

EXECUTIVE

25 NOVEMBER 2019

PRESENT

Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Children's Social Care (Councillor C. Hynes) (in the Chair),
Executive Member for Adult Social Care (Councillor J. Harding),
Executive Member for Communities and Housing (Councillor G. Whitham),
Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Climate Change (Councillor S. Adshead),
Executive Member for Finance and Investment (Councillor T. Ross),
Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Equalities (Councillor J. Slater),
Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration (Councillor J. Wright),
Executive Member for Public Safety, Governance and Reform (Councillor M. Freeman).

Also present: Councillors Acton, Blackburn, Butt, Carter, Coggins and Myers.

In attendance:

Chief Executive (Ms. S. Todd),
Corporate Director, Place (Mr. R. Roe),
Corporate Director, Finance and Systems (Ms. N. Bishop),
Corporate Director, People (Ms. S. Saleh),
Corporate Director, Adult Services (Ms. D. Eaton),
Interim Corporate Director, Children's Services (Mr. G. Rowney),
Interim Head of Governance (Ms. D. Sykes),
Democratic and Scrutiny Officer (Mr. J.M.J. Maloney).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A. Western and J. Baugh.

61. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

It was noted that there were no questions from members of the public to be referred to the current meeting.

62. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made by Executive Members.

63. MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 28th October, 2019 be approved as a correct record.

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

As Chair of the Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Acton advised of the holding of two forthcoming Budget Scrutiny sessions, one on Tuesday 3rd December, dealing with resources, investments and the Place directorate; and the second on Thursday 5th December, dealing with Children's Services and social care.

65. TRAFFORD EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN 2019-2024

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration submitted a report which set out details of the Empty Homes Strategy, which had been developed to identify and address the issues related to the number of long-term empty homes in the borough. The Strategy identified key proposals to bring empty homes back into use and measures to support private and public sector partners to achieve this. The proposals had been identified in the context of Corporate priorities, the Trafford Housing Strategy (2018-2023), GM Housing Strategy and discussions with key stakeholders. An opportunity was provided for Members to raise questions on the content of the report, which centred on any potential dispensations or grace periods in respect of the sale of properties which were delayed by legal or other genuine complications.

RESOLVED - That the Trafford Empty Homes Strategy and Draft Action Plan 2019-2024 be approved for publication.

66. TRAFFORD TOGETHER LOCALITY PLAN - OUR PLAN FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SUSTAINABILITY AND REFORM

The Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Equalities submitted a report which set out details of the proposed Trafford Together Locality Plan, a blueprint for the transformation of health and social care over the next 5 years. It also incorporated the NHS 10 year Long Term Plan. The Locality Plan was seen as part of a wider Trafford Partnership which took account of the many areas of change currently affecting health and social care, and aimed to contribute to public service reform, involving shared resources, aspirations and outcomes. In discussion a number of issues were raised, including the potential impact of the Locality Plan approach on specific cases and the extent of liaison with other neighbouring Local Authorities.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the plan be agreed.
- (2) That it be noted that the plan is to be submitted to Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership.

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67. TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2019/20 MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Executive Member for Finance and Investment and the Corporate Director of Finance and Systems submitted a report which provided for Members a summary of the Treasury Management activities undertaken for the first half of 2019/20, including in relation to Debt Activity, Investment Activity and adherence to Prudential indicators. It was noted that the report had already been considered by the Accounts and Audit Committee. In discussion, questions were raised regarding the consideration of potential alternative funding sources in the light of recent changes to the Public Works Loan Board; and in relation to the criteria pertaining to Barclay's Green Deposit Notice Account, on which it was agreed that a response would be made outside the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the Treasury Management activities undertaken in the first half of 2019/20 be noted.

68. BUDGET MONITORING 2019/20 - PERIOD 6 (APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2019)

The Executive Member for Finance and Investment and the Corporate Director of Finance and Systems submitted a report which informed Members of the current 2019/20 forecast outturn figures relating to both Revenue and Capital budgets. It also summarised the latest forecast position for Council Tax and Business Rates within the Collection Fund. Members' attention was drawn to key changes in variances since the previous report. An opportunity was provided for members to raise questions on the report's content; these centred on movements in reserves, significant additions to the Council's investment programme and an investment variance on Sonova House, which derived from an in-year rent review.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the report be noted, and the changes to the Capital Programme and Asset Investment Fund as detailed in paragraphs 28 and 38 of the report.
- (2) That the refund from GMCA of £2.15m of the 18/19 business rates pilot monies (paragraph 25 of the report) be noted, and the application of these funds to:
 - eliminate the in-year shortfall in business rate income (£800k);
 - replenish the Housing Benefit Overpayment reserve (£200k);
 - replenish the Business Rates Risk Reserve (£1.15m);
- (3) That the movements in reserves in paragraphs 11 to 14 of the report be noted.

69. REPORT ON COMPLAINTS DETERMINED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN 2018/19

The Executive Member for Public Safety, Governance and Reform submitted a report which addressed the Council's statutory duty to report to Members on adverse outcomes of complaints formally investigated by the Local Government & Social Care Ombudsman. The report set out the background to this duty, and provided Members with a summary of complaints determined in 2018/19. In discussion, questions were raised regarding a number of settlement payments recommended by the Ombudsman, and in particular one specific item; it was agreed that further information would be provided outside the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the content of the report be noted.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 p.m. and finished at 6.51 p.m.