

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

17 November 2022

Commenced: 14:00

Terminated: 14:50

Present: Councillors Cooney (Chair), Bray, Dickinson, Feeley and North,

In Attendance:

Sandra Stewart	Chief Executive
Caroline Barlow	Assistant Director of Finance
Alison Stathers-Tracy	Director of Children's Services
Tim Bowman	Director of Education (Tameside and Stockport)
Tracy Harrison	Assistant Director of Adults Services
Julian Jackson	Director of Place
Emma Varnam	Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Fairfoull, McNally, Ryan and L Boyle

19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

20 MINUTES

The minutes of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel meeting on the 22 September 2020 were approved as a correct record.

21 EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME: UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Education, Achievements and Equalities / First Deputy for Finance, Resources and Transformation / Director of Education / Director of Place. The report provided Members of the Panel with an overview and update position on the Council's Education Capital Programme.

The Panel were advised that there was an updated cost plan for the new school building at Hawthorns Primary Academy. The updated cost plan indicates that costs had risen substantially since Executive Cabinet agreed the original budget of £13m. Whilst these were not final costs as these had still to be formally agreed and did not yet have formal governance, the current projected cost was £17m. There was currently sufficient unallocated Basic Need Funding to cover this gap.

It was reported that St Thomas More RC College which had been identified as a site for the construction of an artificial pitch as part of the Tameside Playing Pitch Strategy had a £120k shortfall in funding. Works had begun with the FA and Football Foundation on planning for the project which was still in its early stages. The football foundation was able to fund the majority of the cost of the planning and construction of the pitch. The school had the majority of the matched funding needed through fundraising and other funding streams. There was a shortfall of £120,000 which the report sought approval for as a contribution from basic need to the sports provision. The school were continuing to provide additional places in the area.

The Panel were advised that Thomas Ashton School, along with all the special schools had experienced a surge in demand for places and needs to expand its provision. In 2020 the school opened a satellite site at Discover Academy with two classrooms and capital funding was used to ensure that the classrooms were fit for purpose for Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils with significant additional needs. A lease was agreed between the Council and Victorious Academy Trust for this accommodation. There was a need to expand the provision and Discover Academy were able to make a further two classrooms available. These needed adapting along the same lines as the previous remodelling. Additionally, there was a need to increase external fencing to ensure a

secure area for the pupils to enter and leave the building. The Pupil Support Service classroom that currently occupied the space at Discovery Academy would need to move to Corrie Primary School to facilitate this additional space for Thomas Ashton. Some remodelling was required at Corrie to make this safe for the Pupil Support Service pupils using classroom. The report sought approval for £110,000 to remodel an additional two classrooms and provide additional external fencing as well as remodel the classroom at Corrie Primary School.

In regards to St John's CE, Dukinfield – Early Years Department, it was reported that programme prices had been received for the remaining areas to be treated. Unfortunately during the survey of the area, it was found that the underfloor heating required total replacement. Value engineering had been undertaken by the LEP to reduce the revised costs. This delay to commence the works had also led to an additional cost for the extended hire of the mobile classroom where the foundation unit pupils were currently based. The report therefore requested that a further sum of £40,000 be approved for these costs.

The Director of Education reported that the Stamford Park Trust have responded to the Council's request where schools wish to express an interest in establishing a resource base in a mainstream school. This is the first expression of interest from a secondary school and the SEN Team are keen to support this to expand provision for secondary age children with additional needs that can be met resourced provision in a mainstream school. A feasibility study had been carried out by the Trust and it was recommended that an initial budget of £650,000 be allocated to the project which would cover a new demountable building on the school site to cater for up to 15 children with Education, Health and Care Plans. The grant agreement would be dependent on the Trust formally submitting a business case to the Education and Skills Funding Agency to establish a resource base, undertaking the required public consultation and obtaining the relevant planning permissions.

RECOMMENDED

That the Executive Cabinet be recommended to APPROVE:

- (i) A contribution of £120,000 from Basic Need to provide a full size artificial pitch at St Thomas More as detailed in paragraph 3.9.**
- (ii) Funding of £110,000 from Basic Need to remodel two classrooms and playground fencing within Discovery Academy for pupils from Thomas Ashton School and to remodel classroom provision at Corrie Primary School to enable the Pupil Support Service step out classroom to move from Discovery Academy as detailed in paragraph 3.10.**
- (iii) Additional funding of £40,000 for underfloor heating at St Johns CE from Condition Grant funding as detailed in paragraph 4.14.**
- (iv) Funding of £650,000 from High Needs Provision Capital Fund be allocated to establish a 15 place resource base at Longdendale High School through a grant agreement with the Stamford Park Trust as detailed in paragraph 6.4.**

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to NOTE:

- (i) New front entrance extension at St Johns CE, Dukinfield is to be fully funded by school with no contribution from the Education Capital Programme as detailed in paragraph 3.11**
- (ii) Gee Cross Holy Trinity CE school contribution of £10,000 to be added to the capital programme as detailed in paragraph 4.8.**
- (iii) Oakdale Intruder alarm system, (£44,000) to be returned to the unallocated school condition fund as detailed in paragraph 4.10.**
- (iv) Lyndhurst, Ravensfield and Aldwyn schools - AC units (£46,000) to be returned to the unallocated school condition fund as detailed in paragraph 4.19.**

22 PERIOD 6 CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy for Finance, Resources and Transformation / Director of Finance. The report summarised the forecast outturn at 31 March 2023. The detail of this monitoring report was focused on the budget and forecast expenditure for fully approved projects in the 2022/23 financial year.

It was reported that the approved budget for 2022/23 was £48.018m and the projected outturn for the financial year was £40.758m. 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.

The current forecast was for service areas to have spent £40.758m on capital investment in 2022/23, which was £7.260m less than the current capital budget for the year. This variation was spread across Investment & Development, Transport, Education and Adults directorate, and was made up of variations on a number of specific schemes.

Detailed capital update reports for each Directorate area were included on the agenda of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel (SPCMP). This report provided a summary of the financial position against the overall programme but further details on scheme delivery could be found in the Directorate reports to SPCMP.

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to NOTE the:

- (i) forecast position for 2022/23 as set out in Appendix 1.**
- (ii) funding position of the approved Capital Programme as set on page 8 of Appendix 1.**
- (iii) changes to the Capital Programme as set out on page 7 in Appendix 1.**
- (iv) updated Prudential Indicator position set out on pages 9-10 of Appendix 1, which was approved by Council in February 2022**

23 ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care, Homelessness and Inclusivity / Director of Adult Services. This report outlines key plans against Adult Social Care (ASC) Capital Funding.

It was explained that capital had accumulated in Adults Social Care over the last few years predominantly within the Disabled Facility Grant (DFG) funding due to the restrictions and access that were in place during COVID.

This report detailed the current, proposed and future programmes of work which would enable the Council to meet the vision of people living well at home.

The publication of the Adult Social Care White Paper (People at the heart of Care) in December 2021 set out a 10 year vision for Adult Social Care and provided information on funded proposals that the government would be implemented over the next 3 years. There were capital funding implications contained within it, which would need to be worked through both nationally and locally. Updates would be provided appropriately as further details were announced and impacts were clearly understood. All costs and benefits would be monitored and reviewed regularly taking into account people's changing needs and ensuring the right support is in place; whether that be assessment staff or adaptations to enable people to live well and as independent as possible in their own homes.

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to APPROVE:

- (i) Programmes 5 to 15 contained in Section 3 of the report
- (ii) to progress to full business case for Programmes 16 to 20 identified in Section 4 of the report and feedback to Executive Board for final approval.

24 ADULTS SERVICES CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care, Homelessness and Inclusivity / Director of Adult Services. The report provided an update of the developments in relation to the Adults Capital Programme for:

Recruitment to posts within social care continued to be challenging and impacts on a number of the capital schemes. However, work was underway with Human Resources to seek to improve the recruitment processes and attract more people to work in Adult social care and sustain them longer term.

All costs and benefits were being monitored and reviewed regularly taking into account people's changing needs and ensuring the right support was in place; whether that be assessment staff or adaptations to enable people to live well and as independent as possible in their own homes.

The publication of the Adult Social Care White Paper (People at the heart of Care) in December 2021 set out a 10 year vision for Adult social care and provides information on funded proposals that the government will implement over the next 3 years. There were capital funding implications contained within it, which would need to be worked through both nationally and locally. Updates would be provided appropriately as further details are announced and impacts are clearly understood.

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to note the process updates against the capital projects.

25 OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS CAPITAL REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy for Finance, Resources and Transformation / Assistant Director for Operations & Neighbourhoods. The report provided an update on delivery of Capital Projects in Operations and Neighbourhoods.

As previously reported the Council had received £3,536,000 for the 2022/23 Core Highways Maintenance Grant allocation. This consists of:

- Integrated Transport Block (ITB) £631,000
- Highways Maintenance £2,905,000

It was proposed that the ITB allocation be made available for road safety initiatives. Also £1,600,000, of the Highways Maintenance funding, was allocated to the Highways revenue budget for risk management and £1,305,000 for the Highways Capital Programme.

It should be noted that £2,207,660 was carried forward from the 2021/22 Highways Capital Programme, therefore a total budget of £3,512,660 (£1,305,000 + £2,207,660) was available for the 2022/23 Highways Capital Programme. This would be utilised as follows:

- Highways £2,791,660
- Structures £ 526,000
- Street Lighting £ 195,000

In regards to Highway structures, Maintenance works have commenced to replace parapets and carry out repairs to the structural steelwork at Clarence Street river bridge in Dukinfield / Stalybridge. The works were anticipated to take 6 weeks to complete. Repairs to the parapets on

Peel Street canal bridge, in Stalybridge were due to commence shortly and be complete by early November 2022. A list of schemes proposed to be undertaken as part of the highway structures capital programme were identified in Appendix 2 on the milestone form.

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to:

- (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 allocation of the Integrated Transport Block funding, £631,000 to road safety initiatives and £1,600,000 of the Highways Maintenance funding be added to the Highways Revenue Budget for 2022/23, as set out in section 2.2.**
- (iii) Approve the list of highway maintenance schemes identified in Appendix 1 that are to be funded from the Highway Maintenance Grant Allocation**

26 PLACE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Place / Assistant Director for Investment, Development and Housing. The report provided an update on the delivery of Capital Projects in the Place Directorate in relation to Town Centres, Property and Planning.

It was reported that work had commenced on the first stage of physical works at Ashton Town Hall in October 2022 including the taking down of a number of internal ceilings and removing “stud” walls to fully expose the structural fabric of the building and hidden architectural features. This partial internal strip-out would facilitate the completion of detailed surveys required to fully inform the ongoing design process for the restoration of the building envelope, including the roof and internal layout. These works were programmed to continue until November 2023, following which the external envelope restoration works would be commenced.

It was stated that the Council was finalising the acquisition of this site from Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) that would be the subject of a separate report to Executive Cabinet later in 2022. Following acquisition the Council would be able to commence enabling infrastructure works, comprising land remediation and service diversions, to unlock the site for new uses. This work would be undertaken in the context of longer term opportunities for redevelopment, public realm and movement within the Town Centre.

In regards to Stalybridge Civic Hall the scheme was re-programmed to early 2023 to allow for the full use of the Civic Hall for events linked to the Town of Culture 2022. Listed Building Consent had been achieved for the main roof works and, subject to a decision on when to proceed, works could start at the end of February 2023.

A re-costing of the works was completed in June 2022, with an inflation uplift to January 2023 which identified a remaining shortfall of £306,000 to undertake the roof works; above the remaining HSHAZ Council match funding and the additional Council funding approved at Executive Cabinet on 28 July 2021. This informed the £1,000,000 sought for the Civic Hall via the Levelling Up Fund (LUF2) bid to meet the remaining funding gap in relation to the roof works and support further works to the building to deliver long terms sustainable use of the building as part of the Stalybridge Cultural Quarter. Given the uncertainty around the LUF2 bid and the importance of delivering the Civic Hall scheme to the Councils plans for Stalybridge the Council had sought £320,000 of capital funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) under the Communities and Place strand to enable the roof works to be progressed. A comprehensive report on Stalybridge Civic Hall is being prepared in readiness for members to consider at Executive Cabinet in January 2023.

A cost plan for the Godley Green Garden Village outlining the spending of the remaining £9,280,000 grant had been developed by the Project team. This had been agreed with Homes England through the Client Relationship Manager process. An Outline Planning Application was validated by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) in November 2021. The project team had responded to all outstanding objections to the planning application. A revised application and refreshed

Environmental Statement was re-submitted to the Local Planning Authority on 5 November 2022. Delivery of the scheme will commence should planning consent be approved by the Local Planning Authority. The updated Outline Planning Application would be considered at a Planning Committee on 21 December 2022.

The Council continues to engage with landowners in order to seek to acquire control of the land via Option Agreements. Five land Option Agreements, whereby an interest in land is secured by the Council had been completed. A report to the Executive Cabinet on 22 June 2022 was approved to commence the process for the identification of a partner or partners to deliver the Godley Green Vision, which was now underway; this process will play a critical element in establishing the Council's future role in Godley Green. This process was being supported by both STaR and the Council's legal advisors (DACB Beachcroft) to identify the appropriate delivery vehicle for Godley Green via the most effective, and compliant procurement route. The full suite of procurement documentation was being prepared by the Project Team. This process continued and further update would be provided at the next SPCMP meeting in March 2023.

It was highlighted that the Delivery of the project to provide a refurbished and extended ticket office at Hattersley Railway Station was ongoing. Preliminary work began in January 2022 with the main construction works beginning at the end of March 2022. The external walls of the station and the roof works were complete. The external cladding and glazing works were underway and were due to be completed in October 2022 and once the building was watertight the internal works would be undertaken. There was a requirement for Electricity North West to provide utilities connection and this could not take place until 26 October 2022.

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to note the progress with regards to the schemes within the Place Capital Programme (Town Centres, Property and Planning) as set out in the report.

27 EXEMPT ITEM - PLACE CAPITAL PROGRAMME APPENDIX 2

The Council approved the new Disposal Policy on 30 September 2020 – 52 assets had been declared surplus and were being actively progressed with a further 19 assets included in the forthcoming Batch 4 report. Members considered the progress of assets listed in Appendix 2.

28 URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

CHAIR