

EXECUTIVE

13 MARCH 2023

PRESENT

Leader of the Council (Councillor Tom Ross), in the Chair.

Councillor C. Hynes	Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Children's Services
Councillor S. Adshead	Executive Member for Environmental Services / Labour Group Secretary
Councillor K.G. Carter	Executive Member for Adult Social Care
Councillor J. Harding	Executive Member for Culture, Leisure, and Strategic Partnerships
Councillor E. Patel	Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration
Councillor J. Slater	Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing and Equalities
Councillor A.J. Williams	Executive Member for Climate Change and Transport Strategy
Councillor J.A. Wright	Executive Member for Housing and Neighbourhoods

Also present: Councillors Blackburn (Leader of the Opposition), Butt, Brophy, Jerrome, Newgrosh, Morgan, and Whetton.

In attendance

Sara Todd	Chief Executive
Sara Saleh	Deputy Chief Executive and Corporate Director of Strategy and Resources.
Nathan Atkinson	Corporate Director of Adults and Wellbeing
Richard Roe	Corporate Director of Place
Graeme Bentley	Director of Finance and Systems
Diane Eaton	Corporate Director of Adults and Wellbeing
Emma Malpas	Head of Legal and Governance
John Addison	Governance Manager

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor New

94. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests made.

95. MINUTES

A concern was raised by a Member that written answers provided after meetings of the Executive to questions asked in the meeting, were not available for the public to view. It was agreed that where this happens again in the future, the written response will be included on the next Agenda for the Executive.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meetings held 15th and 20th February 2023 be agreed as a correct record.

96. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No questions from the public were received.

**97. MATTERS FROM COUNCIL OR OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES
(IF ANY)**

The Chair of Health Scrutiny updated the Executive on the work of a Task & Finish Group, looking at resident's access to GP services in Trafford, which was nearing completion. The Chair provided Members with an overview of the work undertaken and informed the Executive a final report and recommendations would be submitted to the Committee in the new municipal year.

RESOLVED: That the update from Scrutiny be noted.

**98. GREENING TRAFFORD PARK AND LOW CARBON TRAFFORD PARK
STUDIES**

The Executive Member for Climate Change and Transport Strategy presented to the meeting a report on the Greening Trafford Park and Low Carbon Trafford Park studies. It was reported that through a successful bid for external finance to the GMCA, the Greening Trafford Park and Low Carbon Trafford Park studies had been commissioned to support delivery of the Trafford Carbon Neutral Action Plan and meet the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration for the borough.

It was noted that the Low Carbon Trafford Park Study identified opportunities for new carbon neutral and sustainable forms of power generation in the park; while the Greening Trafford Park Study focused on a 'greening' infrastructure framework for Trafford Park to reduce carbon emissions through environmental and infrastructure improvements.

The Leader and the Executive welcomed the exciting, ambitious, and interesting report that offered thought for the future while the Council looked to help tackle the climate crisis.

Other Members in attendance, welcomed the ambition of the report and the number of jobs created, which stood at 800.

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That the Executive:

- 1) Noted the Greening Trafford Park and Low Carbon Trafford Park studies.
- 2) Agreed that a prioritised list of interventions be developed for both studies, led by the Trafford Climate Change Commission, and research undertaken on potential funding sources for delivery.
- 3) Agreed that an initial scoping exercise be undertaken to consider whether a Business Improvement District (BID) may be a suitable vehicle to take a lead role on the delivery of specific actions arising from the studies.
- 4) Agreed that the studies be communicated to key stakeholders and consultees.

99. LEISURE INVESTMENT - LEVELLING UP FUND 2 - PARTINGTON SPORTS VILLAGE

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure, and Strategic Partnerships introduced the report on Partington Sports Village. The report outlined that the Council had been allocated grant funding by DLUHC from the Levelling Up Fund (LuF2) to support the delivery of the Redevelopment of Partington Sports Village.

The report before the Executive sought approval from Members to enter into an agreement with DLUHC to secure grant funds of £18.3m. The scheme also included an additional £1.2m match funding from the Council's approved Leisure Investment Programme capital budget and £1.25m match funding from external stakeholders. It was noted the funding would support delivery of a programme of improved leisure facilities in Partington including the refurbishment of Partington Leisure Centre, Cross Lane Changing Rooms, Pump Track, Trim Trail, and improved public realm.

The Executive Member for Climate Change and Transport Strategy welcomed the report and the awarding of the levelling up fund which was of instrumental importance to securing those leisure facilities in Partington. He noted the excellent work of officers that had gone into ensuring the bid was successful. The Leader mirrored the Executive Member for Climate Change and Transport Strategy's comments and noted that the investment linked well with other investments in Altrincham and Stretford to secure state of the art leisure facilities for Trafford residents.

The Executive Member for Adult Social Services noted that a programme on BBC Radio 4 had reported that across the Country 352 pools, leisure centres, and gyms had seen temporary or permanent closures in 2022 and 31% of local authorities were reducing their leisure facilities. Considering the national picture, the Executive Member for Adult Social Services welcomed the report and the improvement of leisure facilities in Partington.

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The Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing, and Equalities welcomed the report in particular the positive impact it would have upon residents' wellbeing in Partington over many years through the infrastructure it would bring to the area.

The Leader of the opposition and Councillor Butt both welcomed the report and the benefit the upgraded facilities would bring to Partington. At the conclusion of discussions, the Leader moved the recommendations of the report and they were agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the Executive:

- 1) Approved that the Council enters into a grant agreement with the DLUHC to access grant award from the Levelling Up Fund to support the delivery of the programme of works.
- 2) Delegated authority to the Corporate Director for Place, in consultation with the Director of Legal and Governance and Director of Finance and Systems, to agree the terms and conditions of the grant funding agreement.
- 3) Delegated authority to Director of Legal and Governance to enter into the grant agreement required to finalise the transaction.
- 4) Delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Place to negotiate and award any contracts which may be required to implement this decision.
- 5) Noted that the outcomes of the RIBA Stage 2 report for Partington Leisure Centre will be presented to the Executive prior to submitting a planning 2 application in 2024.

100. TRAFFORD MOVING REFRESH

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure, and Strategic Partnerships presented to Members a report on a refresh of Trafford Moving. Members were reminded that Trafford Moving was the borough's physical activity and sport strategy, which was adopted in 2018. It was noted that since 2018 there had been a shift in focus to a holistic whole system approach, that collectively addressed the complex barriers often faced by residents when trying to be active.

The Executive Member reported that the refresh of Trafford Moving had been shaped by a revised Sport England strategy and GM Moving in Action, the physical activity strategy for Greater Manchester. All these factors and the relatively consistent levels of inactivity within Trafford had indicated it was prudent to refresh Trafford Moving and its approach.

The Executive Member for Environment and Operations welcomed the report and noted how vital it was to the community in enabling residents to be active and improve their health.

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Councillor Butt questioned how the data within the report was gathered as some of it was four years old, with a limited number of responses. Councillor Butt stated that he felt the plans were only for the North of the Borough and ignored the South, where residents generally paid higher rates of Council Tax. The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure, and Strategic Partnerships informed Members that the plans benefitted the whole of the borough and that she could go through the data with Councillor Butt outside of the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the Executive:

- 1) Approved the refreshed Trafford Moving Strategy
- 2) Approved the development of Community Based Activity Plans

101. WALKING WHEELING AND CYCLING STRATEGY

The Executive Member for Climate Change and Transport Strategy presented to Members a report on the Walking, Wheeling, and Cycling Strategy. Members were reminded that the Council had an ambition to increase the number of people walking, wheeling, and cycling across Trafford. The Council along with partners would work to support more people to take up walking, wheeling, and cycling so that everyone can feel the benefits of active travel.

It was reported that the strategy had been developed in line with Greater Manchester's refresh of the Active Travel Mission and the Department for Transport's Gear Change vision for cycling and walking. It also supported the Councils' priorities to reduce health inequalities by encouraging residents to be more active, supporting people out of poverty by enabling affordable transport while simultaneously addressing the climate crisis by reducing emissions from road traffic.

Councillor Blackburn welcomed the strategy and suggested that a track around the circumference of some of the boroughs more spacious parks for wheelchair and pram users be considered as part of future reviews.

Councillor Brophy enquired as to whether the Executive had any plans to work with schools on future developments of the strategy, in particular around walking buses etc. The Executive Member for Climate Change and Transport Strategy welcomed the comment about engagement with young people, as one of the areas he was keen on during the consultation of the strategy was reaching out to young people. It was noted that the strategy was a live document and young people were at the heart of the strategy.

Councillor Jerrome welcomed the report and queried further investment in infrastructure which he felt was the most important part of the strategy especially as the Council aimed for 90% for journeys under 1 mile to be undertaken by bike, walking etc and 80% of journeys under 5 miles.

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RESOLVED:

That the Executive:

- 1) Approved the adoption the Walking, Wheeling, and Cycling Strategy
- 2) Agreed that the boroughs and Greater Manchester's vision for Active Travel be enabled.

102. BETTER CARE FUND

The Executive Member for Adult Social Care provided Members with a report on the S75 Better Care Fund and improved Better Care Fund (BCF) Agreement 2023 – 24. Members were reminded that the Better Care Fund was introduced by the Government from 1st April 2015, consolidating a number of previous funding streams into one pooled fund, which was now hosted by the ICB.

It was reported that guidance for the use of BCF 2023/4 had not yet been published but would take into account upcoming reforms taking place to the health and social care system, including the Integration White Paper: Health and social care integration: joining up care people, place and populations, the Adult Social Care Reform White Paper, People at the Heart of Care; the Health and Care Act 2022 and reforms to the public health system – all of which provided an important context for the BCF.

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure, and Strategic Partnerships welcomed the inclusion of learning disabilities within the better care fund as it had been separated from health and social care for far too long.

Councillor Whetton welcomed the report and could see the excellent work and activities that were being undertaken to support elderly and vulnerable people. He was impressed by the work that had been done and recognised that there was much to admire and be grateful for in terms of the workforce within Trafford.

RESOLVED:

That the Executive:

- 1) Approved the proposal to review and update the current s75 partnership agreement between GM ICB Trafford and the Council for the Better Care Fund with a view to creating a new s75 partnership agreement for 2023/24 as detailed in the report; and
- 2) Delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Adults and Well-Being in consultation with the Director of Legal Governance to agree the terms and conditions of the partnership 23/24 agreement and to enter into the 23/24 Agreement on behalf of the Council.

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The Executive Member for Adult Social Care presented the Executive with a report on the s75 Strategic Partnership Agreement for the integrated delivery of health and social care services in Trafford 2023/24.

It was noted that the original s75 partnership agreement had been in place since 1st October 2019. Trafford Council and Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) made a commitment to periodically review and revise the partnership agreement to ensure the viability of the delivery of health and social care integrated services through the legal framework of a Section 75 agreement under the National Health Service Act, 2006.

The report presented details of a proposal to review and refresh the current s75 Strategic Partnership Agreement between Trafford Council and MFT and to enter into a new s75 agreement for the integrated delivery of health and social care services in Trafford during 2023/24.

The Executive Member also provided details of a detailed holistic review of the s75 arrangements during 2023/24 with a view to a further new s75 agreement for 2024/25. The proposed review would align with the development of Trafford Local Care Organisation (TLCO) target operating model setting out a clear three-year vision for the LCO.

RESOLVED:

That the Executive:

1. Approved the proposal to enter into a Section 75 Strategic Partnership Agreement for the integrated delivery of Health and Social Care services with Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust for 2023-24 as detailed in the report;
2. Delegated authority to the Executive member for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Adults and Wellbeing and the Director of Legal and Governance to agree the revised terms and conditions of the Section 75 agreement for 2023-24;
3. Noted the proposal to undertake a detailed holistic review of s75 arrangements during 2023/24 with a view to a further new s75 agreement for 2024/25. which will align with the development of Trafford Local Care Organisation (TLCO) target operating model setting out a clear three-year vision for the 2 LCO;
4. Noted that the renewal of the section 75 is a key enabling and strategic tool to develop closer working arrangement through 2023/24 and beyond.

104. 10 YEAR ESTATES STRATEGY

The Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration outlined to Members a report that sought the Executives approval to adopt the new 10 Year Estates Strategy 2023-2033 and Community Estates Policy and note the process for the future management of the Council's Community Estate.

Members were informed that the Council owns, manages, or leases around 400 assets across Trafford and the property estate was a key aspect of all Council business. This 10-year strategy would create a sustainable property asset base for future generations to continue to enable the Council to meet its priorities for its residents.

It was reported that the 10-year Estates Strategy was underpinned with the following core principles:

- Right sized and fit for purpose
- Asset management focussed on low cost and maximising revenue
- Investing for growth
- Transparency

RESOLVED:

That the Executive:

- 1) Approved the 10 Year Estates Strategy
- 2) Approved the Community Estates Policy
- 3) Delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Place to authorise short term lettings at undervalue of assets or parts of assets contained within the Community Estate for community purposes

105. ALTRINCHAM TOWN HALL

The Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration presented to the Executive a report providing an update on the position in respect of Altrincham Town Hall, following its inclusion in the Council's 2022/23 Strategic Land Review Programme and the subsequent nomination of the Town Hall as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). The report further provided Members with an overview of activities to date and contained details of the next steps to be taken. It was noted that the council had conducted a fair, transparent, and legally compliant process, whereby community groups had been given an opportunity to bid to take over the Town Hall.

Members were informed that at this point in the process the Council had three options:

- Option 1 - Accept one of the business case bids received; or

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- Option 2 - Conduct a further formal open tender process to find a lessee for the property; or
- Option 3 - Retain the asset and continue to manage it in house.

It was reported that the Council would commence a formal tender process to request proposals from groups and businesses that were interested in taking on the lease of Altrincham Town Hall. This would be an open tender process with any commercial and community proposals considered, as long as they met the assessment criteria outlined in the report.

Councillor Jerrome and Newgrosh thanked the Executive for listening to residents and adopting the Council's approach to the process involved, which they felt was a sensible way forward that would value the community benefits as well as the financial benefits.

In response to a question from Councillor Newgrosh around weighting of the scoring criteria, the Executive Member informed the meeting that the council would be able to confirm this detail within the next few weeks, as the next stage of the process had just started. It was noted that the weighting criteria would be provided to all potential bidders when appropriate.

Councillor Whetton also welcomed the review of the process being used by the Council and wished to highlight that the building was a niche asset which added value to the community and suggested a rating be used on the bids, such as value to the community.

Councillor Whetton also felt the sums of money involved from the Council was not so significant that the Council could take a flexible approach to this asset.

In response the Leader informed Members that the criteria to be used for bids received, did cover what Councillor Whetton had suggested, for example, looking at protecting the building for future generations and it being a heritage asset.

The Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration accepted that this was a sensitive topic and recognised feedback the Council had received. It was reported that the process was a genuine attempt by the Council to ensure it collected the fullest possible considerations before it reached a fair and transparent decision.

With regards to money, the Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration informed Members that the sums involved were not insignificant, especially with the Council having to make further savings this year.

RESOLVED:

That the Executive:

- 1) Noted the update in respect of the process to secure the leasehold disposal of Altrincham Town Hall as a site which has been approved and included within the Council's Strategic Land Review Programme for 2022/23 as detailed in the report;

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- 2) Approved the commencement of a formal open tender process to explore the disposal of Altrincham Town Hall via a lease;
- 3) Delegated approval to the Corporate Director for Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration, to agree the final tender assessment criteria;
- 4) In accordance with previous delegations, reaffirmed the approval to delegate to the Corporate Director for Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration, the authority to identify and confirm the successful bidder following the conclusion of the open tender process;
- 5) In accordance with previous delegations, reaffirmed the approval to delegate to the Corporate Director of Place, in consultation with the Director of Legal and Governance, the authority to agree the terms and conditions of, and to enter into, all legal documents and/or agreements in respect of the leasehold disposal of Altrincham Town Hall;
- 6) Noted the previous approvals and delegations in respect of the disposal of Altrincham Town Hall as detailed in the report.

106. SUPPORTED HOUSING STRATEGY

The Executive was asked to consider a report of the Executive Member for Housing and Neighbourhoods on the Trafford Supported Housing Strategy and Action Plan 2023-2028.

Members were informed that supported housing provided a vital service for vulnerable people and had a critical role in supporting people who were vulnerable and disadvantaged because of age, ill-health, disability, or their circumstances and cannot live independently. It was noted that appropriate housing was a crucial element of preventative services and was necessary to allow those who required support to receive it in a settled and secure environment.

The Leader outlined what had happened in the last decade which had let the housing crisis to develop to its current levels. He informed the Committee that he had spent time with the Council's housing options teams and the tenancy support teams and recognised the difficulty of the task they faced in trying to find places for ever increasing numbers of people when there was insufficient number of places for them. The Leader expressed that this was a very important piece of work to help address the sizable challenge the Council faced.

The Executive Member for Climate Change and Transport Strategy welcomed the report and noted the quality of the strategy document within the report. The Executive Member for Climate Change and Transport Strategy spoke of the

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impact cuts to services had had on people with support needs and he welcomed the Council's continued commitment to provide supported housing.

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure, and Strategic Partnerships noted that the report was a stark reminder of the challenges that residents faced on a regular basis. The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure, and Strategic Partnerships stated that as elected members they had a duty to challenge the demonising language used to describe people who faced challenges whether they be mental health, substance misuse, or substance abuse etc.

The Deputy Leader welcomed the report and added that it was a very important strategy and in particular the provision for young people aged 16 – 19 years should be noted.

The Leader of the opposition welcomed the report and recognised the need to have a range of housing available across the borough to meet the needs of residents.

RESOLVED: That the Executive approved the Trafford Supported Housing Strategy and Action Plan 2023-2028 for publication.

107. BAME TERMINOLOGY

The Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing, and Equalities provided Members with feedback from the Trafford Citizens Survey for 'Moving on from BAME Terminology'.

It was noted that a Citizens Survey titled 'Moving on from BAME Terminology' went public on the 3rd to 31st of October 2022 to gather the views of people working and living in Trafford regarding which term should be used to describe people's ethnicity. It was reported that the survey was in response to the Government's recommendations that public bodies stop using the term 'BAME' (black and minority ethnic) in their public documents and instead use the term 'ethnic minorities'.

The report provided a summary of the Citizens Survey feedback from the respondents and a recommendation for a new term 'ethnically diverse communities', which most respondents supported, to be used in Council documents going forward.

The Leader stated that this was an excellent piece of work and a good example of officers taking the time to ensure that they got it right before action was taken.

The Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration thanked the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing, and Equality and officers for conducting an excellent piece of work in a very sensitive manner.

Councillor Jerrome noted that the Green party had questioned the use of BAME over a year ago and the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing, and Equalities had mentioned that this piece of work was underway. Councillor Jerrome congratulated the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing, and Equalities and the officers involved for completing that work in a way that ensured the right residents

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and stakeholders were involved, producing the right answers to the issue. The Leader thanked Councillor Jerrome for his comments and informed the Committee that other organisations were looking to replicate what had been done in Trafford, as it was seen as an example of best practice.

The Leader of the Opposition noted the large number of responses received by the consultation conducted for this piece of work. They further noted the difficulties in relation to dealing with terminology, especially during the transition from the use of one set of terminology to another. The Leader of the Opposition then asked when a community would be considered to be ethnically diverse. The Leader thanked the Leader of the Opposition for her question and responded that a detailed answer would be provided after the meeting. The Leader also thanked the Leader of the opposition for her Comments on the quality of the consultation exercise and he added that lessons learned from this piece of work would be taken and replicated for future consultations. The Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing, and Equalities confirmed that officers would provide a detailed response to the Leader of the Opposition and added that if a community self-identified as ethnically diverse or having protected characteristics then the Council would accept that classification which would reflect the fluid nature of ethnicity within communities.

The Leader of the Opposition asked for clarification of whether the term was linked to percentages of residents within the overall demography of the borough or perception. The Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing, and Equalities answered that it was a matter of how residents felt about themselves and respecting people's right to self-identify themselves. The Corporate Director for Resource and Strategy stated that the Council's commitment was to work with community leaders and stakeholders who could guide the Council in these areas. The Executive Member for Children's Services added that the terminology was more focused around community as in people rather than a place and the Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration highlighted that the report held that specific terms should be used whenever applicable and that this was particularly important in terms of messaging around health.

RESOLVED:

That the Executive:

- 1) Reviewed the summary analysis and feedback from the Citizens Survey for 'Moving on from BAME Terminology'.
- 2) Agreed that the results of this survey be used to help determine an acceptable and appropriate term to be used in the Council's future documents and publications
- 3) Approved the proposal that specific terms to describe various ethnic groups be used in Council documents as far as possible and practical.

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- 4) Approved the proposal that the term 'ethnically diverse communities' be used in the Council's future documents and publications instead of 2 BAME – Black and minority ethnic.

108. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2022/23 PERIOD 10)

The Leader of the Council provided the Executive with a report that informed Members of the 2022/23 summary forecast outturn figures relating to both Revenue and Capital budgets. The report also summarised the latest forecast position for Council Tax and Business Rates within the Collection Fund.

The Leader informed Members that a detailed final outrun report would be published later in the year. It was reported that the current budget forecast for the year was an overspend of £29,000, which was a significant favourable movement over previous reporting. It was noted that the favourable movement was due to the impact of the revision of the minimum provision policy.

RESOLVED: That the Executive notes the updated summary positions on the revenue budget and capital programme.

The meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m. and finished at 19:55