

## COUNCIL

27 February 2018

Commenced: 5.00 pm

Terminated: 7.35 pm

**Present:** Councillors Kitchen (Chair), Bowerman (Civic Mayor), Bailey, Beeley, Bell, Bowden, Buckley, Cartey, Cooney, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Homer, Jackson, Kinsey, D Lane, J Lane, McNally, Mills, Newton, Patrick, Pearce, Peet, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, Sidebottom, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, F Travis, L Travis, Ward, Warrington, K Welsh, R Welsh, Wild and Wills

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillors Affleck, Bray, Buglass, Cooper, Piddington, Quinn and Whitehead

*Civic Mayor (Councillor Bowerman) in the Chair*

### 56. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Civic Mayor expressed congratulations to Jane Claire Owen from Ashton-under-Lyne, who had been awarded the British Empire Medal in the 2018 New Year's Honours List. Jane worked as a train running controller for Network Rail, and for more than seven years, Jane had also worked tirelessly for the LGBT community, dedicating much of her free time and energy to improving awareness of the needs of transgender people.

The Civic Mayor announced that this was the last Council meeting of the Director of Public Health, Angela Hardman, who was leaving the authority to take up her new position as Deputy Director of Health Protection for the North West. She wished Angela well for the future and thanked her for her hard work and dedicated service.

The Civic Mayor further extended sincere thanks and good wishes to those Elected Members who had decided not to seek re-election in the local Elections in May; Councillors Basil Beeley, Lynn and Frank Travis and Kevin Welsh. She thanked them for their loyal and dedicated service to the people of Tameside and extended very best wishes for the future.

*Councillor Kitchen, Chair of Council Business, in the Chair*

### 57. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED

**That the Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 28 November 2017 and the Extra Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 31 January 2018, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair of Council Business.**

### 58. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

DISPENSATION Item 7 – Budget 2018/19 and future years		
Councillors: Bailey, Beeley, Bell, Bowden, Bowerman, Buckley, Cartey, Cooney, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Homer, Jackson, Kinsey, Kitchen, D Lane, J Lane,	Prejudicial – Section 33(2)(a) of the Localism Act 2011 – that without the dispensation the number of Members prohibited from participating in any	Beneficial interest in property in Tameside, namely residence.

McNally, Mills, Newton, Patrick, Pearce, Peet, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, Sidebottom, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, F Travis, L Travis, Ward, Warrington, K Welsh, R Welsh, Wild and Wills	particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business.	
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## **59. COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair reported that there were no communications or announcements at this meeting.

## **60. COUNCIL BIG CONVERSATION**

The Chair reported that there were no questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with Standing Orders 31.12 and 31.13.

## **61. JOINT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET AND OVERVIEW (AUDIT) PANEL**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Joint meeting of Executive Cabinet and Overview (Audit) Panel held on 7 February 2018. It was moved by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor Taylor and –

### **RESOLVED**

**That the Minutes of the Joint meeting of Executive Cabinet and Overview Audit Panel held on 7 February 2018 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.**

## **62. BUDGET 2018/19 AND FUTURE YEARS**

The Executive Leader presented the budget for 2018/19 and future years, which set out what the Council intended to do for its residents and businesses over the coming year.

The Executive Leader began by reflecting on the very sad and untimely loss of the former Leader of the Council, Councillor Kieran Quinn and explained that the budget was a continuation of his legacy for Tameside.

The Executive Leader made reference to the continuing difficulties faced by the Council during seven years of austerity due to funding cuts imposed by the Government. She further highlighted the pressures on Hospitals, Schools, Social Care, Police and Community Safety and explained that the Council would be increasing the council tax in 2018/19 by 4.99% incorporating 2% for the adult social care precept, 2.99% for other council services. This would allow the Council to raise nearly £5.6 million to invest in council services.

The Executive Leader further commented on the Council's contractual relationship with Carillion; a relationship that over the years had led to improvements and good work carried out in Tameside that would not have been possible otherwise. Unfortunately, significant issues in the way the company was run at the boardroom level had led to its collapse and liquidation at the beginning of the year. She thanked all local Carillion contracted staff, who had kept services running in the most challenging of circumstances. The Executive Leader reaffirmed her commitment to support all staff, and to find a solution that worked for them, the Council and the residents who relied on services.

In relation to Carillion's involvement in the Vision Tameside project, it was explained that, earlier in the month, the Cabinet gave approval for our infrastructure partners, Inspired Spaces, to conclude

an agreement with Robertson Construction Group Limited to secure a prompt remobilisation for completion of the project.

The Executive Leader made reference to seeking a closer relationship with Greater Manchester Combined Authority and other councils in the region, working together on a number of issues, such as tackling air pollution and the collective retention of business rates creating a central GM Pool, which could then be distributed according to need, to local authorities in Greater Manchester. Engagement with local and national charities and the Office of the Mayor of Greater Manchester to end homelessness was also outlined.

Reference was also made to continuing work on the Care Together programme, bringing together health and social care in Tameside and Glossop.

The Executive Leader commented on Children's Services and the progress made following the 'Inadequate' judgement in 2016. She explained that new leadership was in place, a new improvement plan and significantly increased resources. Teams had been strengthened, caseloads reduced and support increased. She thanked all staff in Children's Services for their hard work. She added that Ofsted's latest feedback letter, noted *'some early signs of success' and that the Council 'demonstrated a good understanding of the scale of change required in systems, culture and practice'*. The Executive Leader announced that there was a commitment in the Budget to invest a further £18 million into the service over the next 3 years.

In respect of education attainment, Members were informed that, last year, Tameside was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 10 Greater Manchester authorities for the proportion of students attainment level 5+ in both English and Maths at GCSE level, giving them the best possible chance to secure good employment and access to post-16 education. The Executive Leader further made reference to the opening of the new Laurus Ryecroft School in the new academic year.

The Executive Leader outlined the comprehensive program of investment and renovation for Tameside's infrastructure contained in the Budget; including £20 million over 4 years for highways improvement, £5 million to replace every street light in Tameside with more cost effective, high-performance and environmentally-friendly LED lights through to a finish; £600,000 would also be spent over the next 2 years to give a facelift to 35 playgrounds and play areas in all parks and towns. She further announced that Sport England had backed a £20 million project to invest in health and leisure facilities in the areas, by pledging £1.5 million to support development of the Wellness Centre in Denton.

The Executive Leader commented on another priority for the forthcoming year, which was to work with private landlords, not only to improve housing quality in the private rented sector, but also to help them provide their tenants with access to public services in the same way as social landlords do. To this end, a comprehensive, accessible register of all landlords in Tameside; public and private was being created. In conjunction with this, a comprehensive and effective plan for dealing with the full introduction of Universal Credit in Tameside, was also being rolled out.

The Executive Leader highlighted the struggles and sacrifices of all women throughout the years and was pleased to announce the planned celebrations for the anniversary of women getting the vote, and International Women's Day event on 8 March 2018. She explained Tameside's connection to the suffrage movement, giving details of Hannah Mitchell, who lived in Ashton-under-Lyne for over 10 years and in her lifetime, worked for both the Pankhurst's Women's Social and Political Union, and the early Independent Labour Party. She was also a prominent magistrate, writer and campaigner in her own right.

The Executive Leader then invited Councillor Cartey and Councillor Feeley to give details of planned events throughout the year, commemorating when the power of the vote and the power to effect change, was placed into the hands of the women of Britain. Councillor Cartey and Councillor Feeley gave further details of a cross-party working group set up in conjunction with cultural

services and also of a community arts project called the Tameside Tied Together Ribbon Project, which would be launched on International Women's Day.

The Executive Leader concluded that challenges to the Council were many and varied and that despite the unprecedented scale of the cuts faced by local government, it was vital to protect vulnerable residents and take every opportunity to invest in Tameside, its people and businesses.

In accordance with the Constitution, the Chair of Council Business then afforded the Opposition Group the opportunity to present to the Council alternative budgets.

In response, Councillor Bell wished the Executive Leader well in her new role and informed Members that the Opposition Group would not be proposing an alternative budget, however, he proposed the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Buckley:

*'That this Council freeze the general level of Council Tax for the municipal year 2018/2019, however in light of the challenges faced within the social care sector of the Council, supports the 2% precept in respect of social care'.*

Councillor Bell stated that he agreed with the precept of 2% to assist the Authority in meeting expenditure on social care, however, due to the large financial reserves held by the Council it was the opinion of the Opposition Group that there could be a freeze in the general level of Council Tax for the municipal year 2018/19.

For the amendment, as set out below:

Councillors: Beeley, Bell, Buckley, Dickinson, Patrick, and R Welsh

Against the amendment, as set out below:

Councillors: Bailey, Bowden, Bowerman, Cartey, Cooney, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Homer, Jackson, Kinsey, Kitchen, D Lane, J Lane, McNally, Mills, Newton, Pearce, Peet, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, Sidebottom, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, F Travis, L Travis, Ward, Warrington, K Welsh, Wild and Wills

Upon being put to a named vote the amendment was declared lost.

General discussion then ensued in relation to the proposed budget as outlined and responses made accordingly. The budget for 2018/19 set out in the previously circulated report, as amended by the tabled report and addendum, was moved by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor Taylor and, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations, a named vote was taken on the Council Tax Motion as follows:

For the Motion, as set out below:

Councillors: Bailey, Bowden, Bowerman, Cartey, Cooney, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Homer, Jackson, Kinsey, Kitchen, D Lane, J Lane, McNally, Mills, Newton, Pearce, Peet, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, Sidebottom, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, F Travis, L Travis, Ward, Warrington, K Welsh, Wild and Wills

Against the Motion, as set out below:

Councillors: Beeley, Bell, Buckley, Dickinson, Patrick, and R Welsh

## **RESOLVED**

### **Revenue budget recommendations:**

- 1. That the budgeted net expenditure for the financial year 2018/19 as set out in Appendix A be agreed at £186.514m and that the level and usage of reserves and balances set out in section 7 of this report be approved.**

2. That the Medium Term Financial Strategy, as updated in this report, be approved and form the basis of future updates, reports and decisions taken by Cabinet to balance resources and expenditure in future years budgets.
3. That the proposed expansion of the Integrated Commissioning Fund as set out at paragraph 2.17 is noted.
4. That the assumptions set out in section 5 are approved, and that the Council specifically approves:
  - An uplift to all fees and charges of 2.5% except where costs are not being recovered or market conditions indicate a different rate is more appropriate.
  - The child allowance fees payable to Tameside Foster Carers and Relative Carers relating to the financial year 2018/19 are increased in line with the weekly minimum rates as determined by the Department of Education.
  - Accordingly there will also be a corresponding increase to the related allowances payable.
  - The personal allowance rate payable to eligible and relevant care leavers living independently is increased in 2018/19 to the same level as the Job Seekers Allowance rate payable for 18-24 year olds as determined by the Department for Work and Pensions.
5. That Council Tax for 2018/19 be increased by 4.99%, being 2.99% in respect of general level council tax and 2% in respect of the adult social care precept, as set out in section 6.
6. That the Pay Policy for 2018/19 included at Appendix J is approved.

**Capital budget recommendations:**

7. That the position on the Capital Programme (section 8), as previously approved by Executive Cabinet on 18 October 2017 is noted.

**General recommendations**

8. That the Council notes the difficult circumstances, and the expected challenges set out in this report over the medium term.
9. That the Council notes the significant good progress made over the last few years in meeting the financial challenges and continuing to operate in a financially robust manner.
10. That the Council retains a minimum level of General Fund balances of £17 million.
11. That the Council accepts the advice of the Section 151 Officer regarding the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the budget calculations and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves. Following this, that the Council determines that the estimates are robust for the purpose of setting the budget and that the proposed financial reserves are adequate.
12. That it be noted that a Key Decision was taken on 25 January 2018 by the First Deputy (Performance and Finance) that the relevant Council Tax bases for 2018/19 be as follows:
  - (a) 60,914.1 for the whole Council area (including the Mossley Parish area) [item T in the formula in Section 31B(1) of “the Act”].
  - (b) 3,310.5 for the Mossley Parish area to which a local precept relates.

13. That the Council approves the Council Tax Requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2018/19 (excluding the Mossley Parish precept) as being £86,068,000.
14. That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2018/19:
  - (a) £389,113,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of "the Act" taking into account the precept issued for the year by Mossley Parish Council (Appendix 2).
  - (b) £303,014,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of "the Act" (Appendix 2).
  - (c) £86,099,000 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of "the Act", as its Council Tax Requirement for the year [item R in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the "the Act"].
  - (d) £1,413.45 being the amount at 3(c) above, divided by item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of "the Act", as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year (including the Mossley Parish precept).
  - (e) £31,000 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of "the Act", being the Mossley Parish precept.
  - (f) £1,412.94 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of "the Act", as the basic amount of tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special items relate.
  - (g) £1,422.30 being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amount of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned at 3(e) above divided by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of "the Act", as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.
4. That it be noted that for the year 2018/19 the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Greater Manchester and the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of "the Act", for each category of dwelling in the Council's area as indicated in the tables below.
5. That the Council, in accordance with "the Act", hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2018/19 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

<b>VALUATION BANDS - TAMESIDE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL (EXCLUDING MOSSLEY PARISH COUNCIL)</b>								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council	881.95	1,028.95	1,175.94	1,322.93	1,616.91	1,910.90	2,204.88	2,645.86
<b>Precepts</b>								
Adult and Social Care Precept	60.01	70.01	80.01	90.01	110.01	130.01	150.02	180.02
Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept (calculated figures)	116.20	135.57	154.93	174.30	213.03	251.77	290.50	348.60
Mayoral General Precept (calculated figures)	45.30	52.85	60.40	67.95	83.05	98.15	113.25	135.90
<b>Aggregate of the Council Tax requirement (including Precepts)</b>								
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (excluding Mossley)	1,103.46	1,287.38	1,471.28	1,655.19	2,023.00	2,390.83	2,758.65	3,310.38
<b>VALUATION BANDS - TAMESIDE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL (INCLUDING MOSSLEY PARISH COUNCIL)</b>								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council	881.95	1,028.95	1,175.94	1,322.93	1,616.91	1,910.90	2,204.88	2,645.86
<b>Precepts</b>								
Adult and Social Care Precept	60.01	70.01	80.01	90.01	110.01	130.01	150.02	180.02
Mossley Parish Council	6.24	7.28	8.32	9.36	11.44	13.52	15.60	18.72
Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept (calculated figures)	116.20	135.57	154.93	174.30	213.03	251.77	290.50	348.60
Mayoral General Precept (calculated figures)	45.30	52.85	60.40	67.95	83.05	98.15	113.25	135.90
<b>Aggregate of the Council Tax requirement (including Precepts)</b>								
Mossley Parish Council Boundary	1,109.70	1,294.66	1,479.60	1,664.55	2,034.44	2,404.35	2,774.25	3,329.10

## 63. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Finance and Performance) and the Assistant Executive of Finance detailing the Council's borrowing strategy for 2018/19 and the Annual Investment Strategy, which was required under the Local Government Act 2003.

The Annual Investment Strategy was detailed at Appendix A to the report and details were given with regard to the estimated borrowing requirement for both Tameside and the Greater Manchester Metropolitan Debt Administration Fund and the strategy to be employed in managing the debt position.

It was reported that, as at 31 March 2017, the Council had £164 million of investments which needed to be safeguarded, and £119 million of long term debt, which had been accrued over the years. Members were reminded that the Council was also the lead authority responsible for the administration of the debt of the Greater Manchester County Council on behalf of all ten Greater Manchester Metropolitan Authorities. As at 31 March 2017, this represented a further £94 million

of debt. The significant size of these amounts required careful management to ensure that the Council met its balanced budget requirement under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

The report included details of the following:

- Codes of Practice;
- Need to Borrow;
- Types and Duration of Loans;
- Sources of Borrowing;
- Rescheduling;
- Current Position 2017/18;
- Tameside MBC's estimated position at 31 March 2018;
- 2018/19 Borrowing Requirement;
- Greater Manchester Metropolitan Debt Administration Fund Requirement;
- Borrowing Strategy;
- Interest Rates;
- Investments; and
- Treasury Management Advisors.

Members were further advised that the Council also carried out treasury management activities on behalf of Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF). GMPF held cash in accordance with its strategic asset allocation as determined by the GMPF Management Panel, which may be increased or decreased on a tactical basis by the external investment managers within risk parameters also set by the Panel. As at 31 December 2017 the Pension Fund cash totalled around £1.116 million.

At the GMPF Management Panel Meeting dated 1 July 2016, approval as given for the GMPF counterparty list to mirror that of Tameside MBC. With the following operating constraints:

- (a) The maximum duration for an investment is one year; and
- (b) The maximum investment per counterparty is £50 million.

In response to increasing levels of GMPF cash, approval was given at Executive Cabinet dated 28 June 2017 to increase the £50 million limit to £75 million.

Along with these limits, further constraints were in place for the different categories of cash. The bulk of the fund managers' allocations must be available at short notice; therefore the following constraints were enforced:

- (a) 35% must be available within one week; and
- (b) 70% must be available within two weeks.

Additionally, the strategic allocation to in-house cash must be kept entirely liquid and immediately available.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) That the report be noted and the proposed borrowing strategy be supported; and**
- (ii) That the Annual Investment Strategy be approved; and**
- (iii) That the amendments to the Minimum Revenue Provision policy, as detailed in Appendix D to the report, be approved.**

#### **64. MAYORALTY**

Nominations were sought for the position of Civic Mayor for 2018/19 and it was moved by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor Taylor and:



## **RESOLVED**

**That Councillor Denise Ward be nominated for election as Civic Mayor for the Municipal Year 2018/19 at the Annual Meeting of the Council on Tuesday 22 May 2018.**

Nominations were also sought for the position of Deputy Civic Mayor for 2018/19 and it was moved by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor Taylor and:

## **RESOLVED**

**That Councillor Leigh Drennan be nominated for election as Deputy Civic Mayor for the Municipal Year for the 2018/19 at the Annual Meeting of the Council on Tuesday 22 May 2018.**

## **65. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANNUAL COUNCIL**

It was noted that the Annual Meeting of the Council (Civic and Business) would commence at 5.00pm on Tuesday, 22 May 2018 and would be held at Dukinfield Town Hall.

## **66. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

The Executive Leader announced that there would be some changes to the meeting arrangements for 2018/19 and an updated calendar of meetings would be circulated to Members for consideration in the very near future prior to its agreement at Annual Council.

## **67. MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL BODIES**

It was moved by Councillor Warrington and seconded by Councillor Taylor and

## **RESOLVED**

- (i) That Councillor Gwynne replace Councillor Jim Fitzpatrick on the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel; and**
- (ii) That Councillor Fairfoull be added to the membership of the Strategic Commissioning Board.**

## **68. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Consideration was given to the following motion received in accordance with Standing Order 16.1, which was proposed by Councillor Warrington and seconded by Councillor Carthey:

*'That this Council notes that in Saudi Arabia:*

- *Without the permission of a male guardian, women cannot:*
  - *travel abroad;*
  - *get a passport;*
  - *get out of prison;*
  - *get married.*
- *Male relatives can use the courts to force women to divorce;*
- *Women can be denied jobs if their male guardians do not want them to work; and*
- *Hospitals can refuse women surgery/other medical help if their male guardians do not consent.*

*We call upon the Financial Conduct Authority not to adopt a proposed change in the rules that would enable Aramco shares to be listed on the London Stock Exchange in the first place for as long as this denial of basic rights to women in Saudi Arabia persists'.*

Following consideration of the Motion is was:

**RESOLVED**

**That this Council notes that in Saudi Arabia:**

- **Without the permission of a male guardian, women cannot:**
  - **travel abroad;**
  - **get a passport;**
  - **get out of prison; and**
  - **get married.**
- **Male relatives can use the courts to force women to divorce;**
- **Women can be denied jobs if their male guardians do not want them to work; and**
- **Hospitals can refuse women surgery/other medical help if their male guardians do not consent.**

**We call upon the Financial Conduct Authority not to adopt a proposed change in the rules that would enable Aramco shares to be listed on the London Stock Exchange in the first place for as long as this denial of basic rights to women in Saudi Arabia persists'**

**69. QUESTIONS**

The Chair reported no questions had been received in accordance with Standing Order 17.2.

**70. URGENT ITEMS**

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

**CHAIR**