

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

22 June 2023

Commenced: 14:00

Terminated: 14:40

Present: Councillors Cooney, Bray, Dickinson, Fairfoull, Feeley, McNally, McLaren

In Attendance:	Julian Jackson	Director of Place
	Alison Stathers-Tracey	Director of Children's Services
	Ashley Hughes	Director of Resources
	Emma Varnam	Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods
	Tracey Harrison	Assistant Director of Adult Services
	Ben Middleton	Assistant Director of Strategic Property
	Catherine Moseley	Head of Access Services
	Damien Cutting	Economic Growth Lead

Apologies for Absence: Councillors North and Boyle

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2 MINUTES

The minutes for the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel meeting on the 16 March 2023 were approved as a correct record.

3 2022/23 CAPITAL OUTTURN

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation) / Director of Resources. The report sets out the capital outturn position for the 2022/23 financial year. The detail of this monitoring report was focused on the budget and expenditure for fully approved projects in the 2022/23 financial year. Capital Programme expenditure for the year was £21.366m against an approved budget of £24.339m.

It was reported that the current capital programme (2022 – 2025) included £19.040m of schemes which would need to be funded from Capital Receipts and existing Capital Reserves; £14.340m was required for approved schemes and a further £4.700m for earmarked schemes. The current programme assumes £15.410m could be achieved in Capital Receipts from assets approved for disposal and therefore £3.630m would be required from Capital Reserves.

There were Capital Reserves available of £4.974m at the end of the financial year, of this £3.448m related to reserves held for specific schemes, Godley Green Garden Village and Stalybridge Heritage Action Zone. The remaining £1.526m was held in a general capital reserve. £2.039 of the specific capital reserves were used to fund expenditure on the relevant schemes. £1.786m of the general capital reserve was used to fund the remaining spend, leaving only £0.022m available for future years spend.

Due to the low level of capital receipts achieved in 2022/23, it had had a significant effect on the level of reserves available to fund capital expenditure going forward. Approved and earmarked schemes already in the capital programme for future years were reliant on £14.838m of capital receipts and reserves and therefore securing capital receipts will be vital to ensure the programme can be funded. Careful monitoring of progress in realising capital receipts must be undertaken to ensure that there is timely and pro-active disposal of assets and that the actual receipts are in line

with projections.

RECOMMENDED

That the Executive Cabinet be recommended to:

- (i) Note the Capital Outturn position.**
- (ii) Approve the £2.998m slippage on the Capital Programme for 2022/23 and its proposed re-profiling into the current 2023-24 financial year.**
- (iii) Note the funding position of the Capital Programme.**
- (iv) Note the changes to the Capital Programme.**
- (v) Note the updated Prudential Indicator position.**

4 ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN 2022/2023 UPDATE

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 schemes previously approved and still underway and the usage of the wider Disabled Facilities Grant including the housing adaptations budget.

The Assistant Director for Adult Services delivered an update on the Disabled Facilities Grant and other related adaptations funding.

In regards to the contract for the provision of Adaptations for Disabled People and Home Repairs for Vulnerable People. The response to Lots 3, 4 & 5 in the bidding process was very low, leaving the number of contractors in Lots 4 & 5 inadequate. As a result, it was confirmed with STAR Procurement that it would not be possible to run competitive quotes. In Lot 3 there was no qualified electrical contractor to carry out the Visual Impairment work so this could not be let. Following discussions between Adults Commissioning, Housing Adaptations and STAR Procurement, it was decided that it would not be practical or beneficial to the Council to let these three Lots.

An update to this effect was deposited onto the Chest to advise bidders that the Council was not awarding Lots 3, 4 & 5. Lots 4 and 5 would continue with the current option of works being procured via the Chest. Lot 3 could have to be retendered as an individual contract for the provision of electrical and Visual Impairment work. Discussions with STAR Procurement continued.

Due to the delay to the award, an extension was required and a report had been drafted by the Housing Adaptations Manager to extend the current contract to 30 November 2023. For the remaining Lots, an award report was due to be completed by the Housing Adaptations Manager for presentation to Executive Cabinet to request the approval to award to Lots 1A, 1B and Lot 2. These Lots comprise the bulk of the adaptation works.

On the contract for the delivery of lifting and hoisting equipment, this was a joint contract between Tameside MBC and Oldham MBC with Oldham acting as lead LA. The contract for the period 1 June 2018 to 31 May 2023 was currently out to tender with a closing date of early June. Unfortunately, delays with Oldham's processes had meant this tender was behind schedule. The current contract was due to expire on 31 May 2023 and as such an extension would be required which Oldham MBC was leading on. Oldham had confirmed that the extension would be for six months to 30 November 2023. An extension report had been drafted by the Housing Adaptations Manager and advice from STAR Procurement was being sought.

It was reported that the inspection, service, maintenance and repair contract was currently out to tender with a closing date of 3 July 2023. This was a joint contract between Tameside MBC and Oldham MBC with Tameside acting as lead LA. Due to the previous issues reported on the contract for the delivery of lifting and hoisting equipment, this was also behind schedule and would require an extension. The Housing Adaptations Manager had drafted a report with a request to extend the current contract to 30 November 2023. If the extension is approved the new contract would be for the period 1 December 2023 to 30 November 2027 and would not be required to be renewed.

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to:

- (i) **Note the progress updates of the Adult Services capital programme.**
- (ii) **Approve the additional budget allocation of £0.039m via the Adult Services Community Capacity grant reserve to finance related IT system upgrade expenditure as referenced in section 1.2. The additional sum to be included in the 2023/24 approved capital programme.**
- (iii) **Approve the inclusion of the 2023/24 Disabled Facilities Grant allocation of £2.849m to the 2023/24 approved capital programme.**

5 CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE CAPITAL SCHEMES OUTTURN REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families)/Assistant Director Children's Services. The report provided an update on the Children's Social Care Capital Scheme Outturn for 2022-23 and set out details of the major approved capital schemes in this service area.

Members were reminded that as reported on the 16 March 2023, the purchase of a respite property did not conclude due to the report on title and the service conclusion that the property would not be fit for the purpose it was intended. The delivery of edge of care respite would now form part of the work Salford City Council were undertaking as Sector Led Improvement Partners, commissioned by the DFE, which would inform our future model and provision of in-house children's homes. The way forward on capital spend would also be influenced by the Governments response to the Independent Review of Children's Social Care (Stable Homes Built on Love), that included proposals to establish regional commissioning care co-operatives. Proposals for effective spend linked to building good quality, local Children's Home capacity would likely lead to spend of this budget in the second half of 2023-24.

It was stated that Boyds Walk was a Children's Home for children with disabilities requiring long term and short-term care. The property from which the service operates was not fit for purpose. The property had significant health and safety, safeguarding and Children's Home Regulation deficiencies and Ofsted, Fire Service and Children's Services senior management were all of the same opinion that an urgent replacement was required. On 26 October 2022, Cabinet passed a resolution for a new build replacement for Boyds Walk on the former Flowery Field Infant School vacant site. A bid to the DFE Children's Home Capital Programme funding opportunity was successful (£1.6m).

The start of the project had been delayed due to the DFE requirement for formal consultation on the appropriation of land (former Infant School site). The progress of the project had slowed because of the need for a decision on the appropriation of the site, which had been granted by the DfE in recent weeks, which meant the project could now progress.

RECOMMENDED

That the Executive Cabinet be recommended to note the 2022-23 Capital Expenditure Outturn position and approve the budget slippage.

6 IT CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Finance, Resources and Transformation) / Director of Resources.

In regards to the Digital by Design (DbD) programme approved in March 2016, there has been £1,000 of spend in 2022/23 but the remaining budget of £14,000 was not required. There are no current projects that would draw on this budget.

It was reported that the Capital scheme for Fibre Infrastructure (£1.725m) approved by Executive Cabinet in December 2017 to construct the resilient figure of 8 fibre network to connect 22 key

Council sites and a further 30 health sites. All these works were now complete and grant claims submitted and paid. In January 2018 the DCMS announced a second round of LFFN funding. Greater Manchester Combined Authority coordinated a pan-Manchester £23.8m bid involving 10 Local Authorities, Police, Transport for Greater Manchester and Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership. The Tameside element of the successful bid was £2.5m and was based. All these works were now complete and grant claims submitted and paid. Apart from the £3,000 of residual costs charged to the Tameside Digital Infrastructure Fibre budget during 2022/23 no further capital budget is required at this time. The £3,000 would be funded as a Revenue Contribution to Capital (RCCO).

In regards to Microsoft Licencing, £1.362m was approved by Executive Cabinet in September 2019 to purchase second user on premise perpetual licences for replacement Microsoft desktop Office 2016 and associated software, server operating systems and SQL databases. £36,000 of the £50,000 budget for 2022/23 was spent, the remaining £14,000 would not be required. The remaining unspent budget of £0.260m in 2023/24 would not be required as all required licences had been purchased.

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet note the report and the details of the status of the schemes in the programme.

7 CAPITAL PROGRAMMES FOR GROWTH DEPARTMENTS: UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation) / Executive Member for Climate Emergency & Environmental Services / Executive Member for Inclusive Growth, Business & Employment/ Executive Member for Towns & Communities / Executive Member for Planning Transport and Connectivity/ Director of Place. The report provides an update on the delivery of Capital Projects in the Place Directorate in relation to Town Centres, Property and Planning.

The Director of Place delivered an update on the approved capital projects detailed in the report. In regards to Hattersley Station Passenger Facilities the main construction works to provide a refurbished and extended ticket office at Hattersley Railway Station were completed at the end of January 2023 with the official opening of the new ticket office on 16 February 2023. The scheme had a total budget of £750,000, funded from Growth Deal 2. The costs of materials required to deliver the scheme increased significantly from the original forecasts due to the impact of inflation. These cost increases had been mitigated as much as possible, however, the completed scheme had a total overspend of £1,493 on the original budget. The final invoices for £49,000 were received in late April/May 2023.

A report to the Hattersley Land Board on 30 November 2022 requested an additional budget of up to £30,000 via funding held in Council reserves on behalf of the Land Board. This would fund the scheme overspend of £1,493 and enable completion of the scheme at no additional cost to the Council's Capital Programme.

Members discussed the progress on Ashton Town Hall, the Economic Growth Lead provided an update. Survey work to establish a fixed price for the following elements of the Ashton Town Hall scheme had progressed significantly. Further intrusive surveys were now required to the roof and stone parapets, which require the provision of an external scaffold to facilitate safe access. Currently access to the roof was strictly limited due to the lack of an in situ "man-safe" system. The cost of the scaffold and associated site compound was currently being established by the LEP. In keeping with existing governance the cost of these elements would be met from the approved budget.

Questions were raised about the timescales for the programme and it was advised that the Council only had money to make watertight not to bring back into use and that funding had to be spent by March 2025. Members were advised that there was a report going to Board and this would be

shared with members in due course.

Further in regards to the Ashton Public Realm, Works on the Stage Two design had now been completed and approval to progress to the next stage, which included the detailed design of the scheme and the submission of a planning application, was granted at Executive Cabinet on 29 March 2023. Engagement sessions with key stakeholders, including market traders, would continue throughout this detailed design phase. It was proposed that construction on site would commence in early 2024, however, a further report outlining the conclusion of the detailed design works would be submitted to Executive Cabinet in November 2023 for final approval.

It was reported that approval to proceed with restoration of the roof at Stalybridge Civic Hall was given by Executive Cabinet on 26 April 2023. Works would start on site in August 2023 with completion scheduled for May 2024. Access to the building during the restoration period would be strictly limited which would require the temporary relocation of the existing occupants of the building to other sites in the Borough.

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to

- (i) Note the progress with regards to the schemes within the Place Capital Programme (Town Centres, Property and Planning) as set out in the report**
- (ii) Approve the allocation of £1,493 from the Hattersley Land Board, held in Council reserves, to fund the total overspend in relation to the works at Hattersley Railway Station.**

8 EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Education, Achievement and Equalities / Assistant Director of Education/Director of Place. The report provided an overview and updated position on the Council's Education Capital Programme.

The Assistant Director of Education highlighted Basic Need Funded Scheme, School Condition Funded Schemes and High Needs Provision Funded Schemes with a Rag Status of Red to the Panel. In regards to the Alder High School front entrance. The SPV had given an update to inform the Council that there would be further delays due to them struggling to get refresh costs for the project from their subcontractors. These were required in order for the deed of variation to be completed. It was therefore unlikely that the works would be completed over the summer break although it was intended it would commence and the school would continue to be operational during the works. In the meantime, a project manager had been enlisted by Mitie, the facilities management provider for the PFI contract, to oversee and progress these works.

In regards to St Anne's secure entrance extension a further site visit had been undertaken by the Council along with Robertson's project team to discuss alternative options for the secure entrance due to the unaffordability of the previous designed scheme. To move this forward, a new design and planning permission would have to be submitted.

It was identified in the last condition survey that the whole roof at Corrie Primary needed upgrading due to its increasing deterioration. A roof survey had been undertaken to determine the varying conditions of the roofs and a tender package was in the process of being formulated which had now been put on hold. A budget of £0.500m had been approved for this scheme. Unfortunately, due to other critical roof works at another school that have recently come to light, this project would have to be reprogrammed. The Panel was asked to recommend to Executive Cabinet that this scheme was removed from the capital programme to allow the funding to be re-allocated.

The SPV which is the same for Alder has given an update to inform the Council that there will be further delays to the scheme at Pinfold Primary School: Support for pupil with special educational needs, due to them struggling to get refresh costs for the project from their subcontractors. These are required in order for the deed of variation to be completed. In the meantime, a project manager

had been enlisted by Mitie, the facilities management provider for the PFI contract, to oversee and progress these works

RECOMMENDED

That Executive Cabinet be recommend to APPROVE:

- (i) School Condition grant for 2023/24 is updated to add £0.141m to the capital programme as detailed paragraph 2.7.
- (ii) The addition of £0.321m 2023/24 Devolved Formula Capital grant to the capital programme as detailed in paragraph 2.11.
- (iii) Additional funding of £0.200m for fire stopping works and replacement fire alarm at Oakdale Primary from Condition Grant funding as detailed in paragraph 4.13.
- (iv) Additional funding of £0.100m for asbestos removal, electrical rewire and redecoration works at Broadbent Fold Primary from Condition Grant funding as detailed in paragraph 4.14.
- (v) Funding of £0.350m for replacement roof works at Micklehurst Primary from Condition Grant funding as detailed in paragraph 4.16.
- (vi) Funding for provision of an automated gate at Cromwell High of £0.075m from Condition Grant funding and £0.025m school contribution as detailed in paragraph 4.17.
- (vii) A grant agreement for £0.720m is agreed with the New Bridge Academy Trust as detailed in paragraph 6.5 to expand temporary satellite provision at Hawthorns School from September 2023.
- (viii) The addition of £6,386 for the provision of a secure gate at St James Primary School for the resource base is agreed as detailed in paragraph 6.7, taking the total grant agreement amount for the scheme to £0.077m.

That Executive Cabinet be recommend to NOTE:

- (i) The balance of completed Basic Needs schemes budget underspends (£0.035m) is returned to the unallocated Basic Need fund as detailed in paragraph 2.3.
- (ii) The balance of completed School Condition schemes budget underspends (£0.071m) is returned to the unallocated School Condition fund as detailed in paragraph 2.8.
- (iii) The balance of completed High Need Provision schemes budget underspends (£0.114m) is returned to the unallocated High Need Provision fund as detailed in paragraph 2.13.
- (iv) The balance of completed Developer Contribution scheme budget underspends (£0.035m) is returned to the unallocated Developer Contribution fund as detailed in paragraph 2.15.
- (v) Corrie Primary – Roof Replacement (£0.490m) to be returned to the unallocated School Condition fund and (£0.010m) removal of school contribution as detailed in paragraph 4.15.

9 CAPITAL PROGRAMME – OPERATIONS & NEIGHBOURHOODS (PLACE DIRECTORATE)

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Planning & Transport Connectivity/Executive Member for Climate Emergency & Environment Services/ Assistant Director for Operations & Neighbourhoods.

The footway refurbishment scheme scheduled for Huddersfield Road, Stalybridge remained outstanding due to the continued presence of scaffolding and ongoing building works. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the completion of the building works, the refurbishment of other sections of this footway would now be programmed to be undertaken at the earliest opportunity.

The programmed list of roads to be resurfaced in the carriageway schemes schedule has been revised to reflect a reprioritisation following recent inspections of the network condition and works undertaken. The revised list of schemes to be funded from the Highway Maintenance Grant are identified in Appendix 1. The revised estimate for the Phase 2 works was £995,000. The schemes

were currently out to tender and dates for the various locations would be confirmed once a contractor was appointed.

In regards to the Bee Network Mayors Challenge Fund, the Executive Member of Planning, Transport and Connectivity and the relevant ward members had been presented with the consultation outcomes and the recommendations and likely next steps have been discussed. In respect of the Rayner Lane (Ashton and Droylsden scheme), councillors remained supportive of the proposals and the final business case was therefore being produced. This was in line with TfGM's appraisal and approval process, in order to secure the necessary grant funding to support delivery.

The Stamford Drive to Granville Street scheme generated 68 responses, of which 51% expressed either positive feedback or no specific preference. The negative comments received had been carefully analysed and were, in general terms, focused on traffic impacts across the residential neighbourhood and road safety concerns. The road safety audit process was underway and further consideration was being given to the design as a result of the specific comments made. Ward councillors remained supportive of the proposals and so the intention was to finalise the scheme designs and proceed through the business case process to secure the necessary grant funding to allow construction works to commence.

The Clarendon Road proposals generated 245 responses, with a significant number of residents and businesses expressing strong concerns regarding the proposals. The negative feedback related to a range of issues but focused mainly on concerns about the closure of Clarendon Road and the safe use of alternative routes. The consultation feedback had been analysed in detail and it has been determined that some changes could be made to mitigate some of the concerns. However, based on the intensity of the negative comments, it was acknowledged that further community engagement and design development will be required in order to secure the level of support required for the scheme to progress. On this basis we recommend that the Clarendon Road scheme was deprioritised and added to the Council's pipeline of potential future projects.

This approach will enable resources to focus on securing business case approval for the Rayner Lane and Stamford Drive to Granville Street schemes, at the earliest possible opportunity, and minimise any financial risks associated with potential delays.

It was reported that on 6 April 2023 TfGM's Active Travel Programme Board approved the Council's Delivery Plan and total budget of £985,000 for the design and delivery of the four ATF2 schemes located at:

- ☐ Oldham Road, Ashton-under-Lyne
- ☐ Newman Street, Ashton-under-Lyne
- ☐ Stockport Road, Ashton-under-Lyne
- ☐ Guide Lane, Audenshaw.

There is no Council match funding required to support delivery of the four schemes. Costs would be monitored throughout the delivery phase to identify and manage any potential cost increases. Construction programmes are currently being finalised and the intention is to start work in June 2023, which will enable the work to be completed by the March 2024 grant funding deadline.

Previous reports had highlighted that a successful funding application was made to the Active Travel Fund 3 (ATF3) programme to support delivery of the Council's proposed Bee Network scheme at Crown Point. The amount approved, in principle, was £1,950,000 which was subject to the approval of a compliant and affordable scheme and a successful ATF3 business case. Since the last report extensive design work had been undertaken to prepare a number of options for consideration by TfGM's Design Review Panel (DRP). DRP feedback had now been obtained and further work was being completed to resolve the issues raised by the DRP panel.

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 reprioritised resurfacing schemes for the Highways Maintenance programme as outlined in Appendix 1.
- (iii) Note the progress on the list of highway/footway maintenance schemes identified in Appendix 1 that are to be funded from the Highway Maintenance Grant Allocation
- (iv) Note the progress made to secure grant funding from the Mayor's Challenge Fund (MCF) programme for two Tranche 1 Phase 2 schemes named Rayner Lane (Ashton and Droylsden) and Stamford Drive to Granville Street (Stalybridge and Ashton).
- (v) Approve the de-prioritisation of the MCF Tranche 1 Phase 2 scheme, named Clarendon Road (Audenshaw), for the reasons set out in section 2 of the report.
- (vi) Note TfGM's approval of the four Active Travel Fund (ATF2) schemes at Oldham Road, Newman Street, Stockport Road, Ashton and Guide Lane, Audenshaw Note TfGM's intention to secure grant funding from the MCF programme to upgrade the existing zebra crossing on Cavendish Street, near the junction with Higher Wharf Street and Hill Street, to a signal controlled pedestrian / cycle crossing.
- (vii) Approve the drawdown of funds in respect of the S106 agreements detailed in Section 4 of this report and add to the Council's Capital Programme to allow the detailed design, procurement and installation of the various works

10. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

It be noted that the next meeting of Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring is scheduled to take place on 17 August 2023.

CHAIR