

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

8 July 2019

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

In Attendance: Sandra Stewart Director of Governance & Pensions
Kathy Roe Director of Finance
Jayne Traverse Director of Growth
Emma Varnam Assistant Director of Operations & Neighbourhoods
Tom Wilkinson Assistant Director of Finance

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Newton and Reid

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Commissioning Board held on 11 March 2019.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Commissioning Board held on 11 March 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3 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.

The Director of Operations advised Members of the budget position for the Vision Tameside Phase 2 programme and the required virements to ensure that the overall spend of the programme stayed within approved funding.

Following the liquidation of Carillion a revised funding envelope was agreed at Executive Cabinet in March 2019 for the overall Vision Tameside project. The revised budget approved was £62.99m, including the remaining construction costs, public realm and contingency costs.

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 paragraph 4.4 and Table 1 in section 4 of the submitted report.

4 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance & Economic Growth / Director of Finance summarising the 2018/19 capital expenditure monitoring position at 31 March 2019, based on information provided by project managers. The report detailed actual capital investment in 2018/19 of £51.545m at March 2019. This was 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 temporary pause to the Capital Programme.

Service areas had spent £51.545m on capital investment in 2018/19, which was £5.899m less than the current capital budget for the year. This slippage was spread across a number of areas, and was in part due to project delays now being experienced as a result of the temporary pause on the capital programme and the liquidation of Carillion who, through the Local Education Partnership (LEP) had been delivering or managing a number of key projects.

The Director of Finance advised Members that at the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 26 June 2019 approval had been given to the re-profiling of £5.810m into the next financial year as identified within the individual service area tables in Appendix 3 to the report. Once re-profiling has been taken into account, capital investment was forecast to be £0.089m less than the capital budget for the year.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the reprofiling of £5.810m of capital budgets as set out in Appendix 3 to reflect up to date investment profiles be approved.
- (ii) That the changes to the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 1 be approved.
- (iii) The updated Prudential Indicator position set out in Appendix 5 be approved.
- (iv) That the current capital budget monitoring position be noted.
- (v) That the resources currently available to fund the Capital Programme be noted.
- (vi) That the updated capital receipts position be noted.

5 FINANCE AND IT CAPITAL UPDATE 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Finance summarising progress in relation to the delivery of the Council's capital investment programme in the Finance and IT Directorate.

The Director of Finance informed Members that all areas of spend were within budget, specifically highlighting that the finance investments in Manchester Airport were delivering revenue benefits to the Council which support the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Members were advised that the Digital Tameside Investment programme was on target to meet required deadlines. The programme included significant approved and anticipated grant funding from the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. The grant funding required the Council to submit quarterly returns to the Department and to comply with the terms and conditions of grant, which was time limited. Failure to progress schemes and drawdown grant within the agreed timescales may result in a loss of available funding.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

6 CAPITAL PROJECTS - GROWTH

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Finance providing an update on Growth Directorate capital programmes and seeking a recommendation to Executive Cabinet for the inclusion of additional items to be included within the

Council's capital programme. The Director of Growth advised Members of an additional recommendation to the submitted report, seeking £0.100m of the £10.000m earmarked budget for Ashton Town Hall to be released to fund further market testing and feasibility works.

The Director of Growth informed Members that £4,251,885 including the current financial year's allocation from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government of £2,511,180 was available for the Disabled Facilities Grant and Other Related Adaptations. The Capital programme budget for 2019/2020 included funding allocated to Housing Adaptations and financial support for three schemes being promoted by Adult Services. To fund this expenditure £1,508,000 had been re-profiled from 2018/2019 and £1,137,000 of the 2019-20 allocation from MHCLG would be added to the capital programme. The total budget for non-adaptation works was £999,289 including repayments from previous capital schemes. The Director of Growth proposed two new discretionary repair schemes be allocated £100,000 each from within the budget, an over 65 Stay Put Scheme and a Home Repair Assistance for vulnerable families.

The Director of Growth provides details of the corporate landlord capital expenditure in regard to statutory compliance repairs on the Councils buildings totalling £155,723.84. The works had been required to ensure compliance which had been informed during monitoring checks of the sites.

Members were advise that as at 30 April 2019 the position of section 106 Agreements was £1,182,000 in credit. The position for Developer Contributions was £131,000 in credit, less approved allocations of £42,000, leaving a balance of £89,000. The Director of Growth advised that £69,480 was requested to be drawn down from the Community Education Developer Contribution fund in relation to the expansion of primary school places at Yew Tree School.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended:

- (i) **That a sum of £1.137m of 2019/2020 funding from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for adaptations as detailed within the submitted report be approved.**
- (ii) **That a sum of £0.200m for non-adaptations as set out in sections 2.7 and 2.9 of the submitted report be approved.**
- (iii) **That the corporate landlord capital expenditure associated with statutory compliance capital work of £0.156m as detailed within section 2.22 of the submitted report, be approved.**
- (iv) **That the section 106 education contribution of £0.069m as detailed in 2.30 of the submitted report be approved.**
- (v) **That £0.100m of the £10.000m earmarked budget for Ashton Town Hall is released to fund further market testing and feasibility works**

7 INVESTING IN CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member of Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Assistant Director for Operations and Neighbourhoods setting out improvements required to children's playgrounds across Tameside and seeking approval of £600,000 spend to the play equipment, safety surfacing, and infrastructure of playgrounds across the Borough

The Assistant Director for Operations and Neighbourhoods advised that all 37 play areas would see some benefits and there would be reduced risk of successful claims against the Council.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet be recommend to approve the £600,000 spend for the children's playgrounds as detailed within the report.

8 LEISURE ASSETS CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Population Health / Director of Population Health summarising the delivery of the Council's capital investment programme to improve sports and leisure facilities and seeking a recommendation for the approval of a Floodlight Replacement scheme to be included within the Council's capital programme for 2019/20.

The Director of Population Health advised Members that the athletic facility, off Richmond Street in Ashton, is owned by the Council and leased to East Cheshire Harriers Athletic Club. The lease, which runs until 2031, places the onus on the club to maintain the facility and keep the grounds in good order. The floodlights, which illuminate the running track and infield were circa 35 years old and had reached the end of their useful life and need to be replaced. The replacement of the floodlights was the responsibility of the Club under the terms of the existing lease but they need to obtain landlord's consent. In keeping with the lease, the Club intended to replace the 8 floodlights, including the 17m columns using its own financial resources supplemented by a grant from Sport England.

The Club did not have the technical expertise to deliver the floodlight replacement scheme, which included a 3 phase 415v power supply that needed specialist input. Consequently the Club approached the Council as Landlord to deliver the scheme on their behalf. The cost to the Council would be in relation to providing technical support to deliver the scheme.

Members sought clarification as to the number of Tameside residents who benefit from and use the facilities. The Director of Population Health undertook to ensure that the catchment area of the club maximised availability to residents of Tameside.

The Director of Population Health advised Members that in relation to the replacement of the Active Hyde Wave machine a technical assessment is under way to determine if the installation can take place without draining the pool thereby maintaining attendances and associated income levels for Active Tameside.

In relation to the Active Hyde Pool Extension tenders were being evaluated and would be reported in due course. Members were advised that the Tameside Wellness Centre scheme was progressing well and expected completion on schedule. The Active Medlock synthetic turf pitch replacement scheme was being evaluated and would be reported in due course.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended to approve the floodlight replacement scheme off Richmond Street in Ashton subject to funding from Sport England and East Cheshire Harriers being provided as detailed within the submitted report.

9 EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME - UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader and Executive Member / Director of Children's Services advising the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel on the latest position with the delivery of the Council's Education Capital Programme and seeking the recommendation to Executive Cabinet of proposed changes to the Education Capital Programme.

The Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel were informed that work is currently on-going to ensure that sufficient places are available in both Primary and High Schools for September 2018 and September 2019 and whilst delays were experienced as a result of the liquidation of Carillion, contingency plans had been developed in partnership with schools to ensure there is minimal disruption to learning where it is evident that schemes could not be delivered within the timescales available.

Members were informed the Council had £13,995,524 of Basic Need Funding available to spend in 2019/20. Notification has been received of an additional allocation of £4,842,699 for 2019/20 to be added to the Council's capital programme and nil allocation for 2020/21. The grant had been earmarked for schemes totalling £7,751,324, which have previously been reported to Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel and are included on the Council's capital programme. The submitted report identified proposed changes of £1,322,000 bringing the total value of earmarked schemes to £9,073,324.

In relation to the School Condition Allocation funded the Council had £2,377,774 of School Condition funding available to be spent during the 2019/20 financial year, to improve and maintain the school estate. The Director of Children's Services identified that grant had been earmarked for schemes totalling £1,444,000.

RESOLVED

That the Executive Cabinet be recommended

- (i) 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 risks highlighted in Section 5 of the report are noted.
- (iii) To approve additional Devolved Formula Capital of £685,902 for 2018/19 and £344,294 2019/20 Devolved Formula Capital to be added to the Council's capital programme and thereon made available to schools on request, as referenced in section 2.9 of the submitted report.
- (iv) To approve £4,842,699 2019/20 Basic Need allocation and £1,153,000 of 2019/20 School Condition grant to be added to the Council's capital programme, as referenced in section 2.4 and 2.7 respectively of the submitted report.

10 OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS CAPITAL

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods / Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods which updated Members on the 2019/20 Operations and Neighbourhoods Capital Programme and sought a recommendation that additional grant funding from the Department for Transport Highways Maintenance Grant, Incentive Fund and Pothole Fund be added to the Council's Capital Programme to deliver the highway works programme.

The Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods advised Members that the Department for Transport Highways Maintenance Grant was allocated to each highways authority is based on the length of the local road network. For Tameside MBC the allocation was £1.029m for use in 2019/20. The Department for Transport roads element, along with the 2019/20 Transport Asset Management Plan allocation of £5.250m would be used to deliver the highway works programme as set out in Appendix 1 of the submitted report. Any schemes not completed due to adverse weather conditions or for programming decisions in relation to traffic management issues will be re-programmed to be competed as soon as possible.

RESOLVED

That Executive Cabinet be recommended that the additional capital grant funding set out in paragraph 3.7, Table 4 of the submitted report.

CHAIR