

Report to:	Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel
Date:	22 September 2022
Executive Member:	Councillor Jacqueline North, First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation)
Reporting Officer:	Emma Varnam – Assistant Director, Operations & Neighbourhoods
Subject:	CAPITAL PROGRAMME – OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS (PLACE DIRECTORATE)
Report Summary:	This report provides an update on the delivery of Capital Projects in Operations and Neighbourhoods.
Recommendations:	<p>That Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel be recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Note the progress with regards to the schemes within the Operations and Neighbourhoods Capital Programme as set out in the report. (ii) Approve the inclusion of the 2022/23 Highway Maintenance grant (via GMCA) funding allocation of £3,536,000 to the Council's capital programme. (iii) Approve the allocation of £133,000 from the Dukinfield Cremator scheme existing contingency budget to undertake design work and listed building approval for essential repairs to the chapel roof and steeple at Dukinfield Crematorium as set out in section 2.26 of this report.
Corporate Plan:	A number of the schemes presented in this report continue to support the objectives of the Corporate Plan.
Policy Implications:	<p>The Operations and Neighbourhoods Capital Programme contributes to the 5 focus themes of the Tameside Carbon Reduction and Environment Strategy 2021/2026, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of low carbon solutions in a number of schemes driving down consumption across the estate including the streamlining the corporate portfolio of buildings. • Supporting and facilitating sustainable travel options.
Financial Implications:	Highway Maintenance Programme
(Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	<p>Approval was given previously to carry unspent budget forward from 2021/22 resulting in an opening 2022/23 budget of £2,207,660 (excluding the 2022/23 Highway Maintenance Grant allocation).</p> <p>The 2022/23 Highway Maintenance Grant allocation has been recently confirmed totalling £3,536,000. The programme of schemes (including pothole repairs) that will be financed by the grant allocation will be reported to Members for approval at the November 2022 meeting.</p> <p>Mayors Challenge Fund (MCF)</p>

As previously reported, a number of schemes have been subject to Public Consultation and are currently in the process of being costed to enable business cases to be submitted to TfGM. A more detailed report will be presented at a future meeting evidencing the outcome from the consultations, estimated scheme costs and proposed funding packages.

Cremator Replacement and Crematorium Steeple

Sections 2.20 – 2.26 of this report sets out the progress of this scheme. Project completion is now anticipated to be October 2022.

It is noted that there are further repair and restoration works required to the steeple and chapel roof once the cremator replacement scheme has been completed. Initial surveys of both the steeple and chapel roof have been undertaken. Design work and a Listed Building application will be required in order inform a further report on the required actions to the steeple and chapel roof. The cost of the detailed design work and listed building consent is estimated to be £133,000 and will be financed via the existing scheme contingency budget.

Resources available to fund the Capital Programme

The Council has limited resources available to fund Capital Expenditure and the current capital programme, which is based upon receiving capital receipts of £15,410,000, is fully allocated to Council priorities. Careful monitoring of progress in realising these capital receipts must be undertaken throughout the year to ensure that there is timely and pro-active disposal of assets and that the actual receipts are in line with projections.

The Council's capital programme will be reviewed and updated during 2022/23 in order to ensure that all approved schemes are still required and to include those schemes that are fully funded from external sources.

Any additional priority schemes that are put forward for consideration and that are not fully grant funded will need to be evaluated, costed and subject to separate Member approval. There will be a revenue cost for any new capital schemes that are not fully funded from alternative sources and the implications of this will need to be carefully considered, given the on-going pressures on the revenue budget.

Legal Implications:

(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

This report is intended to provide the Panel with an overview of the capital works to provide Members with an opportunity to review the progress being made particularly in terms of timescales, value for money and delivery of capital receipts.

Access to Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the Report Writers, Lee Holland by:



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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the delivery of the Place Capital Programme managed by Operations & Neighbourhoods.

2. APPROVED CAPITAL PROJECTS

Current Schemes: Highways

Highway Maintenance Programme

- 2.1 Tenders for the carriageway resurfacing schemes were received in July 2022 and the evaluation process has been completed. Governance is now being sought, in the form of an Executive Decision, to award a contract to the successful contractor.
- 2.2 The value of the tender is within the existing funding available and so it is proposed to continue with the programme as identified in **Appendix 1**, subject to any on-site unforeseen issues.
- 2.3 The 2022/23 Core Highway Maintenance Grant allocation has been confirmed as:
- Integrated Transport Block (ITB) £631,000
 - Highways Maintenance £2,905,000

The programme of schemes (including pothole repairs) that will be financed by the grant allocation will be reported to Members for approval at the November 2022 meeting.

Safer Roads Fund, Department for Transport (DFT)

- 2.4 Since the last meeting in July 2022 new tactile surfacing has been installed along the A670.

Bus Stop Passenger Access Enhancement, Growth Deal 3

- 2.5 Works to this Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) funded project to undertake infrastructure enhancements to bus stops within Tameside is substantially complete. Final completion is anticipated in October 2022. The project will be delivered within the available funding budget.
- 2.6 Under the project, works have been undertaken to over 80 bus stops. TfGM have reported that more bus stop enhancements have been completed in Tameside than in any of the other Greater Manchester districts.

Current Schemes: Walking and Cycling Infrastructure

Mayors Challenge Fund

- 2.7 Previous reports have highlighted the following priority Mayor's Challenge Fund schemes (MCF) for development and delivery (subject to approval):
- Ashton Streetscape (Albion Way / Wellington Road), Ashton-under-Lyne.
 - Stamford Drive, Stalybridge.
 - Clarendon Road, Audenshaw.
 - Rayner Lane, Audenshaw and Droylsden.
 - Ross Lave Lane, Denton.
- 2.8 Following further detailed discussions with landowners, and the fact that the MCF budget is currently over-subscribed, the intention is to deprioritise further development and delivery of Ross Lave Lane, Denton at this point in time. The scheme will however remain in the Council's pipeline of schemes for future consideration when additional funds become available.
- 2.9 The intention is to commence public consultation on the Stamford Drive, Clarendon Road and Rayner Lane schemes in the next two months subject to the approval of a governance report

which is due to be considered at Assistant Directors Group meeting on the 21 September 2022. The Executive Member of Transport and Connectivity and ward members will be briefed in advance of any public consultation.

2.10 The remaining schemes in the MCF programme are listed below. All schemes (except Ashton West Retail Bridge) have had feasibility studies and outline designs produced and have been added to the Council's walking and cycling pipeline of projects until further funds become available.

- Stamford Street Central, Ashton.
- A57 Crown Point, Denton.
- A57 Denton to Hyde, Denton.
- Ashton West Retail Bridge, Audenshaw.

Active Travel Fund

2.11 Previous reports have identified the schemes which have been prioritised from the Active Travel Fund budget (ATF) based on affordability and deliverability. The schemes are:

- Guide Lane, Audenshaw.
- Stockport Road, Ashton.
- Oldham Road / Newman Street, Ashton.

2.12 These schemes were subject to Executive and ward member briefings during August 2022 in advance of the launch of public consultation on the 5 September 2022. The public consultation will run for 6 weeks and will end on the 14 October 2022. Subject to the outcome of the consultation the plans will be finalised and submitted to TfGM in order to obtain approval to proceed to construction.

2.13 Feasibility studies have been completed on a further five proposed schemes, listed below, using the approved ATF development cost funding. The schemes, which have an estimated value of £1,000,000, will form part of the Council's pipeline of projects until further funding becomes available.

- Mill Lane and Stamford Street Central, Ashton.
- Ashton Active Neighbourhood, Ashton.
- Stockport Road, Denton.
- Dowson Road, Hyde.
- Roe Cross Road, Mottram.

2.14 The last report, presented in July 2022, highlighted that the Council had successfully secured ATF3 funding towards the delivery of the A57 Crown Point MCF scheme. The Council is currently awaiting further information from TfGM on the funding requirements.

Pedestrian Controlled Crossing at Laurus Ryecroft School, Lumb Lane, Droylsden

2.15 Previous discussions with the Department for Education and TMBC regarding the principle of the financial uplift to the Section 106 have been held and agreement indicated, however, the method of legally documenting those changes are still being drafted between the two Legal Departments.

2.16 If necessary, the changes to the agreement will be submitted to a meeting of the Speakers Panel for approval.

2.17 Regulations that govern the introduction of traffic regulation orders (TROs) state that the period between public consultation and sealing of the TROs should be no longer than 2 years. This is normally an adequate time to overcome objections to schemes and introduce the restrictions.

However, the nature of the previous objections received, Covid and the changes to the financial agreements associated have had an impact on the completion of this scheme.

Current Schemes: Flooding

Flood Prevention and Consequential Repairs

- 2.18 Preparatory work to replace the debris screen downstream of Walkerwood Reservoir, Stalybridge Country Park, has commenced. Progress is slower than anticipated due to the difficulties of the site.
- 2.19 The inlet screen at Mottram Old Road has now been installed and the Broadacre screen is programmed for installation on the 14 September 2022.

Current Schemes: Cremators

- 2.20 All three new cremators are now in situ and are being utilised daily. All the old cremators have now been removed and the temporary cremator moved from site. The abatement equipment is currently being installed and this should be finalised by the end of September 2022
- 2.21 Once the abatement equipment is installed and finalised, commissioning of all three cremators will take place to ensure they meet with the Environment Protection Act. The commissioning of the cremators is to take place during October 2022
- 2.22 The heat exchanger plates will be connected to the existing heating system once the abatement equipment has been installed, allowing the Crematorium to recover the energy and utilise this for heating the building.
- 2.23 The urgent repair works to the steeple have been carried out and all associated costs are within the total scheme budget.
- 2.24 The handover of the project to the client is now scheduled for end of October 2022 provided all the commissioning works are satisfactory.
- 2.25 Despite the inevitable delays, there is no immediate impact on the approved capital programme.
- 2.26 Further repair and restoration works are required to the steeple and chapel roof once the cremator replacement scheme has been completed. Initial surveys of both the steeple and chapel roof have been undertaken with the cost of the surveys being met from the existing scheme contingency. From the surveys, design work and a Listed Building application is now required in order inform a further report on the required actions to the steeple and chapel roof. The cost of the detailed design work and listed building consent is estimated to be £133,000 to be fully funded from the existing scheme contingency budget.

Current Schemes: Children's Playgrounds

- 2.27 The delegated Executive Decision was signed by the Director of Place on 7 July 2022 and following this signed contracts were issued to start the next phases of work.
- 2.28 Work is now underway to remove old timber multi-play units and replace them with more robust metal and plastic units in 5 of the Borough's parks. Work is now complete at Victoria Park in Denton, King George in Ashton is almost complete and work is underway at St Anne's Park in Denton and Egmont Street, Mossley. Stamford Park is due to start on site soon.
- 2.29 Work on replacement of smaller items of play equipment will begin in early October; Officers and Contractors have agreed the priority sites where work will take place first based on the health and safety needs as well as the lead in times for delivery of equipment. Prior to work

taking place signage will be put up at the playgrounds and we will inform Ward Members. The work will be supervised by Engineers and the Greenspace Team and will be a positive cross-directorate project which will benefit the Borough's youngest residents.

Current Schemes: Street Lighting

- 2.30 LED main road street lighting lantern installation is nearing completion with 275 lanterns left to install (6965 installed to date). 700 lanterns of a non-standard nature are still outstanding. These include heritage, Droylsden high-mast and Metrolink lighting (OHLE). All the designs are complete; we are now in the process of programming the installations. The completion of the project is unchanged and scheduled for the third quarter of 2022.
- 2.31 The only area to note is the Metrolink route as we are in dialog with TfGM to arrange a track possession to undertake work on these 200 lanterns. Until we have confirmation of a track possession date we cannot confirm the completion date for this small aspect of the project.

3. FLEET REPLACEMENT

- 3.1 The required project initiation process for STAR to commence procurement activities for the fleet replacement has been completed for thirteen vehicles and tenders returned. The total price returned for all vehicles was £506,094, the original estimate was £396,000, an increase of £110,000. It is envisaged all the vehicles we have received prices for will be delivered in this financial year with the exception of the 3 x Van Mount access platforms (tender price £302,112) which have a 60 week build time. The reason for the significant increase in costs are logistical issues, production issues and a worldwide shortage of parts. The remainder of the £826,000 approved budget will need to be rephrased into 2023/24 financial year.
- 3.2 There are number of other vehicles and plant that were approved as part of the £826,000 budget in the Executive decision Notice of May 2022 but procurement has not yet started and they will not arrive this financial year. The prices for these vehicles and plant is also likely to have increased significantly and Members will be provided with future updates and costs.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 The table below (Table 4) provides a summary of the high risks associated with the delivery of the Place Capital Programme. The table also provides a summary of mitigating actions in order to minimise risk.

Table 4

RISKS	MITIGATING ACTIONS
1. Failure to implement the proposed Capital programme will prevent the appropriate allocation of resources by the Authority.	A robust programme of works will be developed to ensure that the objectives underpinning the Department for Transport and other funding allocations will be met and at the same time meet the objectives contained in Tameside's Community Strategy.
2. Inclement weather preventing commencement and completion of schemes.	A comprehensive and realistic programme of works will be agreed between partners to ensure completion by approved dates. However, should the programme not be achieved it may be necessary to arrange for any outstanding financial resources to be transferred into the following financial year.
3. Due to inflation and supply chain pressures there is currently no certainty on the	Procurement processes will start earlier than normal and the situation will be kept under review and delivery programmes adjusted if necessary.

delivery timescales and availability of materials.	Whilst the Council's Operational Services and external contractors have access to many material suppliers, shortages of materials or delays in delivery may necessitate alternatives to be sourced or approval will be sought to carry forward the project into the following year.
4. Statutory procedures linked to certain schemes could delay implementation.	Should it be necessary approval will be sought to carry over the project into the following year for completion.
5. Failure to deliver schemes funded by external grants will impact on the future success of bids.	External consultancy support being commissioned, with support from STaR, to increase design and business case capacity thereby helping to accelerate the development and delivery of the MCF schemes. Schemes which are currently projected to be completed beyond the funding timescales are being flagged with TfGM to determine opportunities to accelerate approval processes or extend the funding deadline.
6. Significant increase in cost of vehicles and insufficient budget.	Work with suppliers to get up to date costings prior to applying for capital budget and going out to tender. Regular review of costs and budget available.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 As set out at the front of this report