

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

15 March 2021

Commenced: 14:00

Terminated: 15:05

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

In Attendance:

Sandra Stewart	Director of Governance and Pensions
Ian Saxon	Director - Operations and Neighbourhoods
Kathy Roe	Director of Finance
Stephanie Butterworth	Director of Adult Services
Emma Varnam	Assistant Director of Operations & Neighbourhoods
Tom Wilkinson	Assistant Director of Finance
Debbie Watson	Assistant Director of Population Health
Tim Bowman	Assistant Director for Education
Paul Smith	Assistant Director for Strategic Property

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Reid and Newton

30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

31 MINUTES

The minutes of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel meeting on the 14 December 2020 were approved as a correct record.

32 CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD 10

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth / Director of Finance. The summarised the forecast outturn at 31 March 2021 based on the financial activity to 31 January 2021.

The detail of this monitoring report is focused on the budget and forecast expenditure for fully approved projects in the 2020/21 financial year. It was reported that the approved budget for 2020/21 was £56.338m (after re-profiling approved at P7 monitoring) and current forecast for the financial year was £46.410m. 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 £46.410m on capital investment in 2020/21, which was £9.928m 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 (£0.318m) less the re-profiling of expenditure in some other areas (£9.610m).

Detailed capital update reports for each Directorate area are included on the agenda of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel (SPCMP). This report provides a summary of the financial position against the overall programme but further details on scheme delivery can be found in the Directorate reports to SPCMP.

RESOLVED

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to note the Capital Programme 2020/21 forecast and approve the re-profiling of capital budgets as set out in Appendix 1.

33 FINANCE AND IT CAPITAL UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Finance and IT, which provided a summary of the progress to date in relation to the delivery of the Council's Capital Investment Programme in the Finance and IT Directorate.

It was stated that the equity investment of £5.6m in a £56m investment with the other 9 GM districts at Manchester Airport to fund the construction of 7,500 space multi-storey car park was funded by prudential borrowing. The investment was drawn down in three tranches during March (£1.4m in the 2019/20 financial year) and April 2020 (£3.2m in the 20/21 financial year). Also 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.

With regard to Digital Tameside schemes, in January 2018 the DCMS announced a second round of LFFN funding. The Tameside element of the successful bid was £2.500m and was based on expanding the existing re-use of public assets model, with the further commercialisation through the Digital Cooperative. It was reported the work on DCMS Wave 2 was 90% complete, time lost due to Covid had been recovered.

The initial phase of the Microsoft Licensing scheme in regards to 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. Work upgrading the operating systems on 97 servers and 122 SQL databases was underway, with just 20 servers and associated databases still to be completed.

RESOLVED

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

34 ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN

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

Members were presented with the projects already approved in the Adults Capital Plan. It was reported that the Day Time Offer scheme would not proceed for time being and would be reconsidered as part of a wider review of the offer of daytime provision.

The Christ Church Community Developments (CCD) 4 Cs Community Centre was scheduled to formally open in spring 2021. Progress on the building works continued, internal walls and associated work were now completed and the plumbing and electrical work had now started. It had been confirmed that the registration of the charge with Companies House and the Land Registry had been formally completed. Due to the current government restrictions in place due to Covid-19, structural and internal design changes had been made to ensure that the building was safe for members to attend post Covid and with social distancing guidelines and practice in place

With regard to the Moving With Dignity (MWD) scheme, the team had been recruited to, however, pressures from the Covid wave had an impact on waiting times for assessment and intervention. There were also pressures across the system, staff were working across other parts of the service to assist with flow of work. Work on the mandatory Moving and Handling training to incorporate the

Single Handed Care approach across the board was underway and a risk assessment had been submitted to Health and Safety to be able to deliver this safely.

It was stated that no further progress had been made on determining if Hyde Market Hall was a viable option for the Disability Assessment Centre.

It was reported that work continued to identify and support people who would benefit from the Brain in Hand technology. However, it had proved significantly challenging to identify suitable people through the pandemic and to set them up on this technology remotely.

The Director of Adult Services advised that Irwell Valley Housing Association (IVHA) developed the supported accommodation scheme in Mount Street, Hyde. The scheme converted the building to meet the requirements of supported living. The £100k of work had already been completed by IVHA to adapt the property to meet the identified client needed including pressure-operated doors, adapted showers, and other improvements that would make Mount Street more suitable for a broader range of range of service users, and improve the experience and safety of the users already in situ.

The Housing Adaptations Service within the Growth Directorate was the delivery mechanism for the adaptations budget within the borough. Expenditure of this budget was by approval of individual grants to residents where there was an assessed need and in many cases, it supervised the work for the resident. In order to continue to deliver adaptations it was felt appropriate to confirm the service was authorised to continue to approve mandatory and discretionary grant applications within the terms of the Councils Housing Assistance Policy 2018-2023 under the terms of the Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance)(England and Wales) Order 2002. The service would deliver the grant eligible adaptations via a number of procured contracts.

Housing Adaptations was embarking on a program to replace all stair lifts and hoists 20+ years old thereby reducing the maintenance implication to the Council. 30 units were due to be, or had been, replaced since beginning of December. These units would become part of the lifetime warranty scheme. Once this was complete units of 15+ years old would be targeted.

RESOLVED

That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMEND to approve:

- (i) the replacement of the ageing and obsolete equipment through the employment of a dedicated Occupational Therapist for 12 months (£45,593 with on costs to be funded via DFG.**
- (ii) that the Housing Adaptations Service be authorised to continue to approve mandatory and discretionary grant applications**

35 LEISURE ASSETS CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (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 sports and leisure facilities approved by Executive Cabinet on 24 March 2016.

It was reported that the Hyde Pool Extension, had kept within the projected scheme costs. The scheme which commenced on site in February 2020 and due for completion in late March 2021 was reporting a completion delay of 5 weeks. The practical completion was due on the 30 April 2020. The main reason for the delay was Covid restrictions causing a slowing down in the main contractors supply chain. The delay had resulted in the need to re-phase the capital spend profile for the scheme with £0. 500m that would be re-profiled into 21/22. However, it should be noted as an all risks fixed price contract whilst taking longer, the Contractor not the Council was bearing this cost risk.

With regard to the Tameside Wellness Centre the buildings 12-month defects liability period ended on the 6 February 2021. Once all outstanding defects had been resolved to the satisfaction of the Council and the Contract Administrator the retention sum would be released. The final account had been provisionally agreed at £0.262m. The budget for the scheme stood at £0.230m leaving a negative budget balance of £0.032m. The variance was attributed to the cumulative effect of vary minor changes throughout the lifetime of the project.

The Pitch Replacement scheme at Active Medlock was completed in January 2020 with an underspend of £0.013m. It was proposed that the underspend be used to offset the negative balance leaving a new negative balance of £0.020m. It was proposed that the negative balance be passed over to the Hyde Pool scheme where an underspend was evident across a number of provisional sum items. The completion of the Hyde Pool scheme would bring to an end the current approved Leisure Asset investment programme. The balance of the Sport England grant funding, (£0.045m), would be drawn-down by the Council at the end of the defects liability period.

RESOLVED

That EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED to agree that the contents of the report be noted and the for approval:

- (i) The underspend of £0.013m from the Active Medlock Pitch Replacement scheme be used to part fund the negative balance of the Tameside Wellness Centre scheme and**
- (ii) The remaining negative balance of £0.020m from the Wellness Centre final account be passed over to the Hyde Pool scheme.**

36 OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS - CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment / Assistant Director for Operations and Neighbourhoods. The report provided information with regards to the 2020/21 Operations and Neighbourhoods Capital Programme.

The Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods highlighted areas within the Operations and Neighbourhoods Capital Programme. It was stated the Highway Maintenance Programmes had been prioritised with the range of delivery contractors. The carriageway and footway resurfacing programmes commenced in August 2020 and ran to mid-December 2020. Work that could not be completed by that date will recommence in early Spring 2021. There was a forecast £0.124m adverse variance on principle road highway works in 2020-21 due to increased costs. This would be resourced by the anticipated 2021-22 Highway Maintenance grant settlement.

The Works to Demesne Drive (No1 & No2 screens) and Halton Street, Hyde had been completed. During Storm Christoph in January 2021, these newly improved inlet structures were monitored and proved to be highly efficient and resilient protecting our communities during the prolonged storm. Further, the engineering works at Fairlea, Denton were complete with only the planting aspect of the landscaping works outstanding.

It was reported that the approved scheme of £260,000 continues to progress with further works planned for Hurst, Mossley and Hyde cemeteries. The total spend on the boundary walls by 31 March 2020 was £135,000 leaving a budget in 2020/21 of £125,000. A further £43,000 had been spent at Dukinfield Cemetery.

In regards to the repairs and restoration of cemetery boundary walls the approved scheme of £260,000 continued to progress with further works planned for Hurst, Mossley and Hyde cemeteries. A further £43,000 had been spent at Dukinfield Cemetery. Funding would now be channelled into the completion of the additional repairs to medium and low priority wall repairs that still remained on the sites at Mossley, Hurst Ashton, where it was expected a further £10,000 - £20,000 would be spent this year.

Works on the replacement of cremators and mercury abatement, filtration plant and heat recovery facilities were scheduled to commence in March 2020. The Covid 19 pandemic affected Bereavement Services across Greater Manchester, therefore, work on site commenced on 2 October 2020. Cremator No 1 had been taken out of service and the crematory was a construction site. A structural survey was carried out on the steeple in November which had highlighted some concerns which were being dealt with by the Strategic Property Directorate. The projected completion and handover date had slipped by a couple of weeks due to the unforeseen circumstances but the project was still on target for completion in September 2021. £683k was forecast to be spent by 31st March 2021 the remainder would be spent during the financial year 2021/2022.

Members were advised of the capital investment of £600,000 in children's playgrounds across Tameside. STAR had sent out an expression of interest and the tender would go live in February which would be the start of Phase 2 of the project. Phase 3, which were the infrastructure improvements, would commence in February 2021.

It was reported that 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. Work had started on the procurement of materials which would allow works to start on Wellington Road in front of Clarendon College. Due to the impact of COVID on staff resources and the availability and material delivery timescales this programme was delayed and was under constant review. Reviewed delivery timescales would be provided as soon as there was greater clarity on the availability of materials and availability of staff resources.

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.**
- (iii) The progress with regard to the Slope Stability Programme and potential additional works required.**
- (iv) The 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 progress of capital schemes in section 2.12-2.24, and external grant schemes in section 3 and 4.**

And RECOMMEND to EXECUTIVE CABINET: -

- (vii) The addition of £0.985m to the Council's 2021/22 Capital programme for the Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 as stated in sections 3.18 to 3.22**
- (viii) The re-phasing of the Operations and Neighbourhoods directorate 2020/21 capital budgets as set out in Appendix 4.**

37 GROWTH UPDATE REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth) / Director for Growth, which provided an update on the 2020/21 Growth Capital Programme and set out details of the major approved capital schemes in this directorate.

Members were updated on the progress on the approved capital projects. It was stated that The Droylsden library relocation scheme had an earmarked sum of £ 1.4m in the capital programme. A Key Decision in February 2021 approved a request to increase the budget to £ 2.2m.

With regard to the Denton Baths Site Clearance, works to clear the site had started and would be completed in late May 2021. The cost would be offset by a GMCA Brownfield Homes grant of £0.300m approved by Key Decision on 17 February 2021

The Tameside One installation of fire detection equipment invest to save scheme, had been approved on 10 February 2021. The installation would save future costs on increased insurance premiums and allocate £1.249m from the Councils Insurance Reserve to capital funds to fund the work. The work would begin in April 2021 and had an anticipated completion schedule of 65 weeks.

Members were advised that the bid made via GMCA for the Decarbonisation of the Public estate had been approved. Tameside element of this bid was estimated at £2.3 million. An executive decision report would be required on receipt of the grant condition letter to formally agree to accept the funding into the Councils capital funds

Approval to undertake a Playing Pitch Strategy and Schools Sports Facilities Strategy was approved by Executive Cabinet on 16 December 2020. A specialist consultant had been appointed to develop the PPS and a working group created including representation from Sport England, It was anticipated that the PPS would be ready for consideration by Members in Late summer 2021.

Members of the Panel discussed the progress of the Ashton Town Hall repairs and in relation to land disposals, the progress that had been made on mapping all of the operational and non-operation assets. Further, discussions ensued in relation to Tameside One and the lease arrangements for Wilkinson's, Tameside College and the Department for Work and Pension. Members of the Panel asked that Assistant Director of Growth write to the Panel Members to update them on the lease arrangements for Tameside One.

RESOLVED

That the EXECUTIVE CABINET be RECOMMENDED 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 4 of £137,350.46.**
- (ii) That the Growth directorate 2020/21 capital budget is rephrased as set out in Appendix 5.**

38 EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member for Lifelong Learning, Equalities, Culture and Heritage / Executive Member for Finance and Growth / Assistant Director for Education / Assistant Director for Strategic Property. The report detailed the updated position of the Council's Education Capital Programme.

Members were advised that on 15 April 2020, the Government announced the 2021/22 allocation of Basic Need Funding. Following discussion with the DfE over aspects of the formula and its application to Tameside, an allocation of £12,231,816 was announced. In regards to the School Condition Grant Funding the 2019/20 Allocation was £1,153,000. The Assistant Director for Education summarised the Basic Need Funded Schemes for 2020/21, **Appendix 1** provided a financial update of current Basic Need funded projects.

In regards to the School Condition Grant Schemes it was reported that the budget available was insufficient to meet the demands placed upon it and the surveyors had been asked to identify priorities of the works required within each school and across the portfolio of schools. It was stated that **Appendix 3** provided a financial update with details of current School Condition Allocation funded projects, which included proposed changes to the scheme funding.

RESOLVED

That the 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) The allocation of an additional £49,000 from Basic Need to cover the additional costs at Discovery Academy and Birch Lane as described in paragraph 4.25
- (iii) To re-profile the budget for the works to provide a secure entrance at Denton St Anne's into 2021/22 as described in paragraph 6.8
- (iv) The allocation of an additional £11,657 for additional emergency works at Russell Scott Primary School already incurred, (paragraph 6.15)
- (v) Accept the Sport England Award of £75,000 by the deadline of 31 March 2021 subject to the conditions detailed in paragraphs 6.16 and 6.17.
- (vi) The allocation of a further £50,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant funding towards the two schemes at Gee Cross Holy Trinity (paragraph 6.18)
- (vii) The allocation of £11,058.04 from currently unallocated School Condition Grant funding in respect of safety works to glass balustrades at three primary schools (paragraph 6.19)
- (viii) To set aside £300,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant for replacement boilers at Gorse Hall, Hurst Knoll CE and Audenshaw Primary Schools noting that if successful, some costs will be reimbursed from the decarbonisation scheme (paragraph 6.30)
- (ix) The allocation of £29,000 in respect of surveys of CLASP and other system built schools' fire compartmentalisation (paragraph 6.31)
- (x) The allocation of a high level estimate of £35,000 to remove a life-expired mobile unit at Arlies Primary School in summer 2021 (paragraph 6.33)
- (xi) The allocation of £30,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant for further stock condition surveys (paragraph 6.34)
- (xii) The allocation of £40,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant for asbestos management works (paragraph 6.35)
- (xiii) The allocation of £5,000 of 2021/22 School Condition Grant for structural engineers' fees (paragraph 6.436)

39 URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

CHAIR