The contract would start from the 1 April 2022 for 3 years (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2025) with a value of: £75,000 per annum (£225,000 in total). (Option E at 11.1 of the report).

**AGREED:**

**That Strategic Commissioning Board be recommended to agree that:**

- (i) That approval be given to recommission and tender the Breastfeeding Peer Support Service with a 3+2 contract jointly with Oldham Council (Option E at section 6.1 of the report), and**
- (ii) That approval be given to award HomeStart HOST with direct contract award for the Family Peer Support Programme (Option E at 11.1 of the report).**

## **89. DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT FUNDING PROPOSAL**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Adult Social Care and Health / Director of Population Health / Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods which set out the commissioning intentions around domestic abuse services in Tameside in light of new funding available this year.

It was explained that TMBC had been awarded a further £547,627 in grant funding to meet new duties under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. This funding must be spent during 2021/22 on 'support within safe accommodation' for victims of domestic abuse and their children and expenditure related with complying with the new duties.

There was no advance notification of the amount the council was due to receive before this financial year and the funding was released under the stipulation that the money would be spent following the statutory domestic abuse needs assessment. Therefore, the funding was not included in the 21/22 budget. The funding was recurrent and the grant determination for future years would follow the annual Spending Review.

As a result, TMBC had £1,274,445 available to spend on domestic abuse in this financial year (2021/22). Of this, £656,818 was already committed to providing the core commissioned offer,

support in safe accommodation and outreach services.

It was proposed that the remaining £617,627 was spent meeting gaps highlighted in the statutory needs assessment. Primarily:

- Better availability of support within Safe Accommodation
- Workforce development, training and practice improvement
- Developing a local perpetrator response
- Piloting innovative approaches with Children and Young People that use violence
- Outreach services in the community and health settings for victim-survivors of Domestic Abuse
- System wide data improvement project to ensure we can discharge our duties under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021

There would be a further spending proposal once the grant amount for 2022/23 was determined pending the Spending Review in Autumn 2021.

#### **AGREED**

**That Strategic Commissioning Board be recommended to agree that domestic abuse spending in 2021/22 be approved as follows:**

<b>Jointly commissioned Bridges contract</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>506,818</b>
<b>Domestic Abuse Act grant funding (safe accommodation only)</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>547,627</b>
<b>GMCA funding for Domestic Abuse roles</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>70,000</b>
<b>Covid-19 funds</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>30,000</b>
<b>Population Health and Children's Services CHIDVA funds</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>120,000</b>
<b>Total 2021/22 funding for Domestic Abuse</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>1,274,445</b>
<b><i>Funding committed 2021/22 to date</i></b>		
<b>Bridges contract - outreach</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>335,090</b>
<b>Bridges contract - safe accommodation duty</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>291,728</b>
<b>Covid-19 additional IDVA</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>30,000</b>
<b>Total 2021/22 committed for Domestic Abuse</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>656,818</b>
<b>Total 2021/22 funds still available</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>617,627</b>
<b><i>Proposed further spend 2021/22</i></b>		
<b>Support in safe accommodation</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>255,899</b>
<b>Domestic Abuse transformation activity</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>291,728</b>
<b>GMCA funded IDVA posts</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>70,000</b>
<b>Total 2021/22 proposed further spend for Domestic Abuse</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>617,627</b>
<b>Total spend on Domestic Abuse 2021/22</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>1,274,445</b>

#### **90. GRANT NO. 31/5110: LOCAL AUTHORITY EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR FOOD AND ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Children's Services requesting a variation to the allocations agreed in September 2020 by the Strategic Commissioning Board of the 'Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies' fund provided by Defra (Grant No. 31/5110).

Members were advised that the requested variation was for the £5,000 allocation to Caring & Sharing to be changed to Active Tameside. Despite support from the Council, Caring & Sharing had been unable to provide sufficient banking arrangements as per regulations for funding allocations. Active Tameside would use the £5,000 for the essential supplies as follows to provide food within term time



where families were in COVID hardship – gas and electric; sportswear / uniforms to support emotional well-being through physical activity. Through casework within the Early Help offer baby safety equipment, baby essentials (nappies, toys, milk, clothing etc.) and school uniform and where approved, household equipment.

**AGREED:**

**That Strategic Commissioning Board be recommend to agree the change of provider from Caring & Sharing to Active Tameside to the value of £5,000, be agreed.**

**91. CAPITAL PROGRAMME – OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS**

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

The Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhood updated members in respect of approved schemes as follows:

**Highways: Transport Asset Management Plan (TAMP) and 2021/22 - Highway Maintenance Programme** - Confirmation of the 2021/22 Highway Capital Allocation from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) was received at the end of June. A total of £3.915m had been allocated to Highway works and officers were currently working on drawing up a detailed programme of works which would be reported in a subsequent update.

**Flooding: Flood Prevention and Consequential Repairs** - Works to improve critical infrastructure on the following inlet structures were anticipated to start on site in August/ September 2021:

- Stalybridge Country Park,
- Mottram Old Road, Stalybridge,
- Broadacre, Stalybridge,
- Ney Street, Ashton-under-Lyne,
- Store Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

All works should be completed before March 2022, and it was envisaged the costs would be within budget.

**Slope Stability Works and Potential Additional Works Required** - The engineering works at Fairlea, Denton were complete. The works were completed within the budget of £0.350m.

The Greenside Lane, Droylsden, retaining wall works were anticipated to be completed in December 2020. However, post-construction monitoring highlighted an ongoing issue with the wall structure, which required additional works to be carried out. The Council's consultants and contractor had been working through various options to find the optimum solution. The design of this solution was close to completion and it was expected the works to carry out remedial measures would commence on site in August 2021. A revised program for completion would soon be available including information on any additional costs.

**Repair and Restoration of Cemetery Boundary Walls** - The remainder of the original budget (£0.260m) to be spent this financial year was £0.060m. Further works were now planned for Hyde cemetery with minor additional works on medium risk walls at other cemeteries. All works were envisaged to be completed this financial year and would be within budget.

**Replacement of Cremators and Mercury Abatement, Filtration Plant and Heat Recovery Facilities** - £2.500m was earmarked in the capital programme to fund this project. The scheme was marked as business critical and was approved by Executive Cabinet on the 24 October 2018. Work on the scheme was progressing.

**Children's Playgrounds** - Children's playgrounds across Tameside were being improved to help youngsters stay active and healthy. The Capital investment of £0.600m would improve play areas across the borough and ensure they were good quality and safe facilities for children to enjoy. Wetpour surfacing improvements had been completed on several sites. Work to improve the appearance of the play area at Haughton Green was due to start in August. Phase 2 of the wetpour project will commence in September 21. A package of infrastructure works to improve things like gates and benches will commence in October 21 and further improvements such as the installation of new play equipment will take place across the rest of this financial year.

**Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Project** - As a result of the pandemic the Ashton Town Centre Public Realm project had been temporarily paused in line with Government guidance. Procurement documentation for the paving materials was currently being finalised with STAR and it was anticipated to go out to tender shortly. Uncertainty remained nationally regarding availability and delivery of construction materials. A detailed review of the project was still required, once the procurement exercise was complete. Tenderers would be required to provide delivery timescales as part of their submissions.

**Main Road LED Street Lighting Lanterns** - The Main Road LED design works were substantially complete. As reported previously the only designs remaining would be the ones requiring bespoke design parameters (ie. Metrolink, high mast columns and heritage lighting). The completion of the project was still scheduled for March 2022.

**Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Schemes - Mayor's Challenge Fund** - On 29 March 2018, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority allocated £160 million of Greater Manchester's £243 million Transforming Cities Fund to develop a Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund. Previous reports highlighted that the Council had successfully secured Programme Entry Status for schemes at Tranches 1, 4, 5 and 6 of the programme. Previously, it was reported that the Hill Street and Chadwick Dam schemes were due to be completed by summer 2021, however due to Covid related issues outside of the Council's control this programme was being re-evaluated. It was anticipated that this would result in a two month delay to the original programme. TfGM, the project sponsors, had been informed.

**Dukinfield Active Neighbourhood Pilot** - On the 3 March 2021 the Council approved, via Executive Decision, the selection of an area in Dukinfield for Tameside's Active Neighbourhood pilot scheme. Work has since started on this resident-led initiative.

**Active Travel Fund (ATF) – Tranche 2** - The previous Capital update report provided confirmation that the Council had been awarded £0.985m, from TfGM on the 29 January 2021, to create an environment that was safe for both walking and cycling in order to replace journeys previously made by car or by public transport. A requirement of the grant funding was the Council's ability to demonstrate progress and commitment to implementing the schemes in Tranche 2 by March 2022. In addition, there was a requirement to undertake consultation on all schemes and obtain design approval from TfGM prior to implementation and to implement appropriate monitoring and evaluation.

Following a procurement exercise, Mott MacDonald's – Highway Designers, had been commissioned to work on the feasibility and design of each of the ATF schemes had started. Once outline designs had been approved by TfGM then consultation with relevant residents and stakeholders will commence. A summary of the schemes approved alongside the available budget was provided.

**Capability Fund** - The previous report provided an overview of the Capability Fund bids, submitted by the Council, earlier in the year. A summary of the bids was provided, which were designed to support behaviour change activities and the development of local cycling and walking infrastructure proposals. The Council was currently awaiting a decision on whether any of the bids had been successful. Confirmation of the outcome would be provided at a future meeting.

**Places to Ride – Tame Valley Loop (TVL)** - The Council had now received the formal offer of

funding from British Cycling which was currently awaiting sign-off. Works were currently being programmed so that the formalised route could start to be promoted later in the year.

**Pedestrian Crossing Facilities at Side Roads** - TfGM were researching the use of road markings at side roads in urban areas, working with the Transport Research Laboratory (TRL). The aim was to provide direct and safe crossing points for pedestrians. The Council were supporting the research by implementing two trial sites at locations in Denton and Audenshaw. The on-road trials were now complete, with monitoring completed in early July 2021. This work was being funded by TfGM, under the Mayor's Challenge Fund, with design and delivery being carried out by the Council estimated at £0.022m. The costs were to be met by TfGM, including Council staff time. Costs were being compiled for submission to TfGM.

A further update was given in respect of grant funding schemes reported previously, as follows:

- Transport Infrastructure Investment Fund - Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2020/21;
- Department for Transport (DFT) – Safer Roads Fund; and
- Growth Deal 3 Funding – Bus Stop Passenger Access Enhancement.

**AGREED:**

That **EXECUTIVE CABINET** be **RECOMMENDED** to note:

- The progress with regards to Flooding: Flood Prevention and Consequential Repairs.**
- The progress with regard to the Slope Stability Programme and potential additional works required.**
- The progress with regards to the replacement of Cremators and Mercury Abatement, Filtration Plant and Heat Recovery Facilities.**
- The progress of the Walking and Cycling infrastructure schemes set out in section 3 of the report.**
- The progress of Capital schemes in section 2.13-2.20, and external grant schemes in section 3 and 4.**
- Following the GMCA approval on 25 June 2021, to note that £2.415m Highways grant funding was added to the Council's 2021-22 capital programme and £1.500m Pothole and Challenge funding of the same grant was added to the 2021-22 Operations and Neighbourhood's directorate Highways revenue budget.**

That **EXECUTIVE CABINET** be **RECOMMENDED** to **APPROVE**:

- To add £0.022m to the Capital Programme for Pedestrian Crossings at side roads (section 3.18 of the report). This scheme will be wholly financed via TfGM Mayors Challenge grant funding.**

## **92. GROWTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member of Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Growth, which provided an update on the 2021/22 Growth Capital Programme and set out details of the major approved capital schemes.

It was reported that the proposed Garden Village at Godley Green was the key strategic site for residential development in Tameside. The Council had secured an additional £0.030m capacity funding from Homes England to support the ongoing project management function which was yet to be received. A similar bid for capacity funding would be made in 2021/22.

In respect of Stalybridge Heritage Action Zone, Members were advised that Stalybridge town centre was selected as Tameside's focus for the GM Mayor's Town Centre Challenge in 2018. Initial work to plan and progress the delivery of Stalybridge's Town Centre Challenge was co-ordinated by the Stalybridge Town Centre Challenge (STCC) Board and a Stalybridge Town Centre Challenge Action Plan now set out the aspirations for the town centre.

A bid for external funding to deliver on the ambitions for Stalybridge secured £1.275m High Street

Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) funding through Historic England with £1.275m match funding by the Council. The Grant Funding Agreement was completed on 16 February 2021. The Project Officer had been appointed and, with Heritage England, a detailed capital programme plan was under review, which would outline the projects and spend of the funding up to 31 March 2024.

Part of the proposed HSHAZ funded scheme was a replacement roof on Stalybridge Civic / Market in 2021/22 for which a budget of £0.559m was allowed. However, as survey work to inform the contract had identified additional works that should 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 was also unable to be reused. The estimate for the contract was £1.7m and the July meeting of Executive Cabinet approved an additional £1.139m of Capital funding.

Information was also provided relating to statutory compliance works. These costs were scheduled in Appendix 3 to the report.

A summary of the financial position as at 30 April 2021 with regard to receipts for Section 106 (s106) Agreements and Developer Contributions, was provided.

Progress updates were also provided in respect of land disposals and decarbonisation of the public estate.

**AGREED:**

**That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the report and:**

**That £0.126m of Corporate Landlord - Capital Expenditure is approved from the earmarked budget, for works detailed in Appendix 3 to the report.**

#### **94. EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE**

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, providing an overview of the Council's Education Capital Programme.

The funding and financial position was explained and details of existing and proposed schemes for the Basic Needs funding were given. In order to utilise funding in the most effective way, it was proposed that the Special Provision and High Needs Provision grants be used to support the Special Provision projects for Hawthorns, Oakfield Primary and Greenside Primary, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

In terms of School Condition Grant funding, it was explained that Schools Forum agreed a contribution protocol for schools condition works that was implemented from 1 October 2020. The protocol asked for a contribution towards all school condition schemes. The contributions were £10,000 for primary schools and £25,000 for secondary schools. This would ensure that the limited School Condition Funding received from central government could be maximised.

Schools would contribute towards all school condition schemes. Discussions would be held with schools to confirm their contributions and how they planned to finance it. This would then replace the school condition funding requested for those schools. This related to the following schools:

- Audenshaw Primary School
- Broadbent Fold
- Fairfield Primary School
- Gee Cross Holy Trinity
- Gorse Hall Primary School
- Hurst Knoll
- Stalyhill Infants School

In respect of Devolved Formula Capital funding, it was reported that the DFE had now provided the actual allocations. The funding for Tameside schools in 2021/22 was £337,001 and £174,553 for Voluntary Aided schools. The maintained allocation was £72,757 more than originally announced as there were five schools that currently had academy orders in place but had not yet converted.

Details of Special Provision Allocation funding were set out and, in order to utilise funding in the most effective way, it was proposed that the Special Provision grant be used to support the Special Provision projects for Hawthorns, Oakfield Primary and Greenside Primary, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report.

With regard to High Needs Provision Capital Allocation, Members were advised that in April 2021 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 and an update would be included in future reports. It was further proposed that the High Needs Provision grant be used to support the RIBA Stage 3 costs for the new Hawthorns scheme, as detailed in Appendix 5 to the report.

In respect of Section 106 monies, it was reported that there was currently £99,931 Section 106 monies remaining from the £491,007 that was approved by panel and subsequently endorsed by Executive Cabinet at the meetings in March 2020. There had been Section 106 monies received from a developer of £59,370 (planning application number 11/00669/OUT). Discussions were being held as to how this could be best used to support schools within the development area.

**AGREED:**

**That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to approve:**

- (i) The proposed changes of (£728,800) to and re-profiling of (£11,500,000) the Basic Need Funding as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;**
- (ii) The proposed changes of (£8,160) to and re-profiling of (£150,000) the School Condition Funding as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report;**
- (iii) The proposed changes of £316,000 to the Special Provision Funding as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report;**
- (iv) The proposed changes of £264,800 to the High Needs Provision Funding as detailed in Appendix 5 to the report;**
- (v) The additional £72,757 Devolved Formula Capital is added to the Capital Programme as discussed in paragraph 2.11 of the report; and**
- (vi) A revised approach to presenting the information to assist the Panel in monitoring the Education Capital Programme to understand progress and variations as set out in draft format at Appendix 6 to the report, which will replace all other appendices going forward.**

**95.. FRAMEWORK OF CONTRACTORS TO PROVIDE ADAPTATIONS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member Adult Social Care and Health / Director of Growth / Director of Adult Services which explained that legislation in the form of the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 (plus subsequent amendments) placed a statutory duty on local housing authorities to deliver adaptations within its boundary. The authority had a duty to receive and approve eligible applications where the Council considers the adaption to be necessary and appropriate to meet the assessed needs of the disabled person, and reasonable and practicable in relation to the age and condition of the property to be adapted.

Funding for Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) had been included within the Better Care Fund (BCF) since 2015-16. It operated under Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 (pooled budget arrangements between Clinical Commissioning Groups and the local council). Capital funding was provided annually through Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and Department of Health (DoH). However the provision of DFG for those who qualified for the service remains a statutory duty on the local housing authority.

The current rates for works within the contract required to be varied to take into effect changes in the cost of materials and equipment. These changes are due to a number of rises in the cost of materials in the construction industry due to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, global supply issues and Brexit, as well as the need for contractors to make a reasonable profit to be able to retain operatives.

**AGREED:**

**That the Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Health) be recommended to agree that approval is given under Procurement Standing Orders 9.3.1 to agree a 10% increase on the rates contained within the framework contract.**

**96. FORWARD PLAN**

The forward plan of items for Board was considered.

**CHAIR**