

## STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

14 December 2020

Commenced: 14:00

Terminated: 14:50

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

**In Attendance:**

Sandra Stewart	Director of Governance and Pensions
Ian Saxon	Director - Operations and Neighbourhoods
Tom Wilkinson	Assistant Director of Finance
Sandra Whitehead	Assistant Director of Adult Services
Tim Bowman	Assistant Director for Education
Paul Smith	Assistant Director for Strategic Property

### 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 21 September 2020 were approved as a correct record.

### 21 CAPITAL PROGRAMME FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member of Finance and Economic Growth / Lead Clinical GP / Director of Finance, which summarised the forecast outturn at 31 March 2021 based on the financial activity to 31 October 2020. The report focused on the budget and forecast expenditure for fully approved projects in 2020/21 financial year.

The approved budget for 2020/21 was £63.118m (after re-profiling approved at period 3 monitoring) and current forecast for the financial year was £54.394m. 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 £54.394m on capital investment in 2020/21, which was £8.724m less than the current capital budget for the year. This variation was spread across a number of areas, and was made up of a number of over/underspends on a number of specific schemes (£0.110m) less the re-profiling of expenditure in some other areas (£8.614m).

#### RESOLVED

**That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to:**

- (i) **Note the forecast outturn position for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 1.**
- (ii) **Approve the re-profiling of budgets into 2021/22 as set out on page 4 of Appendix 1.**
- (iii) **Note the funding position of the approved Capital Programme as set on page 9 of Appendix 1. Members are reminded that the Period 6 finance report asked for approval to remove all remaining earmarked schemes and approve a full review and re-prioritisation of the future Capital Programme, to be concluded alongside the Growth**

**Directorate's review of the estate and identification of further surplus assets for disposal.**

- (iv) Note the changes to the Capital Programme as set out on page 10 in Appendix 1**
- (v) Note the updated Prudential Indicator position set out on pages 11-12 of Appendix 1, which was approved by Council in February 2020.**

## **22 CAPITAL PROGRAMME – OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS (NOVEMBER 2020)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Neighbourhoods) / Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods which updated Members on the 2020/21 Operations and Neighbourhoods Capital Programme.

It was reported that the Highway Maintenance Programme had been prioritised with the delivery contractors. The carriageway and footway resurfacing programmes commenced in August 2020 and would run through until mid-December 2020. As works could not take place during the traditional spring / early summer laying period, extra resources had been deployed, however, it could be necessary to extend the laying programme into April and May 2021.

Works to Demesne Drive (No1 & No2 screens) and Halton Street, Hyde were now complete. Confirmation had been received that TMBC had been awarded £350,000 which was to be spent in conjunction with £50,000 of Tameside funding, to deliver a programme of highway drainage improvements works. These works were specifically to replace carriageway road gullies in the Droylsden and Hattersley area where historically substandard road gullies required upgrading.

It was stated that the works at Fairlea, Denton were nearly complete with only the planting aspect of the landscaping works still outstanding, and these would be undertaken in November 2020. The works were anticipated to be within the budget of £350,000. The Greenside Lane, Droylsden works were rescheduled due to the Covid 19 outbreak. The works had started on site and the site clearance had exposed an extra length of slope failure which was not apparent at the time of award. The works started on 29 June 2020 and were anticipated to be completed in December 2020.

With regards to the replacement of Cremators and Mercury Abatement, Filtration Plant and Heat Recovery Facilities. The original scheme was due to complete on the 5 February 2021 with the reduced number of cremators during the installation period October/November 2020 ahead of the traditionally busy Christmas period. Following delays due to Covid and because of a delay in starting the refurbishment of the cremators there had been a re-phasing of the project. Work on site commenced on 2 October 2020. The projected completion and handover date was 31 August 2021. Currently £177k had been spent on the project with 50% of the remaining £2,323,000 being spent this financial year 2020/2021 and the other 50% during 2021/2022.

The Childrens Playgrounds across Tameside were to be improved to help youngsters stay active and healthy. The Capital investment of £600,000 would improve play areas across the borough and ensure they were good quality and safe facilities for children to enjoy. STAR were due to send out an Expression of Interest form for the supply and installation of play equipment in November 2020 – this will form Phase 2 of the project. Phase 3, which would infrastructure improvements would commence in February 2021.

As a result of Covid 19 the Ashton Town Centre Public Realm project was temporarily paused, in line with Government guidance, resulting in a delay in the delivery of the next phase of the public realm works. The public realm programme had been rescheduled and the work to procure materials in order to complete works on Wellington Road in front of Clarendon College - zone 4 was now underway. Delivery of the works to complete the Mayor's Challenge Fund (MCF) scheme on Albion Way – zone 5 - was the next key priority due to funding time constraints. Work was ongoing with TfGM to finalise the scheme designs and progress the formal business case appraisal and approval process.

The Executive Cabinet report dated 22 October 2018 outlined the essential evidence and background details in the delivery of this programme. The first delivery of the lanterns was due in November 2020, with installation following shortly afterwards.

A new 7.5ton tipper was required for the removal of fly tipping to replace an existing 3.5ton tipper. The net cost of the vehicle was estimated to be £40,000. It would be funded by the proceeds of the sale of the 3.5 ton tipper currently in use and a revenue contribution. Further, following an Executive Decision taken on the 1 September 2020 two minibuses would be procured via a competitive tendering process. Within the same Executive Decision, approval was given for the purchase of an additional gully cleansing machine to enable the Council to maintain the highway gully network in line with our service standards and ensure network resilience with regards to the drainage of our highway assets.

## **RESOLVED**

**That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the following:**

- (i) rescheduling to the Tameside Asset Management Plan (TAMP) and the Highways Maintenance Programme. The commencement of the works programme was revised due to Covid 19.**
- (ii) the progress with regards to Flooding: Flood Prevention and Consequential Repairs and the rephrasing as a result of the successful bid for Department of Transport funding to improve highway drainage in the borough**
- (iii) progress with regard to the Slope Stability Programme.**
- (iv) progress with regards to the Cemetery Boundary Walls Programme.**
- (v) the rescheduling to Replacement of Cremators and Mercury Abatement, Filtration Plant and Heat Recovery Facilities Programme by the significant impact Covid 19 has had on the operation of the Crematorium and the suppliers of cremator equipment.**
- (vi) the start date for the Children's Playground Programme.**
- (vii) the progress with regards to the Ashton Town Centre Public Realm Project.**
- (viii) the impact of Covid 19 on the LED Street Lighting Lanterns Project.**
- (ix) the progress with regards to the Mayor's Challenge Fund Programme (MCF).**
- (x) progress with regards to the £400,000 awarded under the Emergency Active Travel Fund.**
- (xi) the progress with regards to the Highways England – Designated Funds Scheme.**
- (xii) that works are progressing with regards to the successful Transport Infrastructure Investment Fund – Highway Maintenance Challenge Fund bid of £400,000 (£350,000 from the Department of Transport, £50,000 Tameside) with respect of improving highway drainage infrastructure.**
- (xiii) progress with regards to Department for Transport – Safer Roads Fund project in conjunction with Oldham MBC.**
- (xiv) the replacement tipper as set out in section 2.31 in this report arrived at the end of July 2020 and is now operational.**
- (xv) authority was granted to procure two minibuses via competitive tender as set out in section 2.33**
- (xvi) approval has been given for the purchase of an additional gully cleansing vehicle to enable the Council to maintain the highway gully network in line with our service standards as set out in section 2.34**
- (xvii) the allocation of £300,000 from Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) for bus stop enhancements within Tameside, and seek approval from Executive Cabinet for £300,000 to be added to the Council's Capital programme for this project to be delivered by the Council.**
- (xviii) approval for the revised funding package required to deliver the Ashton Streetscape MCF scheme as set out in 2.27 of this report. This revision does not require any additional funding from the Council's Capital programme.**
- (xix) approval to commit funding from the existing Sustainable Travel budget for works to the Tame Valley Loop as identified in Sections 3.23-3.29 of this report.**
- (xx) the potential changes to the individual Mayor's Challenge Fund schemes funding packages as set out in Appendix 3 of this report. The revisions, at this stage, are estimates only and are subject to further scheme development and TfGM approval.**

## 23 ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN

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

It was reported that the proposal at Oxford Park would not proceed and would be reconsidered as part of a wider review of the offer of day time provision. A revised business case would be put forward for any new proposals that emerged.

Due to the delays as a result of Covid, the trustees of 4c were able to negotiate terms and conditions with an alternative construction company who were able to meet the original costs of the contract. Discussions had taken place with CCCD and the new contractors to agree a new service specification and it had now been confirmed that work would commence on site on 30 November 2020 with an estimated completion date of 5 March 2020.

With regards to the capital funding for the Moving with Dignity scheme, a core team of staff was established but there had been delays in recruitment over recent months and consequently there had been less expenditure against the Moving with Dignity funding that was originally profiled for this point in the year. Where single-handed approaches had been implemented to date, it was estimated that reductions had been made to care packages equivalent to 966 home care hours and 44 night calls per week, and the Council no longer bears the cost of delivering these services. Overall, after the reduction in client income and the effect of newly increased needs in care packages was considered, the net benefit of the work in 2020/21 to date was estimated to be £570k, which had assisted the Council and its homecare providers in managing the increased demand for care over recent months and the recent budget pressure.

The progress to date on the Disability Assessment Centre was detailed to Members. A visit to Hyde Market Hall was carried out with a view to determining if the location was suitable to locate the Disability Assessment Centre (DAC). An initial visit provided positive feedback regarding the access, parking, space etc. and as a result further investigations would be undertaken. The Market hall was in need of major investment, although the capital earmarked for the DAC would be a substantial investment in a large portion of the hall.

Work had been underway on the Brain in Hand programme to refer more people who could benefit from Brain in Hand. Of the total 20 licences, 12 had been activated, and of those four were in the process of being set up. Because of the pandemic, and limited support that BiH had been able to offer during this time BiH made the decision to furlough their staff at the start of the pandemic, a further six months' extension to the contract has been agreed in principle, and this would be at no further cost.

### **RESOLVED**

**That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to:**

- (i) note the updates provided in this report.**
- (ii) approve Statutory Compliance expenditure of £100,000 (in total) to be allocated from the Disabled Facilities Grant budget to support the adaptations required at the Mount Street, Hyde supported living scheme.**
- (iii) approve that the methodology by which the Housing Adaptations Service is resourced from the current fee based structure to one of direct capitalisation of salaries directly from the Disabled Facilities Grant.**

## **24 LEISURE ASSETS CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member of Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Director of Population Health which provided a summary of progress to date in relation to the delivery of the Council's capital investment programme to improve the sports and leisure facilities approved by Executive Cabinet on 24 March 2016.

With regards to the Hyde Pool extension scheme the LEP was reporting a completion delay of 5 weeks with practical completion now due on the 30 April 2021. The main reason for the delay was Covid 19 restrictions causing a slowing-down in the main contractors supply chain.

The Tameside Wellness Centre scheme was closed on 23 March 2020 in response to Government guidance on the Covid 19 pandemic. With the partial lifting of restrictions, elements of the building reopened on the 27 July. In response to further government guidance the centre closed again on the 4 November and will reopen when Covid restrictions allowed. The building was in its 12-month defects liability period. The closure period had been used to deal with a small list of outstanding defects.

The impact of Covid 19 on the delivery of schemes continued to be monitored. To date there had been no direct financial impact on the leisure capital projects.

### **RESOLVED**

**That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the report.**

## **25 FINANCE & IT CAPITAL UPDATE REPORT**

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

The approved Finance and IT Capital Programme for 2020/21 was £16.712m which included £13.430m for additional investment in Manchester Airport and £3.282m for Digital Tameside. The Digital Tameside programme included £1.820m of grant funding from the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

Members were reminded that In April 2020, Executive Cabinet approved a further investment of £9.7m in Manchester Airport in the form of an equity loan, which would be funded by prudential borrowing. The investment completed in June 2020 and would generate revenue income through interest earned of 10% per annum.

Work on Fibre Infrastructure DCMS Wave 2 was 70% complete and time lost due to COVID-19 delays had in the main been recovered. A significant volume of works was still outstanding and whilst plans were in place to deliver this on-time and on-budget there was little or no "contingency" within the timetable should there be a severe winter or further national lockdowns affecting the works.

With regards to Microsoft licensing, the initial phase of procurement and design was completed and many of the licenses relating to the Microsoft Office 2016, the main Data Centre and Disaster Recovery site had been placed and the new software had started to be rolled out across the Councils laptop fleet and server infrastructure. The roll-out and installation of the new software had been complicated by the lockdown and home working. Work upgrading the operating systems on 97 servers and 122 SQL databases in the main datacentre in Rochdale was underway.

The final elements of the software refresh including the project to upgrade the main Exchange email, Active Directory, SharePoint and Skype for Businesses systems and commissioning the

Disaster recovery site were now underway. Work on upgrading the Exchange email system was underway and expected to be complete for the end of November.

## **RESOLVED**

**That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the report and the details of the status of the schemes in the programme.**

## **26 GROWTH CAPITAL REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member of Finance and Economic Growth / Assistant Director of Strategic Property, which provided an update on the 2020/21 Growth Capital Programme and set out details of the major approved capital schemes in the Directorate.

It was explained that the Ashton Old Baths Annexe Phase 3 was progressing and was due to be completed on the 12 February 2021.

The planned emergency repairs to the Ashton Town Hall were being completed having obtained listed building consent in October.

With regards to Hartshead Pike, the new stone lantern was ready for installation and would be installed when there was a one week "weather window". Following approval by Executive Cabinet on the 30 September 2020 work was underway to clear the site, this would be completed in April 2021.

Following approval from Executive Cabinet on the 2 November 2020, site clearance at the Former Two Trees School site would be completed in July 2021. With regards to corporate landlord capital expenditure, the report sought for £27,894.71 for statutory compliance repairs. Details of the repairs were set out in **Appendix 5**.

Members were advised that in September 2020, the Government had opened up arrangements for the public sector to be able to bid against a £1 billion fund. The scheme was available for capital energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation projects within public sector non-domestic buildings, including central government departments and non-departmental public bodies in England only.

The scheme allowed public sector bodies including eligible central government departments and their non-departmental public bodies in England only to apply for a grant to finance up to 100% of the costs of capital energy-saving projects that meet the scheme criteria. Via a GMCA agreement, nine out of the ten GM authorities have developed a consortium approach to this bid and the Council were currently working with the GMCA to identify schemes across our estate that may qualify.

## **AGREED**

**That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to approve that the following be added to the approved Council Capital Programme:**

- (i) The Corporate Landlord Statutory Compliance capital expenditure for the period identified in Appendix 5 of £0.028m.**
- (ii) S106 funding allocations of £0.052m as detailed in section 2.29.**
- (iii) That £0.793m of Growth's 2020/21 capital budget is re-phased as set out in APPENDIX 6.**

## **27 EDUCATION CAPITAL REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member of Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Assistant Director of Education / Assistant Director of Strategic Property which updated Members on the Council's Education Capital Programme.

It was reported that £200,000 was sought for the Hawthorns Primary School scheme to allow for surveying, designs and business appraisal activity. Members were reminded of the purpose of the scheme, it was explained that there would be 136 pupils on site from September 2020, more than double the number the school was originally built to accommodate. A four classroom demountable extension was on site to help the school accommodate the additional pupils but this was not a permanent solution and did not reinstate staff space already utilised for additional pupils.

Further, it was highlighted that Officers, the Head teacher and colleagues from the New Bridge Multi Academy Trust had met with parents of children currently at Hawthorns on a number of occasions over the last few months. Parents fed back that:

- They were concerned about the number of children currently attending the site and the amount of temporary accommodation needed to facilitate this.
- The temporary accommodation had resulted in a loss of outside space for pupils.
- They were concerned about the length of time the council had taken to deliver this expansion.

The Assistant Director of Strategic Property advised Members of the progress at Hyde Community College, the scheme sought to increase the school's intake from 210 to 240. The project was due to completion on the 11 December, the delays were caused due to Covid-19 as on site trades had to isolate.

The scheme to increase capacity at Aldwyn School from 45 pupil intake to 60 had a number of significant and ongoing delays. Three temporary modular classrooms had been provided at Aldwyn to accommodate additional pupils from September 2017 pending a start on the permanent extension. Condition issues with the Roof at Aldwyn and which also covered the Hawthorns School had led to a broadening of the contract scope. Further condition issues raised by the schools had necessitated a condition survey to ascertain the additional scope of any further condition works to be included in the contract scope.

The St Johns Dukinfield scheme to increase the school's intake from 30-45 had costs totalling £1,343,000 approved following the Executive Cabinet meeting in September 2019. It was explained that further project delivery challenges had emerged connected to Covid-19. These risks potentially included extended delivery times, increased costs due to social distant working during construction and the availability of materials.

Discussions had taken place with Audenshaw School to carry out internal remodelling so the school could offer additional places from September 2020. Following stakeholder discussions a design had been agreed to improve the sixth form block with some additional works would take place in the main school science rooms. An order had been placed to progress the design and works to the sixth form block due to its current vacant status, with the main school works to be scheduled separately and access agreed with the school. The Panel agreed a budget envelope of £1,000,000 for the scheme at its last meeting, with an additional £300,000 granted in a separate request. Phase 1 (interim upgrade) of the sixth form block for the new entry students was completed for 1 September 2020. Phase 2 relating to the main school science rooms would take place in 2021 once a suitable programme and scope of works had been agreed.

The Executive Leader enquired on the progress of the Russell Scott Primary School projects. The report detailed that a number of fire compliance measures had been successfully carried out over the 2020 Summer holidays. These projects were deferred from the Easter holidays due to access restrictions and resource/ materials availability caused by COVID-19.

An appraisal of building condition and associated options informed by technical information provided by MAC Architects was being drafted to include further information following recent flooding investigations.

## **RESOLVED**

**That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to approve:**

- (i) **Proposed changes to the Education Capital Programme, Basic Need Funding Schemes Appendix 1, Special Provision Fund and Healthy Pupils' Capital Fund as outlined in Appendix 2A and 2B and School Condition Allocation Funding Schemes Appendix 3.**
- (ii) **To transfer £56,000 of fire safety budget back to the unallocated SCA budget now that final costs for replacement fire alarms have been obtained) paragraph 6.8)**
- (iii) **Allocate £13,000 to works to upgrade the gas supply at Broadbottom CE (paragraph 6.12)**
- (iv) **retrospective costs £10,123 funded from contingency following an urgent inspection of Victorian lath and plaster ceilings at eight schools during the October half term (paragraph 6.15)**
- (v) **retrospective urgent works to the boiler control system at Hurst Knoll CE undertaken during October half term costing £5,010 funded from contingency (paragraph 6.17)**
- (vi) **Design work to tender stage for electrical re-wires at Fairfield Primary (£10,614) and Arlies Primary (£9,981) be approved (paragraph 6.20)**
- (vii) **That a high level estimate of £220,000 be allocated to carry out replacement roof works at Stalyhill Infant school (paragraph 6.23)**
- (viii) **That £30,000 be allocated to carry out further investigation and scheme development for roof replacements and repairs at Corrie, Fairfield, Greswell, Hollingworth and Oakdale schools while noting that the main works to these roofs will need to be prioritised over several financial years;**
- (ix) **To allocate £15,000 for scheme development to tender stage for improved security access arrangements at Milton St John's CE school;**
- (x) **To allocate £10,000 for design to tender stage of replacement boilers at Audenshaw Primary School;**
- (xi) **To note that the boilers at Gorse Hall and Hurst Knoll school require replacement and to set aside £200,000 from 2021/22 SCA funding for this purpose. Bids have also been submitted to the Greater Manchester decarbonisation fund and it is hoped that some or all of this amount may be offset;**
- (xii) **To allocate a further £10,000 of 2020/21 funding to carry out further visits at February 21 half term to complete asbestos management reports;**
- (xiii) **To obtain costs to begin a five-year rolling programme of building condition surveys to ensure the asset management plan is maintained;**
- (xiv) **To allocate £32,500 of unallocated Basic Need Grant to Mossley Hollins to cover final costs;**
- (xv) **Following a consultation with the school and parents, an appraisal of the options to expand Hawthorns Primary School is further progressed by officers and an outline business case is developed for consideration by members in April 2021. An indicative Capital Allocation of £200,000 is made from the Basic Need funding for the design, surveying and business appraisal activity.**

## **28 CHILDRENS SOCIAL CARE PROPERTY CAPITAL SCHEMES UPDATE REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Executive Leader / Assistant Director of Children's Social Care which provided an update on the Children's Social Care property Capital Scheme and set out details of the major approved property capital schemes in the Directorate.

With regards to the Assessment Centre, there had been two potential properties identified and initial works were undertaken as to the feasibility of purchasing these properties, however, after further exploration these properties had been deemed as unsuitable. As a result of the preliminary work abortive costs had been incurred of £7,333, which could not be capitalised, as a result this was going to become a revenue pressure. A new property search was underway as a matter of urgency to identify a suitable property to fulfil this requirement. A review of use of existing properties and other alternatives would also be explored. The Director of Children's Services suggested that £370,000 be slipped into 2021/22 as it was unlikely that any suitable property would be fully completed in 2020/21.

Members were updated on the modification of the building on St Lawrence Road Denton to



provide a residential respite unit. A sum of £45,250 was allocated to facilitate this refurbishment. Building work was completed in June 2020. Additional costs had been identified during this project. A total of £48,000 was estimated that would be needed to complete the project, which was requested to be drawn down from the ear marked reserves.

It was reported that the budget of £56,434 which was approved for the refurbishment of the existing site Fairfield Children's Centre to enable the Edge of Care service was not sufficient to cover all the costs. The additional costs was due to cabling, installation of fibre to ensure services could be effectively delivered. The report sought for an additional £13,541 to be drawn down from the ear marked reserves.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED:**

- (i) to note the delays in relation to the purchase of the new residential property for the assessment unit as set out in section 2.1 of the report;**
- (ii) to approve the drawdown of a further £48,000 from the Children's Earmarked Reserve to fund the additional works, outlined at 2.2, to make St Lawrence Road safe and bring it into use; and**
- (iii) to approve the drawdown of £13,541 from the Children's Earmarked Reserve to fund the additional works and refurbishment of the Fairfield Unit as outlined in 2.3.**

#### **29 URGENT ITEMS**

**There were no urgent items.**

**CHAIR**