

Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel

26 January 2020

Commenced: 6.00pm

Terminated: 7.35pm

Present: Councillors Glover (Chair), Mills (Deputy Chair), Billington, Bowden, Bowerman, Chadwick, Choksi, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, A Holland, Hollinshead, Jones, Lewis, Naylor, Pearce, Robinson, Sharif, Sweeton.

Apologies for absence: Councillor Alam.

28. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel held on 10 November 2020 were approved as a correct record.

29. STRATEGIC TRANSPORT

The panel welcomed Cllr Warren Bray, Executive Member for Transport and Connectivity, Jayne Traverse, Executive Director for Growth, Jonathan Marsh, Strategic Planning Manager for Transport for Greater Manchester, David Willis, Transport Strategic Officer for Transport for Greater Manchester, Graham Holland, Planning Policy Team Manager, Simon Eastwood, Senior Engineer, and Simon Pateman, Senior Planning Policy Officer to receive presentations regarding transport planning for Tameside.

Mr Marsh and Mr Willis gave a presentation on the GM Transport Plan 2040. Mr Holland, Mr Eastwood, and Mr Pateman gave a follow-up presentation on the implications of the plan for Tameside.

Mr Marsh informed members of the refresh of the Transport Strategy 2040 that has taken place over the past 12 months to reflect the latest policy agendas, including active travel, carbon reduction targets, and bus reform. Particular focus has been given in the revised document to town centre regeneration in Greater Manchester and the “Right Mix Vision” of a 50/50 split between journeys using cars and walking, cycling or public transport.

In order to facilitate this, the first five-year Transport Delivery Plan 2021-26 has been drafted and is due to be presented at the next Combined Authority meeting on Friday 29 January with a view to publishing in February. This includes the latest positions around funding, asks from government and local implementation plans.

Mr Wills presented the Local Implementation Plan (LIP) for Tameside, which complements the Transport Strategy 2040 and Delivery Plan by summarising the key local transport issues in the borough. The LIP is a live document and is expected to be revised over the next five years if and when new opportunities and challenges arise.

There then followed a discussion covering a number of topics including:

- The timescales for delivery of the Right Mix vision locally,
- Decisions on funding for local railway stations and other infrastructure outside Manchester city centre,
- Uptake of the latest GM Bus Consultation and the possible implications of bus franchising for taxpayers,
- Clarification on the use of £17 million of emergency active travel funding,
- Delivery of orbital lines to travel around Greater Manchester while bypassing the city centre,
- Delivery of integrated smart ticketing system for Greater Manchester public transport,
- Monitoring of Key Performance Indicators for Delivery Plan as a whole,
- Business case for development of Stockport – Stalybridge railway line,

- Clarification of difference between bus Rapid Transport Scheme and bus Enhancement Scheme.

Mr Holland, Mr Eastwood and Mr Pateman elaborated upon the Local Implementation Plan for Tameside and how it has been informed by the council's Corporate and Investment priorities and other projects by Highways England, Transport for Greater Manchester and Network Rail. This includes delivery outputs and business case proposals for the next five years and local long-term development priorities. Consideration was also given to investment in Ashton Moss West and outstanding transport infrastructure issues in Ashton, Hyde and Stalybridge that the Local Implementation Plan seeks to address.

There then followed a further discussion covering a number of topics including:

- Implications of "Streets for All" programme for Hyde town centre, especially in addressing congestion on Market Street,
- Developing an integrated strategy to direct investment and reduce car use in town centres,
- Extension of Longdendale Bypass to Sheffield,
- Improvement of the Denton Island roundabout,
- Information about plans to address pinch points on the local bus network,
- Impact on Godley Green development on traffic volumes,
- Delivery date for development on Ashton Moss West,
- Bringing derelict land and bus station in Stalybridge back into use,
- Electrification of railway line from Manchester to Leeds.

Resolved: That Cllr Bray, Ms Traverse, Mr Marsh, Mr Willis, Mr Holland, Mr Eastwood and Mr Pateman be thanked for attending the meeting.

30. RESPONSE TO INCLUSIVE GROWTH STRATEGY CONSULTATION

The Panel received for information, a letter of the Scrutiny Chair to Councillor Oliver Ryan, Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth, and Jayne Traverse, Executive Director for Growth, in response to the Inclusive Growth Strategy consultation

31. GREATER MANCHESTER SCRUTINY

The Chair informed members that a working group meeting took place on 14 January 2021 with members receiving an update about the Living with Covid Resilience Plan. Members received information about Greater Manchester's plans for exiting the European Union, covering border control at the airport, food and energy supplies, business support, education and trade analysis. The Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 was also presented.

32. CHAIR'S UPDATE

The Chair informed members that a formal response to the Budget has been now been submitted to the Executive, which will be appended to the Scrutiny Update report and tabled at the joint meeting of Cabinet and Overview Panel on 10 February. Services have also been contacted in regards to a follow-up for the report on Improving Quality and Standards in the Private Rented Sector. Despite the impact of the coronavirus pandemic research and data gathering has now been completed, and results will be reported the Executive to inform future proposals and decisions. A reminder was also issued about the Census taking place on 21 March 2021. As recently discussed at the Strategic Neighbourhood Forums, support will be provided for Tameside residents throughout the process and available via the Council website during March and April.

33. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting of the Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel will take place on 9

March 2021.

34. URGENT ITEMS

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

CHAIR