

COUNCIL

3 November 2020

Commenced: 5.00pm

Terminated: 8.35pm

Present: Councillors Affleck, Alam, Billington, Bowden, Bowerman, Boyle, Bray, Cartey, Chadwick, Choksi, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Glover, Gosling, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Hollinshead, J Homer, S Homer, Huntbach, Jackson, Jones, Kitchen (Chair), Lane, Lewis, McNally, Martin, Mills, Naylor, Newton, Owen, Patrick, Pearce, Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, Ward, Warrington, Welsh, Wild and Wills.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Sidebottom

Councillor Kitchen, Chair of Council Business, in the Chair

16. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Civic Mayor congratulated three residents of Tameside who had been recognised by the Queen in her delayed birthday honours list, which was published in October, rather than June, so that work undertaken during the pandemic could be properly rewarded. Kathryn Davies from Droylsden had been awarded an MBE and Steve Barton from Stalybridge and Esin Eno-Obong from Denton had both been awarded the British Empire Medal.

The Civic Mayor further honoured Cecelia Leigh who had turned 106 years old and centenarians Rakseda Matwiji and Mary Turner.

The Civic Mayor also made reference to the Diversity Volunteer Awards celebration event in August, which she attended remotely.

17. COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 21 July 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by Members of the Council.

19. COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Executive Leader began by reflecting on some of the positive achievements of council teams and key partners during the current challenging times. In August the CCG had been awarded silver status under the Ministry of Defence's Employer Recognition Scheme for supporting the armed forces community, the Executive Leader commented on the exceptional collaboration between the Council, CCG and ICFT in this area. In the same month the annual Customer Service Excellence results were

published with Tameside once again achieving 100% compliance with 18 areas of compliance plus (good practice), up from 15 the previous year.

In September, the Head of Payments, Systems and Registrars, was announced as joint winner of the Public Services People Management Association peer of the year programme, and in October the prestigious Municipal Journal awards were handed out with double success for Tameside. The Markets team won the Innovation in Property Asset Management category and the Payments Team Manager was recognised for the Rising Star award. Also in October, the Research in Practice Awards highlighted a number of projects and staff from adults services for their innovate work.

The Executive Leader announced that the annual assessments of CCGs were published in October and was pleased to note that the Tameside & Glossop CCG led by Dr Ramachandra and Dr Ali retained their outstanding rating. The Healthy Hyde Team won Primary Care Team of the Year at the BMJ Virtual Awards last month for their work giving residents of care homes a bigger say in how their care was managed. Portland Basin was listed in the top 10% of destinations in Trip Advisor's Travellers Choice Award last month, and last week was the Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards. The joint work of the council, CCG and ICFT in the Digital Health Centre and Community Response Service was recognised when they won the Driving Efficiency through Technology category.

Tameside, along with the other 9 local authorities in GM, won the Public/Public Partnership work for workforce collaboration. Work being led in Tameside by the Assistant Director (People and Workforce Development), who was also the chair of the GM Heads of Human Resources, that had co-ordinated the collaboration.

The Executive Leader, on behalf of Members, expressed sincere congratulations to all those involved and thanked them for their hard work and dedication, which had been recognised as outstanding.

The Executive Leader stated that despite the Greater Manchester authorities putting together a detailed and fully costed submission to the government, which recognised the need to support those people and business suffering hardship she was disappointed that the negotiations had broken down over a difference of just £5 million, despite the billions spent on failed testing programmes and inadequate PPE. The Executive Leader said that any effective response to coronavirus must be built on solid local foundations, in a spirit of trust and cooperation. A good example of this was one GM, a new campaign launched a week ago to unite Greater Manchester. One GM looked beyond the package offered from government by bringing together money from the public sector, private business and charity donations to provide a package of support for those most in need, particularly over the winter months. The return of 80% furlough for a month and the doubling of support from 40% to 80% of trading profits for the self-employed was welcomed.

A further example of local action was the response to the issue of children going hungry over the school holidays. Prior to the onset of Covid-19, successive governments had supported the principle of free school meals for families on low incomes. That was to be welcomed, as was the commitment by the current government to provide free school meals over the summer holidays. However, when it became apparent that the government refused to provide the same support this half term as they did over the summer, Tameside launched a scheme which provided a £15 supermarket voucher for any child attending a Tameside school who was eligible for income based free school meals.

The Executive Leader announced that a number of consultations had been launched to let residents in Tameside and Greater Manchester have their say on what "building back better" meant to them. The annual budget conversation had opened on 2 November, asking people who lived and worked in Tameside about their priorities in regard to the services provided by both Tameside Council and Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group. The Executive Leader referenced the serious challenges faced with the budget this year and estimated that a further £60 million in savings would be required next year to balance the books. The conversation would run until 6 January 2021 after which point, all responses would be analysed and incorporated into the decision-making processes for the new budget, which was due to be agreed in February 2021.

At the Greater Manchester level, there were also a number of discussions ongoing that would help to revolutionise the transport infrastructure, grow the economy and protect the shared environment for future generations. The GM Clean Air Consultation would lay the foundation for taking the fight to the silent killer of air pollution, which was estimated to contribute to the deaths of 1,200 people every year in the city region. Until 3 December, views were sought on the creation of a Greater Manchester-wide Clean Air Zone, carefully and specifically targeted at the roads in the city region with the highest levels of air pollution. Vans, buses, coaches, taxis, private hire vehicles, minibuses and heavy goods vehicles that did not meet certain emissions standards would have to pay a daily charge to drive in the Zone. Private cars, motorbikes and mopeds were not included. To support the transition to this Clean Air Zone, a package of funding would be offered to assist businesses to upgrade their affected vehicles before the new measures came into effect.

The GM Clean Air Consultation would be followed by the GM Consultation on Minimum Licensing Standards for taxis and private hire vehicles. This included addressing concerns about “out of town” private vehicles operating outside the area in which they were licensed, inconsistent standards across each local authority area, and older licensed vehicles contributing to air pollution. Vehicles would be required to abide by minimum standards of safety and accessibility for disabled people, as well as adopting a Greater Manchester-wide colour (black for taxis/Hackney cabs and white for private hire vehicles) and livery of a common design with the individual council logo incorporated. In the longer term, the goal was to make the entire GM licensed vehicle sector emission-free by the end of the decade.

The Executive Leader explained that, just over a week ago, Greater Manchester leaders had published the final draft of the city-region’s wide-ranging Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment – the Spatial Framework. The plan – endorsed at a meeting of the GMCA on Friday last week – would build the right homes in the right places so everyone can live in environmentally sustainable villages, towns and cities connected by a fully integrated, high-capacity transport system. The plan would now be reviewed by all ten districts and if approved, would go out for an eight-week public consultation, beginning Tuesday 1 December 2020.

Transport for Greater Manchester’s Five-Year Transport Delivery Plan had been developed alongside the Spatial Framework to ensure all the new housing and commercial sites were supported by appropriate transport connections, especially accessible public transport. At the core of the plan was sustainability.

The Spatial Framework was much more than just a planning document. It was a key part of the ‘build back better’ strategy. Meeting the city-region’s housing need by building high quality affordable homes, connecting areas with environmentally sustainable transport links, as well as becoming carbon neutral by 2038, the plan was the bedrock of the ambition for inclusive growth for all.

The Executive Leader stated that Tameside was an exciting place to invest with a track record of successful development. A major global property consultancy had recently identified the top five areas in the UK prime for major development, and one of them was Tameside. In addition, three major investment projects of recent times had been shortlisted for awards in the North West Regional Construction Awards – Tameside One, Tameside Wellness Centre and Ashton Interchange.

The Executive Member (Finance and Economic Development), expanded on the Executive Leader’s comments in respect of Tameside being identified by a major global consultancy as one of the top five areas in the UK prime for major development along with Surrey Heath, East Hertfordshire, Chesterfield and Fareham.

He further informed Council Members of a partnership established with a Manchester based telecommunications company of a residential offering to expand affordable broadband to the borough’s social housing tenants.

The Executive Member (Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage) explained that, due to the current Coronavirus restrictions, Remembrance Sunday services and events would be different this year. Government guidance was currently awaited in respect of remembrance events, however

Tameside was asking residents to pay their respects from their homes this year, rather than at war memorials. She added that the Civic Mayor would be laying a wreath at Ashton-under-Lyne War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, and there would be small ceremonies at Denton and Stalybridge, with no more than six attendees.

On 11 November 2020 the Executive Leader and the Civic Mayor would lay a wreath at Ashton War Memorial as part of a brief ceremony. Tameside local studies and archives launched 11 days of remembrance at beginning of November and Dukinfield Town Hall would be floodlit in red over remembrance weekend. Families were also being encouraged to put a poppy in their window to honour those who have served in the forces.

The Executive Member (Housing, Planning and Employment) reported that he had received representation from Members with regard to land searches. He explained that there would be a return to the normal processes for land searches from the following day and made reference to issues experienced across the country whilst the digitalisation of the service was underway.

20. 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.

21. MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 29 July 2020, 26 August 2020 and 30 September 2020.

It was moved by Councillor Warrington and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and it was:

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 29 July 2020, 26 August 2020 and 30 September 2020 be received.

22. DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WORKING GROUP

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of Democratic Processes Working Group held on 5 October 2020.

It was moved by Councillor Cooney and seconded by Councillor Warrington and it was:

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Processes Working Group held on 6 October 2020 be received.

23. GREATER MANCHESTER SPATIAL FRAMEWORK

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Housing, Planning and Employment / Director of Growth, which sought approval to publish *Greater Manchester's Plan for homes, jobs and the environment (the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF): Publication Draft 2020*, including supporting background documents, for a period of public consultation in accordance with planning regulations. Further, the report recommended that Full Council approve the submission of the GMSF for examination to the Secretary of State following the period of public consultation and sought delegation to make minor or non-material amendments to the plan and background documents at two separate points.

It was explained that, since the consultation closed, further work had been undertaken to analyse the responses, develop and refine the evidence base and prepare a further version of the plan. A Consultation Final Report accompanied the GMSF 2020 to enable people to see how their previous comments had been considered and how the plan had been changed as a result, or why some comments have not resulted in changes.

A revised draft GMSF had been prepared and the next consultation was the '*Publication stage*', a formal consultation on the jointly prepared plan and its background information, in accordance with relevant national regulations (in this case regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012). This formal consultation was proposed to take place between dates to be agreed at the AGMA Executive meeting scheduled for 30 October 2020.

The consultation would be carried out in line with the requirements of each of the district Statements of Community Involvement. The challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic had been significant and government guidance continued to have implications for how the public could be engaged, especially through this next consultation phase. However, the government had also been clear that the challenge presented by the virus was not a sufficient reason to delay plan preparation. Therefore a range of activities and reasonable steps had been considered to ensure a broad spectrum of the community are engaged through publishing the plan and the achievement of a consultation in a safe and broadly consistent way across Greater Manchester.

As in 2019, a large share of development in Tameside was expected to be accommodated on sites within the existing urban area. However, three Green Belt sites at: Ashton Moss West; Godley Green Garden Village; and South of Hyde; were needed to supplement this for both employment and housing uses.

Godley Green continued to be identified as having potential to accommodate around 2,350 new homes, although not all are envisaged to be delivered within the plan period and South of Hyde around 440 new homes.

Ashton Moss West continued to be identified for employment uses, although the use classes prescribed had been brought up to date in line with recent government changes and overall development yields for the site had been reduced from around 175,000 square metres of potential floor space to around 160,000 square metres.

All of the three strategic sites maintained the same level of land to be taken out of the Green Belt (known as Green Belt deletions). This was mirrored through allocation boundaries that remained the same, apart from the addition of a small parcel of non-Green Belt land at the South of Hyde site. This was adjacent to Hilda Road and was to facilitate access from the A560.

Alongside the identification of three sites for development purposes, the GMSF Publication Draft 2020 also identified a number of sites to be protected and added to the Green Belt (known as Green Belt additions).

The existing Green Belt in Tameside extended to approximately 5,071 hectares and a further 75.19 hectares of land in the borough, across 12 sites, had been identified within the Publication plan to be designated as such. Initially 17 sites had been proposed within the 2019 GMSF and a further three sites were put forward through the 2019 consultation. Following further analysis of the proposed additions, there were 12 sites taken forward

This meant that the overall net change in Green Belt for the borough was a 2.7% reduction, this was comparative to an initial net reduction in 2016 of 8.6% and an overall net reduction in the Greater Manchester Green Belt in 2020 by 3.25%.

Discussion then ensued in relation to the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and the proposals contained within the report and the advantages of working together with the other Greater Manchester authorities to develop the Framework and the need to develop a plan which was fit for future generations.

Following consideration of report, the Chair of Council Business announced that, in line with the rules set out in the constitution, he had received a request for a named vote from the following six Councillors; Councillors Boyle, Cooney, Kitchen, Martin, Naylor and Owen.

Councillors Billington, Chadwick, Dickinson, Patrick, Welsh and Huntbach added their names to the request for a named vote.

The named vote was then taken as follows:

For the motion:

Councillors: Affleck, Alam, Bowden, Bowerman, Boyle, Bray, Cartey, Choksi, Cooney, Cooper, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Glover, Gosling, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Hollinshead, J Homer, S Homer, Huntbach, Jackson, Jones, Kitchen, Lane, Lewis, McNally, Martin, Mills, Naylor, Newton, Owen, Pearce, Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, Ward, Warrington, Wild and Wills.

Against the motion:

Councillors: Billington, Chadwick, Dickinson, Patrick and Welsh

RESOLVED

- (i) That, following Executive Cabinet's approval of the **GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and supporting background documents for publication (Meeting of Executive Cabinet 2 November 2020, Minute 84 refers)**, these documents be **SUBMITTED** to the Secretary of State for examination, pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 following the period for representations between the dates agreed at the AGMA Executive meeting on 30 October 2020; and
- (ii) That authority be delegated to the GM Lead Chief Executive, Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, in consultation with City Mayor, Paul Dennett, Portfolio Leader for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure to approve any minor or non-material changes to the **GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and background documents**, following the period for representations and prior to their submission to the Secretary of State, for examination.

24. APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BODIES

It was proposed by Councillor Warrington and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and it was:

RESOLVED

- (i) That Councillors Naylor and Owen replace Councillors Fairfoull and Ryan on the Audit Panel; and
- (ii) That Councillor J Fitzpatrick's resignation from the Greater Manchester Pension Fund be noted.

25. NOTICES OF MOTION

MOTION A

Consideration was given to the following motion received in accordance with Standing Order 16.1, which was moved by Councillor Feeley and seconded by Councillor T Smith:

That this Council believes that in light of the Government's refusal to fund free school meals for our most vulnerable children this half term, it is now necessary to publically call on the Prime Minister to support Marcus Rashford's campaign to end Child Food Poverty with a second vote in the House of Commons with the full backing of the Conservative Party.

This Council believes that no child should suffer holiday hunger, which is why we actively sought to make available the necessary support to families entitled to free school meals with the provision of supermarket vouchers over the half term holiday. At least 9,000 children across the borough are entitled to such support and Tameside Council will do all that it can to ensure that no child is neglected on the basis of the Government's inaction.

Council would also like to note its gratitude and appreciation of Tameside teachers, school support staff, community volunteers, third party partners and businesses who have worked with us in providing support in tackling holiday hunger over the October half term.

This Council resolves:

- *To ask the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister and express this Council's belief that a second Common's vote should be held to provide additional Free School Meal support over this year's Christmas school holidays.*

If the Government once again fails to do the right thing in the provision of free school meals, we as a Council will once again provide the support that is needed to ensure that no child goes hungry throughout this year's Christmas school holidays.

Following consideration of the Motion, the Chair of Council Business announced that, in line with the rules set out in the constitution, he had received a request for a named vote from the following six Councillors; Councillors: Cooney, Fairfoull, Feeley, Ryan, Warrington and Wills

The named vote was then taken as follows:

For the motion:

Councillors: Affleck, Alam, Billington, Bowden, Bowerman, Boyle, Bray, Cartey, Chadwick, Choksi, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Glover, Gosling, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Hollinshead, J Homer, S Homer, Huntbach, Jackson, Jones, Kitchen, Lane, Lewis, McNally, Martin, Mills, Naylor, Newton, Owen, Patrick, Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sharif, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, Ward, Warrington, Welsh, Wild and Wills.

Against the motion:

None.

RESOLVED

That this Council believes that in light of the Government's refusal to fund free school meals for our most vulnerable children this half term, it is now necessary to publically call on the Prime Minister to support Marcus Rashford's campaign to end Child Food Poverty with a second vote in the House of Commons with the full backing of the Conservative Party.

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Council would also like to note its gratitude and appreciation of Tameside teachers, school support staff, community volunteers, third party partners and businesses who have worked with us in providing support in tackling holiday hunger over the October half term.

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MOTION B

Consideration was given to the following motion received in accordance with Standing Order 16.1 which was moved by Councillor Newton and seconded by Councillor Reid:

That this Council notes the planning application submitted to Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council and referenced DC/074399, for a large scale extension to the Bredbury Parkway Industrial Estate on the border with Tameside.

That this Council further notes the land is protected as Green Belt and forms part of the Tame river valley which is a shared natural asset of both boroughs.

As the application currently stands, the development would stretch down to the river bank, destroying the openness of the Tame Valley at this location, and severely impacting on the Hulme's and Hardy Woods Local Nature Reserve and Haughton Dale Local Nature Reserve, both in Tameside. That the proposed development does not accord with the Stockport Unitary Development Plan preserved policies or the Stockport Core Strategy, neither does it accord with the draft GMSF allocation in relation to:

- *Need*
- *Green Belt*
- *The Environment*
- *The River Valleys*
- *Air Quality*

That this Council notes the existing traffic problems on the A6017 Stockport Road, Denton, arising from the Bredbury Industrial Estate and poor associated transport infrastructure that would be made significantly worse by the additional HGV traffic from an extensive addition to this Industrial Estate.

That this Council considers that no exceptional circumstances can be made for the proposal before Stockport Council.

That this Full Council notes and supports the planning objections made by Tameside Council, Councillors, Andrew Gwynne MP and William Wragg MP, and the significant number of residents of Tameside and Stockport to this planning application.

Following consideration of the Motion it was:

RESOLVED

That this Council notes the planning application submitted to Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council and referenced DC/074399, for a large scale extension to the Bredbury Parkway Industrial Estate on the border with Tameside.

That this Council further notes the land is protected as Green Belt and forms part of the Tame river valley which is a shared natural asset of both boroughs.

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- Need
- Green Belt
- The Environment
- The River Valleys
- Air Quality

That this Council notes the existing traffic problems on the A6017 Stockport Road, Denton, arising from the Bredbury Industrial Estate and poor associated transport infrastructure that would be made significantly worse by the additional HGV traffic from an extensive addition to this Industrial Estate.

That this Council considers that no exceptional circumstances can be made for the proposal before Stockport Council.

That this Full Council notes and supports the planning objections made by Tameside Council, Councillors, Andrew Gwynne MP and William Wragg MP, and the significant number of residents of Tameside and Stockport to this planning application.

26. QUESTIONS

Councillor Huntbach raised a question under Standing Order 17.2 as follows:

There is now substantial evidence that a deficiency of vitamin D leads to higher infection rates and poorer outcomes for respiratory diseases. A metanalysis of 25 randomised, double-blind, placebo controlled trials published in the BMJ in 2017 concluded that "Vitamin D supplementation was safe and it protected against acute respiratory tract infection overall. Patients who were very vitamin D deficient and those not receiving bolus doses experienced the most benefit". The role of vitamin D in the immune system is understood.

For COVID 19, also a respiratory disease, the risk factors for poor outcome and vitamin D deficiency, according to a referenced report in the Lancet 'show striking overlap' and whilst there has not been time to complete randomised controlled studies, two published epidemiological studies have reported correlations between low vitamin D status and high COVID 19 incidence and mortality. The Lancet report concluded that:

Pending results of such trials, it would seem uncontroversial to enthusiastically promote efforts to achieve reference nutrient intakes of vitamin D, which range from 400 IU/day in the UK to 600–800 IU/day in the USA. These are predicated on benefits of vitamin D for bone and muscle health, but there is a chance that their implementation might also reduce the impact of COVID-19 in populations where vitamin D deficiency is prevalent; there is nothing to lose from their implementation, and potentially much to gain.

Given that this deficiency is easily and cheaply tested for and remedied, will the council ensure that Tameside's Public Health Department and CCG work together urgently on a programme of testing, supplementation and advice aimed at protecting those groups in the community which are known to be generally vitamin D deficient and have the worst outcomes from COVID or are at higher risk of contact, i.e. the elderly, nursing home residents, those with diabetes and related conditions, BAME communities and front-line hospital and social care staff.

In response, Councillor Wills stated:

Vitamin D is essential for skeletal growth and bone health. NICE, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, with Public Health England, has produced an advisory statement that there is currently no evidence to support taking vitamin D supplements to specifically prevent or treat COVID-19. However, all people should continue to follow UK Government advice on daily vitamin D supplementation which is to maintain bone and muscle health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The advice is as follows:

The major natural source of Vitamin D is from exposure to sunlight. During winter months, we rely on body stores from sun exposure in the summer and the limited sources in our diet. The UK Government advises that everyone needs vitamin D equivalent to an average daily intake of 10 micrograms (400 international units). They advise that all people should consider taking a daily supplement containing 10 micrograms vitamin D during autumn and winter months. They also advise that people whose skin has little to no exposure to sunlight and ethnic minority groups with dark skin, from African, Afro-Caribbean and South Asian backgrounds, should consider taking a vitamin D supplement all year round. This advice would also apply to people whose skin has little to no exposure to sunlight because they are indoors shielding or self-isolating. Therefore, UK Government advice during the COVID 19 pandemic is that everyone should consider taking 10 micrograms of vitamin D a day because they might not be getting enough from sunlight if they're indoors most of the day.

27. URGENT ITEMS

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

CHAIR