

## BOARD

13 April 2022

**Present:**

<b>Elected Members</b>	<b>Councillors Warrington (In the Chair), Bray, Fairfoull Feeley, Gwynne, Kitchen, and Wills</b>
<b>Borough Solicitor</b>	<b>Sandra Stewart</b>
<b>Section 151 Officer</b>	<b>Kathy Roe</b>

**Also in Attendance:** **Simon Brunet, Stephanie Butterworth, Tony Decrop, James Mallion, Samantha Jury-Dada, Dr Ashwin Ramachandra and Ian Saxon**

**Apologies for Absence:** **Councillor Ryan**

### **254 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **255 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the Board meeting on the 6 April 2022 were approved as a correct record.

### **256 LGA CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE - JUNE 2022**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader / Director of Transformation. The report provided an update on the preparations for the Local Government Association (LGA) corporate peer challenge in June 2022.

The Director of Transformation advised the Board that the last LGA corporate peer inspection in Tameside was cancelled due to Covid-19 in 2020. Corporate Peer challenges take place once every 5 years. It was stated that there was no cost implications and a narrative report would be published. In regards to the scope of the peer challenge, it was reported that the LGA core themes in addition to Tameside's local theme of transformation were as follows:

- Local Priorities and outcomes
- Organisational and place leadership
- Governance and culture
- Financial planning and management
- Capacity for improvement

It was reported that Interviews and focus groups would start on the 21 June. A draft report would be available within 4 weeks of the peer challenge completing and the final report would be published in early August.

### **AGREED**

**That Strategic Commissioning Board be recommended to note the update and next steps in preparation for the LGA corporate peer challenge in June 2022.**

### **257 REVISED GAMBLING ACT POLICY 2022 - 2025**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Director of Place, which explained that Licensing authorities were required to

develop, consult on, and publish a Statement of Principles every three years that set out the principles they proposed to apply in exercising their functions under the Gambling Act 2005.

It was further explained that, in preparing the Statement, the Authority had to have regard to codes of practice and guidance issued by the Gambling Commission. The Statement reflected collaboration across Greater Manchester with, for the first time, a joint Statement of Gambling Principles approved at local level. The aim of this was to provide a more consistent policy position across Greater Manchester; with the shared aim of preventing and reducing the negative impacts of gambling on individuals, families and communities.

A copy of the proposed Gambling Statement of Principles was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

Details were given of the 8 week consultation process, which had taken place between 29 November 2021 and 24 January 2022 and copies of responses received were appended to the report.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) had been completed showing there was no adverse impact on the community. The EIA form was also appended to the report.

#### **AGREED**

**That Executive Cabinet recommend to Full Council to adopt the Gambling Policy set out herein.**

### **258 REVISED STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY – LICENSING ACT 2003**

The Executive Member, Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Director of Place submitted a report, which explained that Licensing authorities were required to prepare, consult on, and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy every five years. The policy detailed how the Council would administer and enforce the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003.

Members were advised that Tameside Council's Statement of Licensing Policy was last revised in January 2016. Due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic a full review of the Licensing Policy was unable to take place, therefore the policy was extended for a period of 12 months in May 2021.

The revised draft policy reflected recent changes to legislation including the Immigration Act 2016. The most significant change was the proposed removal of the Cumulative Impact Policies (in Stalybridge town centre and Ashton-under-Lyne town centre).

A copy of the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

Details were given of the 8 week consultation process, which had taken place between 29 November 2021 and 24 January 2022 and copies of the response received was appended to the report.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) had been completed showing there was no adverse impact on the community. The EIA form was also appended to the report.

#### **AGREED**

**That Executive Cabinet recommend to Full Council to adopt the Licensing Policy set out herein.**

### **259 OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION TO ESTABLISH A TEN PLACE RESOURCE BASE AT CORRIE PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL**

A report was submitted by the Executive Member, Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Director of Children's Services, which informed Members of the outcome of a school

organisation consultation to establish, with effect from 1 September 2022, a designated resource base at Corrie Primary and Nursery School to enable up to 10 pupils aged 5 – 11 with cognition and learning and/or communication and interaction and/or social, emotional and mental health needs to be supported.

The report outlined the consultation process and the responses received.

It was concluded that there was a clear need to develop additional resourced provision in the borough. The pilot project had been successfully received by governors and staff at Corrie Primary and Nursery School and parents, as evidenced by the responses to the consultation. The proposal was in line with the SEND Forward Plan and provided better value for money. The 10 place unit avoided potential additional costs of up to £348,200 to the DSG High Needs budget, which was expected to be £3.2m in deficit by the end the financial year.

#### **AGREED**

**The Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve the proposal to establish a designated resource base at Corrie Primary and Nursery School to enable up to 10 pupils aged 5 – 11 with cognition and learning and/ or communication and interaction and / or social, emotional and mental health needs without modification from 1 September 2022;**

#### **260 SUPPORTING FAMILIES GRANT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families) / Assistant Director, Children’s Services providing an update following the confirmation of continued funding from the Supporting Families Programme Grant, its amount and the proposed financial allocation of monies. It was explained that Early Help Services were currently funded from TMBC core budget funding and other grants, one of which was Supporting Families.

Members were advised that the government had confirmed the continuation of the grant for a further 3 years with £1,194,683 being allocated for 2022/2023. This was an increase in previous years, of £390,600 and it was proposed to continue to fund existing services with an opportunity to develop and expand further services.

The Strengthening Families Programme grant currently funded services and posts as set out in the appendix A to the report and as described in section 3 of the report.

The report set out proposals to agree the spending for the continued Supporting Families Grant, which had been allocated to the Local Authority via Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) (Earned Autonomy) for 2022 to 2025.

The Supporting Families Programme grant was a continuation of the established grant Tameside had received for 8 years as identified in previous reports.

#### **AGREED**

**That Executive Cabinet be recommended:**

- (i) To continue to fund the current arrangements with Action Together, Domestic Abuse services and HomeStart.**

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Amount pear year</b>	<b>Type of Arrangement</b>
<b>HomeStart</b>	<b>£50,000</b>	<b>Service Contract</b>
<b>Action Together</b>	<b>£65,000</b>	<b>Grant Agreement</b>
<b>Domestic Abuse Services</b>	<b>£152,443</b>	<b>Services Contract</b>

- (ii) To agree to the extension of the Inspire Family Intervention service contract delivered**

- by Jigsaw for a further 6 months till 30 September 2022, then this contract will cease.
- (iii) The current commissioned Family Intervention service provided by Jigsaw, Inspire services is put out to tender for a 2.5 year period

Year 1(6 months) Sept 2022 – March 2023	£108,000
Year 2 April 2023 – March 2024	£216,000
Year 3 April 2024 – March 2025	£216,000

- (iv) To approve spend of £207,358 budgeted from the Supporting Families grant that will be used to obtain more resources to support wider service delivery and strategic leadership to build capacity within Early Intervention over the next 3 years on fixed term contracts as outlined in 3.32.

## 261 CORPORATE PLAN SCORECARDS UPDATE, APRIL 2022

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader / Co-chairs for Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group / Director of Transformation. The report summarised the corporate outcomes and corporate health scorecards. The report also detailed the measures proposed for the Government to track the performance of Levelling Up missions and details on how these measures compared to the indicators used locally in the outcomes scorecard.

Members were advised that the number of Tameside residents receiving Universal Credit in January was down slightly on the same month in 2021, although the percentage of UC recipients in employment in December was higher than in December 2020. The number of households in receipt of council tax support continued to fall after climbing during the pandemic, and almost 700 fewer households were receiving this support than in January last year. The number Covid-19 self-isolation support payments made in February 2022 was three times greater than in February last year, with 437 payments made.

The estimated number of rough sleepers in the borough had increased over the last 12 months from 0.13 per 10,000 households in 2020 to 0.48 in 2021. In contrast, the number of households owed a relief or prevention duty has fallen from 13.6 per thousand households in 2019/2020 to 11.4 in 2020/2021.

It was reported that orders placed with local companies increased in February to its highest point in the financial year, reaching 20.4% of orders placed. The percentage of invoices which were paid within 30 days of being received by the Accounts team remained above 97% since dipping to 95.7% in August 2021.

The number of IT support tickets taking longer than 48 hours to resolve had fallen to 3.26% in February, while the average ticket resolution time had fallen to 5 hours and 38 minutes, falling below six hours for the first time this financial year.

Financial indicators show a further decrease in the forecast budget overspend for the year, down to £701,000 as of January. At the same time, however, the forecast savings for the year had also fallen by £44,000. The cost of agency staffing in Quarter 3 was around £95,000 higher than the previous quarter, costing a total of £1,485,245 across the Authority.

In adult social care, the percentage of annual reviews which were overdue continues to climb from a low of 38.8% in May 2021 to 45.7% in December. The number of residential and nursing placements outside of the borough had also increased over the last few months, from a low of 12.51% in November to 13.37% in January.

Children's social care data showed a recent downward trend in the rate of child protection cases, peaking in August at 82 per 10,000 under-18's before falling to 65 in January. Meanwhile, the slight upward trend in the number of children in need per 10,000 under-18's continues, with the rate climbing to 546 in January 2022.

In the health section, performance had fallen recently around cancer referrals; the total number of cancer specialist appointments fell by 27.4% from 1,225 in November 2021 to 889 in January; the proportion of waits for a cancer specialist appointment lasting two weeks or less had also fallen, with 7.2% of waits lasting longer than the target time of two weeks in January.

#### **AGREED**

**That Strategic Commissioning Board be recommended to agree that the contents of the report, scorecards Appendix 1 and Appendix 2, the list of Levelling Up indicators Appendix 3, and the Tameside profile Appendix 4 are noted.**

### **262 SENDIASS SERVICE REVIEW UPDATE**

A report was submitted by the Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families) / Assistant Director, Children's Services setting out proposals for the future delivery of SENDIASS service in Tameside.

It was explained that options had been explored to identify if any efficiency saving could be made with regard to the delivery of the service. This included benchmarking across North West & GM, to look at how other LA's delivered the service and compared delivery/costs and outcomes against the in-house model.

Members were advised that work with STAR and commissioning colleagues was undertaken to explore how neighbouring LA's delivered their SENDIASS service. Models of delivery across GM was variable within authorities aligned to STAR - Oldham and Stockport currently commissioning the service externally with good outcomes.

Identification of savings where appropriate, were explored, building on discussions with other LA's, to see if this would be a viable option for Tameside. Discussions with Tameside's finance and HR services were maintained throughout the process to assess and manage any identified risks against the options explored.

An options appraisal, as appended to the report, was completed by STAR, which outlined the procurement routes available for the various requirements in order to deliver the council's SENDIASS service effectively and in a timely manner.

The following four options were considered.

- Open Procurement;
- Deliver In-House Service;
- Modify Stockport Agreement with Together Trust; or
- Direct award following soft market test. This would be procured via an Exemption – *'The ASO can demonstrate that there is no genuine completion can be obtained of the purchase of particular Supplies, Services or execution of Works'*

Having undertaken an analysis on the variety of options as detailed above, STAR procurement recommended that the preferred option was to modify the Stockport Council agreement with Together Trust to include Tameside Council for one year with the ambition to procure a joint service from 1 April 2023.

#### **AGREED**

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

- (i) **That the commissioning out of the SENDIASS to the Together Trust by way of a modification of Stockport Council's existing contract with the Together Trust for one**

year and thereafter for Tameside and Stockport Council's to procure a joint recommissioning from 1 April 2023.

- (ii) That Stockport Council will be the lead authority in relation to the contract
- (iii) That the necessary steps be undertaken in relation to the transfer of affected staff

## **263 FORWARD PLAN**

The forward plan of items for Board was considered.

**CHAIR**