

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

11 March 2019

Present: Councillors Warrington (Chair), Cooney, Fairfoull and McNally

In Attendance:

Cllr Peter Robinson	Chief Executive
Stephen Pleasant	Director of Governance & Pensions
Sandra Stewart	Assistant Director of Finance
Tom Wilkinson	Director of Operations & Neighbourhoods
Ian Saxon	Assistant Director (Operations & Neighbourhoods)
Emma Varnam	Head of Strategic Infrastructure
Nigel Gilmore	

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Dickinson, Gwynne, B. Holland and Newton.

19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

20 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 26 November 2018

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel held on 26 November 2018 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

21 CAPITAL MONITORING PERIOD 9 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Director of Finance, summarising the 2018/19 capital expenditure monitoring position at 31 December 2018. There was a projected capital investment in 2018/19 of £56.441m by March 2019. This is significantly less than the original budgeted capital investment for 2018/19, and is in part due to project delays that are being experienced following the liquidation of Carillion.

Members were informed that demand for Capital resources exceeded availability. A reprioritisation exercise was ongoing in order to determine whether schemes that had been earmarked but not fully approved should proceed, and which should be temporarily placed on hold. The report sought a recommendation to re-profile the Capital Investment Programme, leading to a re-profiling of £9.308m of capital budgets as set out in Appendix 3 to reflect up to date investment profiles. Furthermore, members were asked to remove £0.500m from the Capital Programme to be ring fenced for a new financial assistance policy.

Members were advised that the report had previously been considered at the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 13 February 2019.

RESOLVED

- i. That the re-profiling of £9.308m of capital budgets as set out in Appendix 3 of the submitted report to reflect up to date investment profile, be noted.**

- ii. That the removal of £0.500m from the Capital Programme Disabled Facilities Grants budget to be placed in a ring fenced reserve for a new financial assistance policy as outlined in paragraph 4.4 of the submitted report, be noted.
- iii. The changes to the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 1 of the submitted report be noted.
- iv. The updated Prudential Indicator position set out in Appendix 5 of the submitted report be noted.
- v. The current capital budget monitoring position be noted.
- vi. The resources currently available to fund the Capital Programme.
- vii. The updated capital receipts position be noted.
- viii. The timescales for review of the Council's three year capital programme be noted.

22 VISION TAMESIDE PHASE 2 – PROGRESS UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director (Operations & Neighbourhoods) seeking a recommendation of approval for virements relating to Vision Tameside and updating Members on the successful completion of the Vision Tameside Phase 2 development.

Following the liquidation of Carillion a revised funding envelope was agreed at Executive Cabinet in December 2018 for the overall Vision Tameside project. The revised budget approved was £62.912m, including the remaining construction costs, public realm and contingency costs. The Director (Operations & Neighbourhoods) reported that an additional £78k of funding for works relating to the third party tenants was required resulting in a revised budget of £62.99m.

The project had been managed through the Council's contract with Inspired Spaces Tameside Limited and externally validated by Cushman and Wakefield who undertook Value for Money Assessments and Project Monitoring, thus ensuring the Council's fiduciary duty to the public purse was protected.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve the virements and the revised budget set out in Table 1 in Section 3 of the submitted report.

23 CORPORATE LANDLORD CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods, which updated members of the Strategic Planning and Monitoring Capital Panel in regard to capital repair spend on the Council's property and sought recommendations to Executive Cabinet that expenditure associated with statutory compliance capital repairs of £133,405.85, be approved.

The Council has a duty to ensure that its buildings provide a safe and effective physical environment for staff and services to operate from. Monitoring and regulation is undertaken by a series of statutory checks across a range of requirements. Checks were carried out at fixed intervals reporting where remedial works were required to ensure statutory compliance.

Works to date in 2018-19 of £0.159m have been reported to the Strategic Planning and Capital Panel retrospectively as completed, with a further £0.059m being identified within the submitted report.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve the £59,927.11 of capital spend on statutory compliance repairs on the Council's buildings, as detailed at paragraph 3 of the submitted report.

24 LEISURE ASSETS CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Growth providing an update in relation to the delivery of the Council's capital investment programme to improve sports and leisure facilities, seeking approval for the Director of Growth to be authorised to permanently close and demolish Active Denton (Denton Pool) when the new Tameside Wellness Centre opens in early 2020, approval for a condition survey of Active Ashton to be undertaken, and the approval that the replacement of the Synthetic Turf Pitch at Active Medlock be added to the list of schemes currently under review in the capital programme.

The Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel were informed the Council's Capital Programme was currently under review in order to facilitate reprioritisation following pressures on the level of capital funding available. In addition, the Council was reviewing its leisure management options to ensure sustainability and improved health outcomes for residents. Consequently, other schemes had been temporarily on hold pending the outcome of these reviews.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve:

- i. That the Director of Growth be authorised to permanently close and demolish Active Denton (Denton Pool) when the new Tameside Wellness Centre opens in early 2020. The closure is part of the wider asset management plan developed in consultation with members. In addition, the Director of Growth is authorised to establish options for the disposal of the site for best consideration in consultation with members and the local community. A report will be presented to Executive Cabinet setting out the options for disposal and the anticipated impact on the approved Capital Programme.**
- ii. That a condition survey of Active Ashton be undertaken to support the development of an options appraisal for further consideration by members. The cost of the survey to be funded from existing revenue budget.**
- iii. That the replacement of the Synthetic Turf Pitch at Active Medlock be added to the list of schemes currently under review in the capital programme**

25 EDUCATIONAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19 UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Growth updating the Panel on the Council's Education Capital Programme and seeking the recommendation of approval of proposed changes to the Education Capital Programme, along with approval for Section 106 request of £69,480 to be used towards the expansion of Yew Tree Primary School.

Members were advised that the School Condition Allocation funded projects over £100k, previously approved, including requirements for additional funding. The amounts earmarked against available funding currently exceed the funding available by £203,613 although it was anticipated that some of these schemes would need to slip into 2019/20 and will be funded from next year's allocation.

Members were further advised a Condition Survey of all schools was being progressed, via the Tameside Investment Partnership, to provide accurate and up to date information on school condition and inform better targeting of increasingly scarce capital resources in an open and transparent manner.

In response to Members questions the Director of Growth informed Members that a number of delays in the programme update were due to delivery of replacement heating systems that were unable to start over the 2018 summer holidays. These schemes were hugely intrusive and could not be carried out at weekends/after school as the heating systems need to be drained. The next opportunity to carry out these works was either at Easter or Whit 2019 or over summer 2019.

RESOLVED

- i. That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve the proposed changes to the Education Capital Programme as outlined in Appendix 1 (Basic Need Funding Schemes) and Appendix 2 (School Condition Allocation Funding Schemes) of the submitted report.
- ii. That the RAG status of the Basic Need projects be noted and particular attention be given to those rated as high risk to ensure appropriate actions are being taken.
- iii. That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve the Section 106 requests set out in paragraph's 3.9 and 3.10.

26 OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19 UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods providing an update on the major approved capital schemes in the Operations and Neighbourhoods Directorate, including an update on the Council's bid to the GM Mayor's Challenge Fund for Walking and Cycling and on the progress of the Council's bid into the Department for Transport's Safer Roads Scheme.

In considering the schemes Members were advised that an investment of £0.950m had been approved for additional car parks at Darnton Road, Ashton, however construction costs had increased by £0.198m and the addition of electric charging points at a cost of £0.020m. The resulting works would mean the original payback period would be extended due to the increased construction costs and revised income projection.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

27 SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS AND DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Growth summarising the current position with regard to receipts received from section 106 (s106) Agreements and Developer Contributions, new s106 Agreements made and sought approval for the drawdown of £34,000 for continuing the highway tree planting programme as well as for the planting of whips and standards on greenspace sites, and approval for the drawdown of £56,600 of Greenspace Contribution from the Section 106 agreement following the development of land on the site at Ashton Foods Ltd., Mackeson Road, Ashton.

As at 31 January 2019 the position for s106 Agreements was £1,203,000 in credit. The position for Developer Contributions as at 31 January 2019 was £229,000 in credit, plus £6,000 received, less approved allocations of £112,000, leaving a balance of £123,000.

RESOLVED

- i. That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve the s106 agreement and developer contributions approved allocations be added to the Capital Programme
- ii. That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve the drawdown of £34,000 of Developer Contributions for continuing the highway tree planting programme as well as for the planting of whips and standards on greenspace sites, as detailed in paragraph 2.10 of the submitted report.
- iii. That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve the drawdown of £56,600 Section 106 monies for green space infrastructure across the Borough including improving planters within town centres, planting around War Memorials and cleaning of War Memorials as detailed in paragraph 2.10 of the submitted report.

CHAIR