

Oldham Borough Council



**Council Meeting
21st April 2010**

OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

**To: ALL MEMBERS OF OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL,
CIVIC CENTRE, OLDHAM**

13th April 2010

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday, 21st April 2010 commencing at 6.00pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Oldham for the following purposes:-

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To order that the Minutes of the meetings of the Council held on the 3rd February 2010 and the 24th February 2010 (Extraordinary) and 24th February 2010 (Budget) be signed as a correct record.
3. To receive declarations of interest in any matter to be determined at the meeting.
4. To deal with matters which the Mayor considers to be urgent business.
5. To receive communications relating to the business of the Council.
6. To note petitions received relating to the business of the Council.
7. To deal with any topical issues agreed by the Mayor
8. To receive and consider questions and related comments from residents of the Borough about any matters relevant to the functions of the Council (*time limit 20 minutes*).

1. Question to Council April 21st 2010 on behalf of Oldham Area Civic Society

The Oldham Area Civic Society is particularly concerned about the future of three listed buildings in Oldham Town Centre in the stewardship of the Council, namely the Old Town Hall, The Lyceum and the Library & Art Gallery.

Could the Leader of the Council, or the appropriate Cabinet Member respond to these questions?

1. With regard to the Old Town Hall,

a. What remedial work has been, or is about to be, undertaken?

b. What measures will be taken to prevent further deterioration or vandalism?

c. What plans has the Council got to secure a relevant modern use for the building?

d. Can we have a commitment that demolition of the Old Town Hall is not on the agenda.

2. With regard to the Lyceum and the Library & Art Gallery

a. What measures does the Council intend to take to ensure that these buildings do not suffer the same levels of deterioration as the Old Town Hall?

b. What is the Council intending to do to find relevant 'modern uses for these buildings to preserve them as part of our Borough's heritage?

9. Outstanding Business from the last meeting (*time limit 20 minutes*).

This council notes with pride the success of the young people of Oldham Borough in raising their aspirations and achievements. The latest report from Positive Steps shows that the local percentage of NEETs (Young people not in education, employment or training) is lower than the national average and falling. The percentage in continuing education is now above average. All this is in an area with a record of low achievement and poor employment.

The council congratulates and thanks the diverse bodies which have brought this about, including Oldham Sixth Form College, The Oldham College, the University Centre, the Teenage Mothers' Unit, apprenticeship providers and many others. It pledges to continue the cross-party support which has nurtured such a concentration of excellence.

The council notes with concern, however, the coming cuts to higher and further education spending and the campaigns by elite universities to be protected. If they win and it takes investment from newer institutions like Oldham's University Centre, the progress of diversity and equality of opportunity will be knocked back disastrously.

This council therefore calls upon the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families, urging him to recognize the transformational power of Oldham's higher education and the benefits of protecting and extending it. It further calls upon the Chief Executive to write to the borough's MPs, urging them to lend their support.

Proposed by Cllr Kay Knox

Seconded by Cllr Lynne Thompson

10. To note the Minutes of the following Joint Authority and Oldham Partnership meetings and the relevant spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (*time limit 20 minutes*):-

Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority	22 nd January 2010
National Park Authority	4 th December 2009 5 th February 2010
Unity Partnership Board	17 th December 2009 28 th January 2010
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority	10 th December 2009 11 February 2010
Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority	18 th December 2009
Association of Greater Manchester Authorities Executive	18 th December 2009 29 th January 2010 26 th February 2010

11. Cabinet Question Time

- a) To receive any written questions to Cabinet Members (*time limit 10 minutes*).
- b) To receive answers from a Cabinet Member to the written questions received (*time limit 10 Minutes*)

12. To note the Minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet with an attached list of Urgent Key Decisions taken since the last meeting of the Council held on the undermentioned dates and to receive questions on any items within the Minutes from Members of the Council who are not Members of the Cabinet (*time limit 15 minutes*):-

- a) 27th January 2010
- b) 9th February 2010
- c) 17th February 2010
- d) 17th March 2010
- e) 31st March 2010
- f) List of Urgent Key Decisions 27th January – 31st March 2010

13. To receive responses to the questions raised from appropriate Cabinet Members to questions raised in 12 above (*time limit 15 minutes*).

14. To receive observations on any items within the Minutes of the Cabinet received above from Members of the Council who are not Members of the Cabinet (*time limit – 20 minutes – the last 5 minutes reserved for the Leader of the main opposition group*)

15. To receive comments from appropriate Cabinet Members to observations made above (*time limit – 25 minutes – last 5 minutes reserved for the Leader of the Council*)

16. Notices of Motion (*time limit 30 minutes*).

1. MOVED by Councillor Keith Pendlebury and SECONDED by Councillor Roger Hindle.

This Council

- notes with concern that, in the recent assessment of the performance of police forces by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Greater Manchester Police scored poorly and were described as "currently causing concern";
- welcomes the fact that issues identified by the HMIC assessment are being addressed;
- cautiously welcomes proposals to civilianise some jobs within Greater Manchester Police, but only in the context that the process will lead to more officers on the streets;
- notes that the complex grant funding process operated by Government has consistently left the Greater Manchester Force with less funding than the Government itself says is needed (a total of £94.4m in funding having been denied to Greater Manchester Police since 2002).

This Council therefore resolves

- a) To write to the Home Secretary seeking the urgent revision of the Grant Formula
- b) To enlist the support of the three Borough's MP's in seeking the Grant Formula change
- c) To inform AGMA of the view of this Council.

2. **MOVED** by Councillor Lynn Thompson and **SECONDED** by Councillor Steven Barrow

This Council notes that almost 50% of all CO2 emissions in the UK are from energy use in buildings and more than half of that figure comes from homes.

This Council welcomes the work of the Micropower Council in seeking to persuade the Government to revise and strengthen its current strategy and policies on microgeneration through the following proposals:-

- 1) Cohesive Support - clearer and more comprehensive information on available financial support for microgeneration for both domestic and industry markets
- 2) Clear Consumer Information - improved Consumer information on why we need to change and how, including the establishment of a consumer engagement task force
- 3) Comprehensive Retrofit - energy efficiency/demand reduction, including individual Home Emission reduction plans and greater

emphasis on private rental sector compliance with Energy Performance Certificate

4) Credible Career Options - Urging Government to take a more active role in skills training and promoting UK manufacturing of micro regeneration equipment

This Council Resolves to

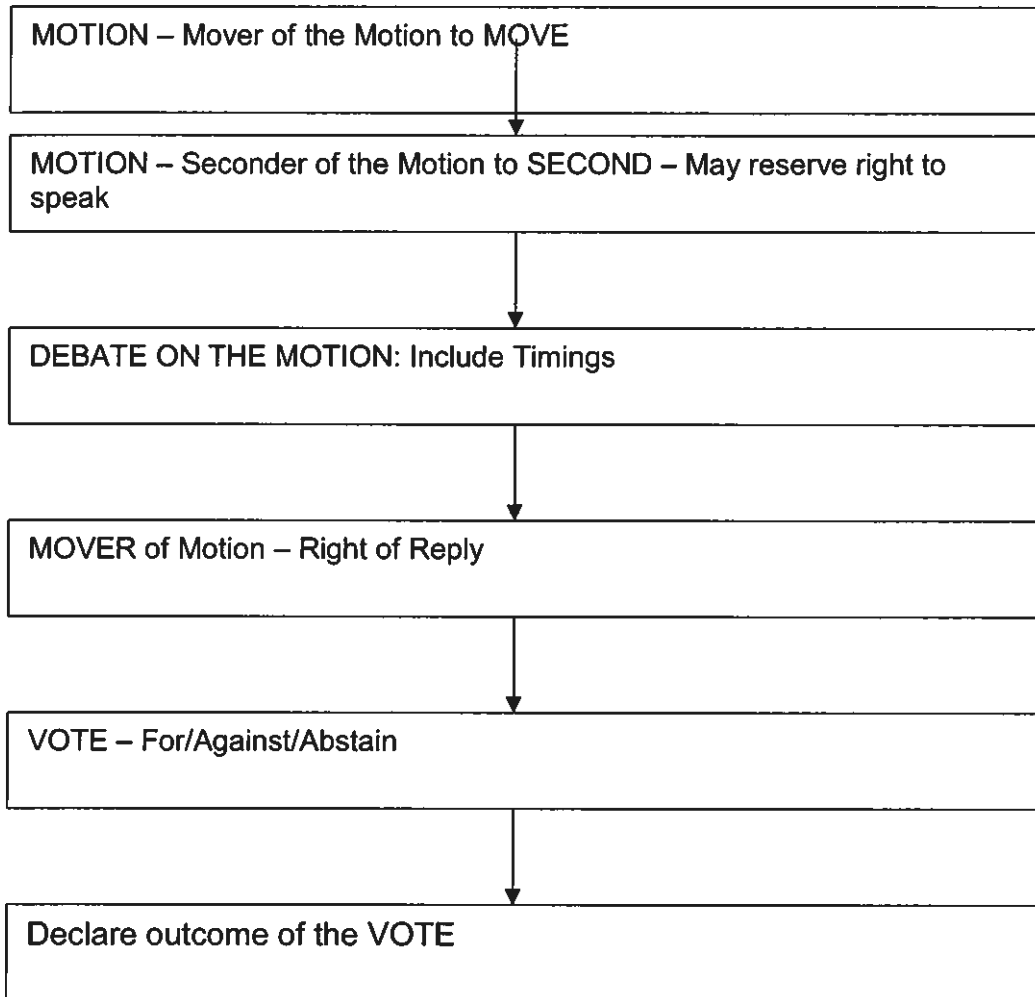
1. Write to the Micropower Council expressing support for their aims and objectives
 2. Write to the Boroughs three MP's seeking their support for the Microgeneration Manifesto 2010
 3. Write to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs urging the adoption of the Microgeneration Manifesto
17. Report of the Borough Solicitor – Draft Council Calendar of Meetings 2010/11
 18. Report of the Borough Solicitor and Executive Director Economy, Place and Skills – Events Safety Group
 19. Review Decisions taken by Council requiring action arising out of Notices of Motion at the meeting of Council on 3rd February 2010

NOTE: The meeting of the Council will conclude 3 hours and 30 minutes after the commencement of the meeting or after 3 hours if no public questions are received.



Charlie Parker
Chief Executive

PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF MOTIONS
NO AMENDMENT

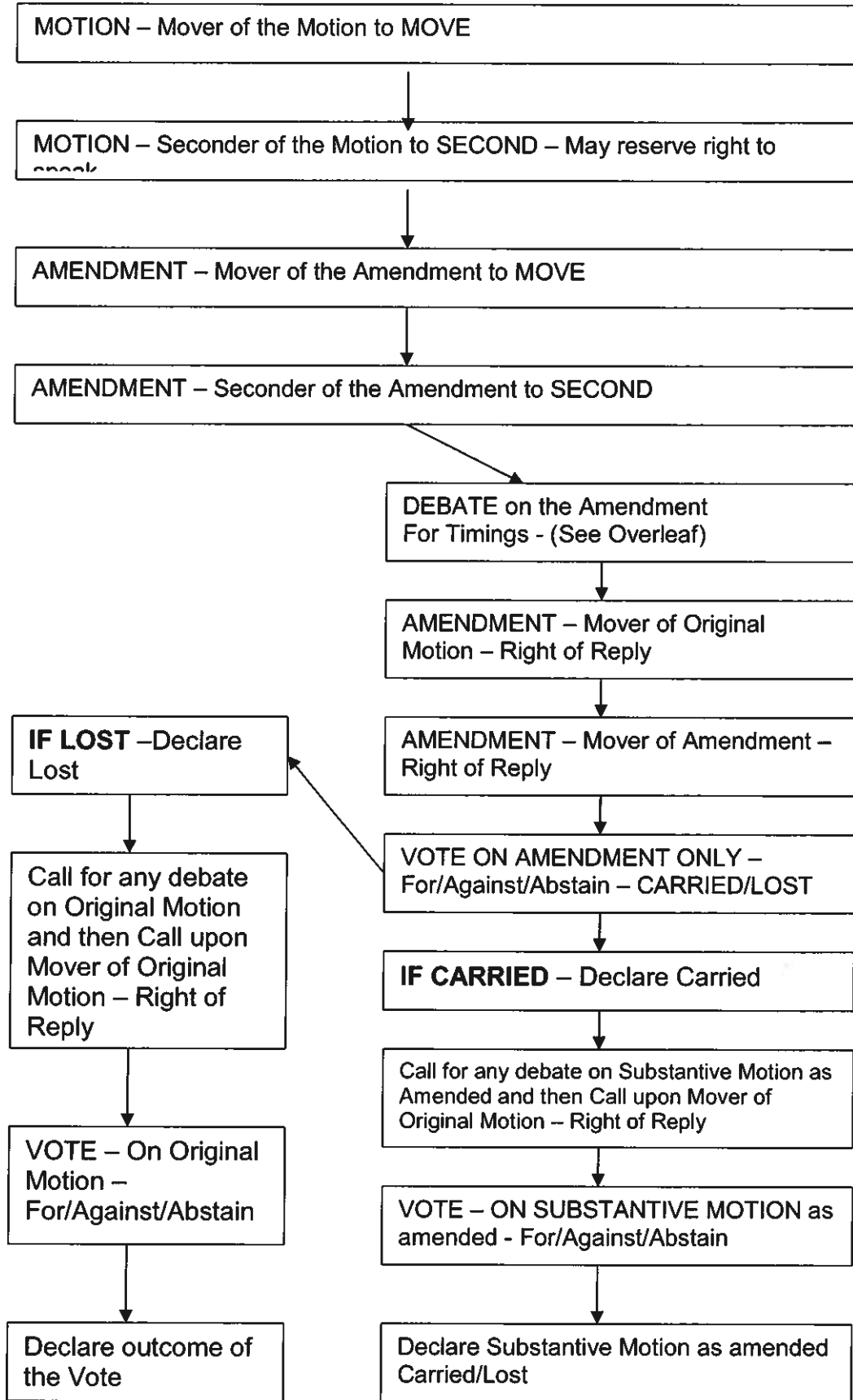


RULE ON TIMINGS

(a) No Member shall speak longer than five minutes on any **Motion or Amendment**, or by way of question, observation or reply, unless by consent of the Members of the Council present, he/she is allowed an extension, in which case only one extension of One Minute shall be allowed.

(b) A Member replying to more than question will have up to five minutes to reply to each question.

WITH AMENDMENT



PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor McArdle)

Councillors: Akhtar, Alcock, Ali, Barker, Barrow, Bashforth, Ball, Beeley, Bell, Blyth, Buckley, Butterworth, Chadderton, Dawson, Dean, J Dillon, P Dillon, Dinoff, Heffernan, Hibbert, Hindle, Holley, Hudson, E Hulme, J Hulme, Hussain, Iqbal, Jabbar, Judge, Knowles, Knox, Larkin, Lord, Martin, Masud, McCann, McClaren, McMahon, Miah, Pendlebury, Quinn, Qumer, Rogers, Roughley, Salamat, Sedgwick, D Shaw, G Shaw, Stanton, Sykes, Thompson, Uddin, Ur Rehman, Wheeler, Williamson, Wingate and Wrigglesworth

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors D Jones and J Jones.

Item 2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

Item 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Hindle declared a personal interest in relation to item 12 (Cabinet question time - specifically the question in relation to the proposed housing stock transfer), as his wife was an employee of First Choice Homes Oldham.

Councillor Dean declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to item 13 (minutes of the meetings of Cabinet on 9 and 23 December 2009 - specifically item nine of the minutes of 23 December) but did not state the reason. He left the meeting during this item's consideration.

Councillor J Dillon declared a personal interest in relation to item 17, but did not state the reason.

Item 4 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 DECEMBER 2009**

10010174

RESOLVED

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2009 be approved as a correct record, subject to Councillor Wingate seconding the amendment to the motion on unclaimed benefits in Oldham, instead of Councillor Dawson.

Item 5 **TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**

10010175

1. The Mayor announced with sadness the recent death of former Councillor and Mayor Alwyn McConnell

and noted he would be a great loss to his family, friends and the community. Councillors Ball, J Hudson and Knowles also took the opportunity to speak. A short silence was observed.

2. The Mayor advised, and Council noted in accordance with the time limits set for Council meetings, the guillotine would take effect at 3 hours and 30 minutes after the start of the meeting, unless agreed otherwise by Council.

3. The Mayor reported the Commander of the Oldham Police Division, Chief Supt Caroline Ball was taking up a new job in North Manchester and extended a vote of thanks to her for her services to the Borough. Councillors J Hulme, Knox, McMahon, Ur Rehman and Sykes expressed their thanks for her work. Chief Supt Ball responded.

Item 6 **TO NOTE PETITIONS RECEIVED RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL** 10010176
RESOLVED

1. The list of petitions received since the last meeting of Council be noted as follows:

Executive Director, Economy, Place and Skills

1. Residents Only Parking - Durden Mews, Shaw (received 21/12/2009) (64 signatures)

2. Child Friendly Area in Higher Failsworth Memorial Park (received 04/01/2010) (333 signatures)

Item 7 **TO DEAL WITH ANY TOPICAL ISSUES AGREED BY THE MAYOR** 10010177

There were no topical issues.

Item 8 **TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER QUESTIONS AND RELATED COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS OF THE BOROUGH ABOUT ANY MATTERS RELEVANT TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL** 10010178

The following public question was raised:

From Mr Steven Fairbrother:

"As a resident and Council Tax payer of the Borough, I have some concerns about the number of questions submitted to the Council by Parish Councillor Ken Hulme over the last year to 18 months.

"Whilst I believe in and, support his democratic right to put his questions, there does nevertheless appear to be have been rather a large number of questions over that period and as a result, there must be significant cost implications to the Council and, therefore the Council Taxpayers of this Borough, from the production of responses to his questions.

"Could the Council please inform the citizens of this Borough:

1. How many questions Mr Hulme has submitted to the Cabinet/Council since May 2008?
2. What number and also proportion - as a percentage - is the number of questions submitted to Council and Cabinet by Mr Hulme of the overall figure submitted by the public during this period?
3. How many times has he failed to be present at the meeting to ask his submitted question(s)?
4. What is the average amount of Officer time each question has taken up in order to provide a reply?
5. What would you estimate is the average amount of councillors each question has taken up in order to provide a reply?
6. What therefore is the average cost per question in both officers' time and pounds?
7. What is the total cost to the Council (and thereby the Council taxpayer) in responding to Mr Hulme's questions?"

Councillor Sykes responded as Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for External Relations as follows:

"1. Since May 2008 Parish Councillor Mr Hulme has submitted 9 questions to Cabinet and 8 questions to Council.

"2. Mr Hulme has submitted 9 questions out of 13 questions asked at Cabinet (a percentage of 69%). He has submitted 8 questions out of 15 questions asked at Full Council (a percentage of 53%).

"3. Mr Hulme has failed to attend to ask the questions on two occasions (according to records retained by Constitutional Services), wasting more than £170 of Council Tax payers money, plus the hidden opportunity costs.

"4. It is estimated that the officer time spent on providing the information to these questions is approximately 51 hours 30 minutes (a very conservative estimate).

"5. It is estimated that the councillor time spent on providing the information to these questions is 20 hours.

"6. The average cost per question based on the officer time is £82. The average cost for councillors is £5 in monetary value, the opportunity cost in terms of other useful activities that could be undertaken is great but unquantifiable.

"7. We have calculated a median charge rate for the

response due to the fact that work has been undertaken by officers at various levels within the organisation from Executive Directors down to Principal Officers and below. The median rate is PO 49 - including on costs this works out at a rate of £27 per hour. The cost therefore of the officer time spent preparing answers is £1,390 a notional £85 for councillors making a total of £1,475 to date."

Item 9

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS FROM THE LAST MEETING

10010179

1. Councillor Alcock MOVED and Councillor Sedgwick SECONDED the following notice of motion:

"This Council:

(a) Notes the excellent work of the Royal British Legion in campaigning on behalf of our Armed Forces.

(b) Welcomes and supports the principles of the Legion Manifesto which are set out below :-

1. Service Personnel and their Families

"Keep the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme under continual, independent review and:

(i) change the standard of proof so that where evidence is inconclusive, the benefit of the doubt is given to the injured Service person;

(ii) remove the link between lump-sum awards and ongoing payments to reflect the fact that they are paid for different reasons;

allow claims relating to injuries or illnesses caused by medical treatment;

(iii) remove the time limits to lodge a claim; and

exempt payments when carrying out means-testing for State benefits.

"Stop breaches of harmony guidelines (deployment rates) in order to reduce family separation and breakdown.

"Bring all single and family accommodation up to the highest standard within the lifetime of the next parliament and ensure that the Ministry of Defence publishes full details of the funding and timescales needed to upgrade Armed Forces housing.

"Introduce health screening and monitoring for Service personnel and vulnerable dependants and ensure priority is given to those deployed for extended periods, their partners and those medically downgraded.

"Introduce more effective prevention and treatment strategies to tackle mental health problems, binge drinking and drug abuse.

"Assess the impact of mobility on Armed Forces families, especially in relation to health, employment and education."

2. Bereaved Armed Forces Families

"Fund an independent legal advice service to provide bereaved Armed Forces families with support and guidance through the inquest process.

"Introduce an Independent Advisory Committee on Military Deaths to provide advice, review recommendations from coroners and to give families a voice.

"Introduce mandatory training in Armed Forces policies and procedures to better equip coroners to investigate operational or training related Armed Forces deaths.

"Give the Service Complaints Commissioner additional powers to investigate complaints made by bereaved Armed Forces families.

"Create specialist bereavement counselling services for Armed Forces families, including parents and children.

3. Veterans and their Families

"Make the NHS priority treatment system work for veterans with injuries caused by Service in the Armed Forces or consider privately funded alternatives.

"Tackle poverty among veterans and their families by increasing incomes through:

(i) doubling the Personal Expenses Allowance for those receiving residential care;

(ii) making the disregarding of all War Pension payments for means-testing for Council Tax Benefit and Housing Benefit a statutory requirement; and

(iii) developing an automated payment system for Council Tax Benefit.

"Ensure that local authorities meet their obligations to provide Disabled Facilities Grants to veterans who need adaptations to their homes.

"Exempt all veterans who require a Disabled Facilities Grant from the current means test if the adaptation is needed because of a Service related injury.

"Fund comprehensive research and provide additional compensation for duty of care breaches to veterans suffering from legacy health issues, including Gulf War and nuclear test veterans.

"Provide all Service leavers with an effective mental health education programme at the point of resettlement, so those at high risk know where to go for

help.

"This Council therefore resolves to:-

(a) Request the Chief Executive to write to the Royal British Legion to express the Council's support for the Legion Manifesto Campaign.

(b) Write to the Secretary of State for Defence and local MPs to urge support for the Legion Manifesto.

(c) Request that all Council members work within their own political parties to further the aims of The Legion Manifesto."

AMENDMENT

Councillor Wrigglesworth MOVED and Councillor Ur Rehman SECONDED the following amendment:

"Delete everything below the first point (a).

"Add a new point (b)

"Urges the Government to give full consideration to the principles of the Royal British Legion Manifesto Campaign and seeks to implement those points that are reasonable and stand the test of fairness.'

"The Motion would then read:

"This Council:-

(a) Notes the excellent work of the Royal British Legion in campaigning on behalf of our Armed Forces.

(b) Urges the Government to give full consideration to the principles of the Royal British Legion Manifesto Campaign and seeks to implement those points that are reasonable and stand the test of fairness."

Councillor Bashforth spoke in favour of the amendment.

Councillors Hudson, Knox and Sykes spoke against the amendment.

Councillor Alcock responded.

Councillor Wrigglesworth responded.

On a vote being taken, the amendment was LOST by 21 votes in favour and 36 against.

On a vote being taken, the original motion was CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

This Council:

(a) Notes the excellent work of the Royal British Legion in campaigning on behalf of our Armed Forces.

(b) Welcomes and supports the principles of the Legion Manifesto which are set out below :-

1. Service Personnel and their Families

'Keep the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme under continual, independent review and:

(i) change the standard of proof so that where evidence is inconclusive, the benefit of the doubt is given to the injured Service person;

(ii) remove the link between lump-sum awards and ongoing payments to reflect the fact that they are paid for different reasons;

allow claims relating to injuries or illnesses caused by medical treatment;

(iii) remove the time limits to lodge a claim; and

exempt payments when carrying out means-testing for State benefits.

'Stop breaches of harmony guidelines (deployment rates) in order to reduce family separation and breakdown.

'Bring all single and family accommodation up to the highest standard within the lifetime of the next parliament and ensure that the Ministry of Defence publishes full details of the funding and timescales needed to upgrade Armed Forces housing.

'Introduce health screening and monitoring for Service personnel and vulnerable dependants and ensure priority is given to those deployed for extended periods, their partners and those medically downgraded.

'Introduce more effective prevention and treatment strategies to tackle mental health problems, binge drinking and drug abuse.

'Assess the impact of mobility on Armed Forces families, especially in relation to health, employment and education.'

2. Bereaved Armed Forces Families

'Fund an independent legal advice service to provide bereaved Armed Forces families with support and guidance through the inquest process.

'Introduce an Independent Advisory Committee on Military Deaths to provide advice, review recommendations from coroners and to give families a voice.

'Introduce mandatory training in Armed Forces policies and procedures to better equip coroners to investigate operational or training related Armed Forces deaths.

'Give the Service Complaints Commissioner additional powers to investigate complaints made by bereaved Armed Forces families.

'Create specialist bereavement counselling services for Armed Forces families, including parents and children.'

3. Veterans and their Families

'Make the NHS priority treatment system work for veterans with injuries caused by Service in the Armed Forces or consider privately funded alternatives.

'Tackle poverty among veterans and their families by increasing incomes through:

(i) doubling the Personal Expenses Allowance for those receiving residential care;

(ii) making the disregarding of all War Pension payments for means-testing for Council Tax Benefit and Housing Benefit a statutory requirement; and

(iii) developing an automated payment system for Council Tax Benefit.

'Ensure that local authorities meet their obligations to provide Disabled Facilities Grants to veterans who need adaptations to their homes.

'Exempt all veterans who require a Disabled Facilities Grant from the current means test if the adaptation is needed because of a Service related injury.

'Fund comprehensive research and provide additional compensation for duty of care breaches to veterans suffering from legacy health issues, including Gulf War and nuclear test veterans.

'Provide all Service leavers with an effective mental health education programme at the point of resettlement, so those at high risk know where to go for help.'

This Council therefore resolves to:-

(a) Request the Chief Executive to write to the Royal British Legion to express the Council's support for the Legion Manifesto Campaign.

(b) Write to the Secretary of State for Defence and local MPs to urge support for the Legion Manifesto.

(c) Request that all Council members work within their own political parties to further the aims of The Legion Manifesto.

2. Councillor J Dillon MOVED and Councillor Blyth SECONDED the following notice of motion:

"This Council:-

(a) Welcomes the valuable and often unsung service provided by the Oldham Mountain Rescue Service.

(b) Also notes that the Oldham Mountain Rescue Service, despite being a voluntary organisation and a

registered charity, are liable for VAT on equipment purchases.

"This Council resolves to:-

(a) Congratulate the Oldham Mountain Rescue Service on their continuing excellent work.

(b) Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and local MPs to urge support for Oldham Mountain Rescue Service and, other Mountain Rescue Teams nationwide, to be granted zero VAT status."

On a vote being taken, the motion was CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

This Council:-

(a) Welcomes the valuable and often unsung service provided by the Oldham Mountain Rescue Service.

(b) Also notes that the Oldham Mountain Rescue Service, despite being a voluntary organisation and a registered charity, are liable for VAT on equipment purchases.

This Council resolves to:-

(a) Congratulate the Oldham Mountain Rescue Service on their continuing excellent work.

(b) Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and local MPs to urge support for Oldham Mountain Rescue Service and, other Mountain Rescue Teams nationwide, to be granted zero VAT status.

Item 10

MOTIONS OF OPPOSITION BUSINESS

10010180

1. Councillor McMahan MOVED and Councillor Butterworth SECONDED the following motion of opposition business:

"This council welcomes the government announcement that Log Book loans may be outlawed.

"The practice of allowing repossession of vehicles and goods without a court order gives no consumer protection and leaves those who can least afford it without the basic protection in law that consumers enjoy for most other financial services.

"This council believes that this out of date practice, which has remained unchanged in law since 1882, is in need of urgent action.

"In Oldham, lenders have set up shops offering log book loans which charge interest of over 1000% and which target the most vulnerable and financially excluded people in the borough.

"This council resolves to call upon the government and

the borough's MPs to resolve this as a matter of urgency to prevent the continuation of an unethical and immoral practice which has affected hundreds of people across the borough."

On a vote being taken, the motion was CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

This council welcomes the government announcement that Log Book loans may be outlawed.

The practice of allowing repossession of vehicles and goods without a court order gives no consumer protection and leaves those who can least afford it without the basic protection in law that consumers enjoy for most other financial services.

This council believes that this out of date practice, which has remained unchanged in law since 1882, is in need of urgent action.

In Oldham, lenders have set up shops offering log book loans which charge interest of over 1000% and which target the most vulnerable and financially excluded people in the borough.

This council resolves to call upon the government and the borough's MPs to resolve this as a matter of urgency to prevent the continuation of an unethical and immoral practice which has affected hundreds of people across the borough.

2. Councillor McMahon MOVED and Councillor Akhtar SECONDED the following motion of opposition business:

"This council notes the campaign to award a National Defence Medal to servicemen and women who served in the British Armed Forces.

"This council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to;

1. write to the UK National Defence Medal (NDM) Campaign to express our support
2. write to the borough MPs requesting that they support Early Day Motion 327
3. write the appropriate minister to outline our support

"In addition this council urges the people of Oldham to sign the online Downing Street petition in support of this campaign."

AMENDMENT

Councillor J Dillon MOVED and Councillor Beeley SECONDED the following amendment:

"In the penultimate line insert words 'In the Borough' between the words 'people' and 'of'."

Councillor McMahon responded.

On a vote being taken, the amendment was CARRIED unanimously.

Councillors Bashforth, G Shaw and Thompson spoke in favour of the substantive motion.

Councillor McMahon responded.

On a vote being taken, the substantive motion was CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

This council notes the campaign to award a National Defence Medal to servicemen and women who served in the British Armed Forces.

This council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to;

1. write to the UK National Defence Medal (NDM) Campaign to express our support
2. write to the borough MPs requesting that they support Early Day Motion 327
3. write the appropriate minister to outline our support

In addition this council urges the people in the Borough of Oldham to sign the online Downing Street petition in support of this campaign.

Item 11

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE JOINT AUTHORITY AND PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS AND THE RELEVANT SPOKESPERSON TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

10010181

Minutes of joint authorities were submitted as follows:

Association of Greater Manchester Authorities
Executive on 27 November 2009

Greater Manchester Police Authority on 21 December
2009

Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority on 20
November 2009

Oldham Partnership Executive on 24 November and 17
December 2009

Unity Partnership Board on 12 November 2009

Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority on
16 October 2009

The following questions regarding the joint authority minutes were submitted in advance of the meeting:

Councillor Wingate to Councillor Sykes regarding the minutes of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities Executive (AGMA) on 27 November 2009

(minute 91/09 Developing a Policy Position on Alcohol: Minimum Unit Price).

"Would Cllr Sykes explain his concerns as expressed in the AGMA minute 91/09?"

In response, Councillor Sykes explained people were aware of the Council's stance on alcohol in Oldham town centre and this had had a real impact on public safety. This included a reduction in violent crime in the town centre of 27% since action on cheap drinks promotions, with a particularly sharp fall during the Christmas holiday period. This showed the link between the sale of cheap alcohol and violent crime.

AGMA had discussed a report proposing a citywide minimum price on alcohol with the price set at 50 pence per unit of alcohol. Oldham's experience had shown this was too low and a minimum price of 75 pence per unit was more likely to have an impact on violent crime.

Councillor Sykes noted the Council was working with its partners to tackle the low price of alcohol in supermarkets and extend activities in Oldham to the other district centres.

Councillor Barrow to Councillors J Dillon and Knowles regarding the minutes of the Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority (GMITA) on 16 October 2009 (minute ITA/9/48 Urgent Measures to Relieve Overcrowding on the Rochdale and Huddersfield Rail Lines).

"Have the extra carriages now been provided for the Rochdale and Huddersfield rail line and are they helping. Can you also tell me what progress has been made on the 1300 extra carriages promised by the Government?"

In response, Councillor J Dillon explained additional carriages were now running at peak times on both lines, but this was expensive and funding was only guaranteed until June. Additional carriages were expected only when the electrification of the Manchester to Liverpool line was complete.

In response, Councillor Knowles reminded Council not a single one of the promised carriages had arrived. The ones which would run eventually through Mills Hill and Greenfield would be old. He encouraged councillors of all parties to lobby Members of Parliament to ensure the issue was not forgotten. Without additional carriages, problems with overcrowding would only get worse.

The following questions regarding the joint authority minutes were submitted at the meeting:

Councillor Barrow to Councillors J Dillon and Knowles regarding the minutes of GMITA on 16 October 2009 (minute ITA/9/49 Proposals for Developing Greater Manchester's Third Local Transport Plan).

He asked what ideas were being considered by GMITA to encourage cycling.

In response, Councillor Knowles explained GMITA was investing in cycling across the city. This included cycle stands at all Metrolink stops and park and ride sites. The Authority was also investigating ways of allowing cycles on trams.

Councillor McMahon to Councillors J Dillon and Knowles regarding the minutes of GMITA on 16 October 2009 (minute ITA/9/46 Rail and Metrolink Networks Committee).

Work on the new Metrolink line at the bridge over Hardman Lane in Failsworth had meant closure of the road, although for the vast majority of the time, there was little work being done there. A narrow walkway had been created for pedestrians, but this was not lit at weekends and was attracting anti-social behaviour, making residents feel unsafe. Councillor McMahon asked the Council's representatives on GMITA to request a review of the timescales for the work on the bridge to allow the road to reopen as soon as possible.

In response, Councillor J Dillon agreed to take this up with GMITA, asking it for the work at Hardman Lane to be brought forward.

In response, Councillor Knowles also agreed to take this up with GMITA, and would request the walkway was always lit.

Councillor J Hulme to Councillors J Dillon and Knowles regarding the minutes of GMITA on 16 October 2009 (minute ITA/9/48 Urgent Measures to Relieve Overcrowding on the Rochdale and Huddersfield Rail Lines).

He noted while additional carriages had been secured on the Rochdale line, which passed through Mills Hill, these were only available at peak times. People were still sometimes unable to get on day time services, particularly at weekends.

In response, Councillor J Dillon agreed additional carriages and services were needed on Sundays. The lack of Sunday services was a result of the set up of the north west rail franchise.

Councillor Hibbert to Councillors J Dillon and Knowles regarding the minutes of GMITA on 16 October 2009 (minute ITA/9/48 Urgent Measures to Relieve Overcrowding on the Rochdale and Huddersfield Rail

Lines).

He explained to Council the AGMA scrutiny pool had discussed rail services recently and had asked for Mills Hill to be reinstated as a station worthy of investment and improvement.

In response, Councillor J Dillon agreed, pointing out work to improve the facilities at Mills Hill should be done from January to April 2010.

Item 12

CABINET QUESTION TIME

10010182

The following question had been submitted by Councillor McMahon:

"How can the people of Oldham have confidence in an investigation when the person leading the investigation has been hand picked by the Council and where the terms of reference have been agreed behind closed doors?

"Indeed how can Members of this Council have confidence in the investigation when my request for this Council to examine the terms of reference, to ensure they cover all relevant points, has been refused by the Chief Executive?

"And does he share my concern that whatever the outcome the people of Oldham will perceive this as a whitewash and yet another waste of tax payers' money?"

Councillor Sykes responded as Leader and Cabinet Member for External Relations as follows:

"Stewart Dobson, who is carrying out the independent review, issued a statement on 22 January to make clear his position and the basis on which he is carrying out the review.

"In his statement he said, and I quote: 'Oldham Council has invited me to conduct a review into the trading standards prosecution of Mr Vance Miller, Mr Alan Ford, Ms Sadiya Hussein and Ms Nicola Brodie.

"This is a long-standing and complex case going back to 2006, and I have been asked to conduct a full review into the circumstances surrounding the abandonment of the trial on January 12, 2010, and to undertake any necessary investigation under the council's disciplinary procedures.

"I would like to make it clear that it will be for me to decide as I think right who I should see and what I should look at as part of my review.

"The District Auditor has had an input into the issues that will be reviewed and we have also agreed to continue to liaise closely throughout my time in

Oldham.

"Oldham Council has further stated that it will provide me with the fullest cooperation and that it expects all other parties to do the same. I have previously conducted several such reviews previously for other local authorities across the UK and I am satisfied with the arrangements the Council has made in order to assist me. I would like to thank the Chief Executive and his staff for their co-operation.

"I intend to conduct the review in a timely and open manner and to report as soon as possible.

"I will not be providing interviews to the media at any time.'

"In order for the review to be independent it is vital for us as councillors not to seek to influence its terms of reference. We are clearly not independent of events and I think therefore it is vital that this review is free from political involvement from all parties and I wholeheartedly support the Chief Executive's view that it would be inappropriate for the terms of reference to be examined and potentially amended by politicians.

"Stewart Dobson was categorical in his public statement when he said: 'I would like to make it clear that it will be for me to decide as I think right who I should see and what I should look at as part of my review.' I am also reassured by his statement that: 'The District Auditor has had an input into the issues that will be reviewed and we have also agreed to continue to liaise closely throughout my time in Oldham.'

"However, as Councillor McMahon knows very well the Chief Executive has made it abundantly clear that the three group leaders will be appropriately briefed about matters relating to the review, and that the final report will go through the appropriate formal council governance channels such as Cabinet, and Scrutiny.

"I am encouraged and draw comfort from the fact that the terms of reference of the review have the support of the District Auditor and that they will be involved as the review proceeds.

"This in my view is far more powerful than involving councillors in potentially determining the direction of the review - where it would be perceived as lacking independence and maybe even seeking political advantage from the situation.

"On an issue which has its origins firmly in 2006 under the previous Labour administration, I will leave it to others to draw their own conclusions as to the motives of the party opposite and its three MPs for their very public campaign on what is a very serious matter.

"You trot out words like Oldham Borough first politics second - you speak the words but have not got a clue what they mean.

"Time and time again it is Labour politics first Oldham Borough second - shame on you!"

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Bashforth:

"The recent court case relating to Vance Miller was described by the judge as a "flawed" court prosecution against a Lancashire businessman, which could cost the taxpayer millions. The anti-fraud operation by Oldham Borough Council's trading standards department is understood to be the largest undertaken by trading standards officers in Britain.

"Can he explain who approved this course of action, did he sign off reports to the effect that the matter should be pursued through the courts or are we to believe that a single officer's action has led to this fiasco?"

"In terms of damage limitation can the Leader confirm if he has received confirmation from the Council's Insurance broker that we will be covered for any claims which may arise following, to quote Judge Foster, a series of errors which were committed by the borough council?"

Councillor Sykes responded as Leader and Cabinet Member for External Relations as follows:

"It would not be appropriate for me to comment on the details of the case in advance of the findings of the independent investigation.

"You refer in your question to two quotes from Judge Foster: the first is inaccurate and the second does not even relate to words that the Judge used in his final ruling.

"I think you should be more cautious in attributing remarks to a member of the judiciary.

"I would simply add that of course the council has appropriate insurance and our insurers have been made fully aware of these matters in accordance with the terms of the policy."

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Dean:

"Regarding the proposed transfer of the Council Housing Stock to FCHO, could the Cabinet Member answer the following questions?"

"1) What is the overhanging debt created by this transfer as outlined by the Homes and Community

Agency?

"2) Who will be responsible for this debt and will it affect FCHO's offer to tenants?

"3) Why has the Council and FCHO not allowed tenants to fully consider the Government's self financing proposals as outlined as a condition of the transfer by the Housing Minister John Healy in his letter of 3rd December, when he gave approval to proceed to the next step of the transfer.

"4) Does the Cabinet Member approve of teams of FCHO staff canvassing support for the transfer around Council estates?

"5) Should these changes not be released fully to tenants who are now in possession of an offer document that does not fully reflect the alternative of homes staying within Council ownership?"

Councillor McCann responded as Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing as follows:

"The Council's existing housing debt is quoted in the Council's application to transfer was £214,057,000 - comprising Subsidy Capital Finance Requirement (SCFR) of £127,657,000 and ALMO debt of £86,400,000. This is the Council's estimate of the one off payment necessary to enable the attributable housing debt to be redeemed.

"In a letter last month from the Homes and Communities Agency, the Council was advised that -

"CLG (Government Department for Communities and Local Government) is willing to provide financial assistance for authorities for which the valuation of the proposed transfer is not sufficient to repay its housing debt.'

"In the same letter, the HCA agreed that the proposed transfer should proceed.

"In the case of every housing stock transfer that has taken place to date, and there have been over 200 of them nationally, the Government has written off existing debt when necessary. Indeed, Councillor Dean will recollect that the Labour administration oversaw the transfer of homes at Fitton Hill in 2004 and Limeside in 1998 to housing associations.

"Information relating to the self-financing proposals is provided for tenants within the Offer Document and the supporting letter from the Chief Executive. The wording was agreed with the HCA on behalf of the Government as they considered it met the requirements set out by the Housing Minister. It was also confirmed by the Government's Homes and Communities Agency that it

would be inappropriate for the Council to speculate what the detailed proposals might amount to, when published. That was precisely in order to avoid misleading tenants.

"FCHO staff are not canvassing in support of the transfer. The Council is following a process set by Government which is covered by law in relation to formal consultation on its Offer Document to tenants. The Government would expect all tenants to be engaged within the process and the home visits form part of the process. This is

- Firstly - to ensure that tenants have received the Offer Document
- Secondly to address any queries tenants may wish to clarify and
- Thirdly, to ensure tenants are aware that they have a choice if the Council decides to go to ballot.

"The information presented to tenants and the format of home visits has been agreed by the tenants' Independent Tenant Advisor (PS Consultants). All staff have been specifically briefed to maintain an impartial approach and to decline to give a view if asked what they would advise.

"As you will recall, very similar processes have been adopted as in the previous transfers under the Labour administration in Fitton Hill and Limeside and elsewhere across the country.

"The Government, through the HCA, has agreed that the Offer Document and formal notice letter satisfy the minister's requirements. As mentioned, the Council has clearly explained within the Offer Document, at page 12, that a review of the current system of housing finance is being undertaken.

"In relation to the review of housing finance, there is no clarity yet about -

- what the proposals might be
- when they might be published
- when they might be implemented
- and how they might be implemented

"It is therefore impossible to talk to tenants about a proposal where the detail has still to be made public.

"I would like to stress that the Council, under the previous administration, began the process of undertaking a detailed appraisal of investment and management needs in its homes. That appraisal concluded that the only option for the Council to manage its homes to the standards required by tenants

was transfer to an independent Registered Social Landlord. The Council agreed, based on consultation, that this should be based in Oldham. The Government has recognised our special circumstances and particular investment needs and are supporting the process which we've undertaken in consulting tenants prior to a potential ballot."

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Akhtar:

"Over 90% of potholes are the result of poor reinstatements of road repairs carried out by utility companies (gas, electricity, cable etc). Because the repairs have not been revisited after settlement has taken place, subsidence has resulted. The edges of the repair have not been sealed and so water has got into the cracks and frozen. This has led to expansion and the surface crumbling.

"The access covers on the highway have also not been maintained by the utilities companies and many of these have become dangerous. Last year a working group looked at these problems and made a number of recommendations to the Cabinet which were agreed but it appears that few, if any, have been implemented.

Could the Cabinet Member please outline which recommendations have not been implemented and why not?"

As the time for responses to Cabinet questions had expired, Councillor Alcock, as Cabinet Member for Environment, gave an undertaking a written reply would be supplied within five working days, which was as follows:

"Thank you for your question Cllr Akhtar.

"Being aware of the problems that failing Utility reinstatements can cause to Highway users, and the recent impact of the adverse weather, the Leader and I requested that we inspect all of those reinstatements that are currently coming out of the guarantee period and due to be handed over, which is normally 2 years, 3 years for deep excavation. The normal practice is for only 6% of reinstatements to be inspected at this point, indeed we are only paid by the utilities to inspect 6%, but in this case we have inspected 100% at our own cost.

"Of those inspected only one was found to have failed and this has been reported for the appropriate remedial action. I can though confirm to colleagues that a close eye will be kept on reinstatements by inspecting 100% coming up to the handover stage over the next few months to ensure that we don't have any delayed

deterioration showing itself.

"With regard to the number of pothole complaints received we've had 141 reports to the pothole mole over the 3 week period since the end of the bad weather in early January. Interestingly over the same 3 week period before the start of the bad weather in December we had 153.

"In respect of the excellent Scrutiny Report carried out last year by the Overview and Scrutiny Economic Prosperity Select Group I would confirm that it was reported to Cabinet and the recommendations accepted and acted upon, particularly in respect of the additional posts for which we made extra money available. We are currently in the process of recruiting so that they will be in post by end of April but temporary cover will be in place by the beginning of March and who will be inspecting 100% of works by the utilities. The reason for the delay was the budgetary problems within Highways which resulted in a freeze on all recruitment pending a review which may well have seen the opportunity for redeployment of existing staff which has subsequently not proved necessary."

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Chadderton:

"The recent severe weather has caused strain on the staff and finances of Oldham Council. The work of staff should be formally acknowledged by full Council across all parties.

"Planning should begin to deal with the aftermath in particular the significant damage caused to road surfaces and retaining walls following the freeze. Given the scale of repairs - which go above and beyond that already budgeted for, can the Cabinet Member outline what additional resources have been made available since December 2009 to repair Oldham's crumbling infrastructure?"

As the time for responses to Cabinet questions had expired, Councillor Alcock, as Cabinet Member for Environment, gave an undertaking a written reply would be supplied within five working days, which was as follows:

"Thank you for your Question Cllr Chadderton.

"I am sure Council will want to offer its thanks to the work of all staff in ensuring that vital Services were maintained across the Borough during the recent prolonged period of adverse weather over Christmas and New Year.

"I have visited the Highways Depot on a number of occasions over the period to give support and thanks

and I am aware that the Leader has also visited along with the Chief Executive who has written to all those involved, which involved 24 hour working over 3 weeks.

"In this time over 10,000 miles of roads were gritted with over 6,000 tonnes of grit salt, up to 16 JCBs, three farmers, one snowblower and over 100 staff were deployed in cleaning the footpaths of the town and village centres across the borough. However despite the excellent Service provided, which was only limited due to a national shortage of salt, we will be reviewing what went well and what didn't go as well as it could have done later in the year so that our policy can be kept up to date and indeed improved upon.

"A full inspection of the Highway Network is currently being undertaken to ascertain the extent of the damage of the recent period of adverse weather. As soon as this information is available, which should be in the next couple of weeks, we will be in a position to determine the cost of the damage to the Network.

"We are aware of discussions with the GONW and Central Government in respect of the damage nationally and will obviously be looking to see if Funding will be available nationally before we look to consider the position internally.

"In the meantime I can confirm that, as colleagues will be aware, additional funding totalling £22 million has been made available for a major refurbishment programme of the retaining walls in Oldham which will help start to address the extensive backlog of walls needing repair and replacement.

"Next year we will be carrying out works to retaining walls worth £9.7 million across Oldham Borough."

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Wrigglesworth:

"Since the credit crunch began in Oct 2008 the Council has allocated £400,000 to the Credit Crunch Cabinet.

"Can the Cabinet Member report to Council how much of this allocation has been spent to date, where it has been spent and to what tangible outcome?"

As the time for responses to Cabinet questions had expired, Councillor Uddin, as Cabinet Member for Regeneration, gave an undertaking a written reply would be supplied within five working days, which was as follows:

"I would firstly like to thank Cllr Wrigglesworth for her question.

"However, I would like to point out to Cllr Wrigglesworth that she has asked the question to the wrong Cabinet

Member.

"As Council will be aware, there is only one member of the Cabinet who sits on the Credit Crunch Cabinet. That member of course is the Leader of the Council, Cllr Howard Sykes.

"Therefore, the question should have been directed to Cllr Sykes."

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Butterworth:

"Can the Cabinet Member report to Council on progress since our discussion to bring debt collection away from the private sector into the Unity Partnership, in which, Oldham Council is a shareholder.

"Can the Cabinet Member give confidence to this Council that this is actively being progressed without unnecessary delay?"

As the time for responses to Cabinet questions had expired, Councillor Stanton, as Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Customer Services and Unity Partnership, gave an undertaking a written reply would be supplied within five working days, which was as follows:

"The Council is committed to recovering money owed to it, and ensuring that this is done effectively and appropriately. The method of recovery depends on the type and amount of debt, and will involve and include the use of private sector providers.

"Debt collection is undertaken in a range of ways, including, for example through the Magistrates and County Courts to recover debts on our behalf.

"The Unity Partnership already undertake debt collection in respect of Council Tax arrears, and this is managed in a number of ways, including the use of private sector partners to undertake collection, as is the case with AGMA authorities.

"Consideration was given to commissioning the collection of parking fines to Unity. It has been established that these contract activities were not covered within the Categories advertised for the contract that Unity are delivering, and therefore this service could not readily be transferred to them.

"Additionally, the contract for parking fine collection is already contracted with other providers, who were appointed by the Council some time previously.

"There are a range of other private sector providers who also recover debts on behalf of the Council, for example this Council, along with others, use private sector providers to recover housing benefit overpayments and sundry debts where it is appropriate to do so.

“Whether it is with Unity or other providers, the Council’s focus is on service delivery and outcomes, including making sure that we effectively recover public money that is owed. All providers are obliged to operate within their contractual obligations, codes of conduct and service level agreements and are carefully monitored to ensure that those obligations to the Council are met.

“We are mindful that in some circumstances, people may not have the ability to pay back what is owed, and so the Council works with services and partners to assist people with debt advice. For example, anyone can make an appointment with the CAB and Money Advice through our Access Oldham service. Further details of these services are at

<http://www.oldham.gov.uk/access-oldham.htm>”

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Dean:

"Can the Cabinet Member report to Council the amount spent in this current financial year on consultants and interims and whether she considers such a high use of consultants and interims good value for money?"

As the time for responses to Cabinet questions had expired, Councillor Thompson, as Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, gave an undertaking a written reply would be supplied within five working days, which was as follows:

"Expenditure in this financial year is £2.905m on consultants and £6.77m on agency staff spread across all areas of the Council.

"The use of agency and consultancy staff is to address a number of issues including:

- skill shortages particularly around hard to fill posts, where the Council has struggled to recruit in the past but is confident this will be resolved as restructures take place and new candidates are attracted
- difficulties in recruiting to jobs where terms and conditions may change, due to job evaluation
- to support services whilst new structures are being established and permanent recruitment takes place
- keeping posts open for redeployees when the likelihood of job reductions became apparent. This was as agreed with the trades unions, in order to provide staff with opportunities, but in the event the cost was easily met by a reduction in redundancy payments.
- given the substantial change that the organisation has been going through, to provide additional experienced and skilled capacity to drive through this change

- major projects such as the Council's Building Schools for the future programme where the highly complex nature of the work requires specialist technical expertise and indeed in this case it is very strongly advised by the Government that such experts must be employed to provide very necessary advice. It would also be the case that if these consultants were not employed while there would be an initial cash saving the whole life costs of the programme would inevitably increase to much more than the costs saved on not employing consultants. This is because of the commercial expertise and thus long term savings that these people can bring to the Council.

"The justification for the use of agency and consultancy staff, which includes value for money considerations, is examined through rigorous Expenditure Freeze Panels which operate in each Directorate. It is also the case that all Councils will utilise consultants to address peak workloads which would otherwise require permanent staff. An example of this would be the complete reassessment and reconstruction of the council's shambolic budget structure, without which planning for the future is building on sand. Staff for such projects may subsequently be at risk of redundancy with the additional costs that brings with it."

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Bell:

"Can the Cabinet Member outline what support is being given to the organisers of Oldham Beer Festival to ensure this important local event is not lost from the Borough?"

As the time for responses to Cabinet questions had expired, Councillor Stanton, as Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Customer Services and Unity Partnership, gave an undertaking a written reply would be supplied within five working days, which was as follows:

"CAMRA is an outside agency and, as such, we are very happy for them to hire the Queen Elizabeth Hall on a commercial basis, as is the case for every other outside body. It is important to recognise that the Queen Elizabeth Hall is run on a commercial basis, and receives no subsidy from the Council Tax payers of Oldham, and nor should it.

"The cost of hire for the original request was £12,000 and at the time we also received requests for hire from other organisations and parties.

"Representatives of the Council have met with the organisers on 4 occasions during last year and we are aware that representatives of the Mayor's Appeal Committee have had numerous meetings with CAMRA

dating from last June, to see how we could help them. "It's also worth noting that in previous years the level of subsidy that the Council has given to this event has been in the region of £12,000. The contribution to the Mayor's Appeal has been in the region of £5,000.

"It has been very clear throughout these discussions that the Hall couldn't be made available for free, as the concessionary budget that had previously subsidised the hire was removed as a budget option last year by full Council.

"However, the extensive discussions did identify opportunities to shorten the length of hire, leading to a proposed cost reduction of around a third for the hire. To ensure that the charities that the Mayor supports do not suffer, we are currently working with the Mayor and his Appeal Committee to put on an alternative fund raising event."

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Larkin:

"Can the Cabinet Member explain the increased spend recorded in 2008/09 in comparison to 2007/08 in the following areas

"1) Travel; this rose from £256k in 2007/08 to £367k in 2008/09.

"2) Hotels, conferences and courses which show an increase in spend from £209k in 07/08 to £341k in 08/09."

As the time for responses to Cabinet questions had expired, Councillor Thompson, as Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, gave an undertaking a written reply would be supplied within five working days, which was as follows:

"I thank Cllr Larkin for his question and for the notice given.

"Before I embark on the financial details, I need to explain to members the background to the figures in Cllr Larkin's question.

"They were given in response to a Freedom of Information request made by Cllr McMahan. When I became aware of the figures given, it struck me that there had been no apparent surge in activity, and certainly no permission to spend more lavishly, which would explain the apparent increase in spending. I asked for the figures to be rechecked, and received the results only this afternoon. I have arranged that a letter of apology will be sent urgently to Cllr McMahan with the corrected information. Meanwhile, I apologise to him.

"The reasons for the discrepancy centre on the implementation of a new financial system between

2007/08 and 2008/09. The transition was a difficult one because the Agresso system was implemented before it was entirely ready, to replace a system over 20 years old, unreliable and very opaque in its workings. The new system allows more detailed analysis of coding, especially around feeder systems such as payroll and enables the more accurate coding of travel expenses.

"Thus the 2008/09 figures for hotels, conferences and courses are more accurate than 2007/8 although inevitably coding mismatches do arise.

"Of the £132,000 apparent increase:

- £94,000 of this relates to expenditure incorrectly coded in previous years and which is in fact fully recharged to schools

- £12,000 relates to a coding error and thus

- the net increase is in the region of £26,000.

"Regarding the question of travel correction of miscodings suggests that the actual expenditure was £406k in 2007/08 and £437k in 2008/09, an increase of £31k.

"As will be understood by Members there are inevitably variations in expenditure year on year and in the scale of the Council's budget and activities variations of £26k and £31k are manageable within the Council's overall financial framework.

"I am glad to have had the opportunity to correct the misunderstanding. On the figures in front of him, Cllr Larkin was quite right to fear an unacceptable situation and ask for an explanation."

Item 13

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CABINET WITH AN ATTACHED LIST OF URGENT KEY DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE UNDERMENTIONED DATES AND TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS ON ANY ITEMS WITHIN THE MINUTES FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

10010183

The following Cabinet minutes were submitted:

9 December 2009

23 December 2009

Urgent key decisions taken between 25 November and 23 December 2009

The following question regarding the Cabinet minutes was submitted in advance of the meeting:

Councillor Williamson to Councillor Sykes regarding item nine - Oldham the Improvement Journey One

Year On - for the meeting held on 9 December 2009.

"Can the Leader of the Council explain what improvements have been made through the 'One Oldham' approach as mentioned in item 9 of the Cabinet Minutes of 9 December on page 84?"

The following question regarding the Cabinet minutes was submitted at the meeting:

Councillor Butterworth to Councillor Blyth regarding item six - Budget Proposals 2010/11 and Urgent Item Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Performance and Value for Money Select Committee on the Budget Proposals 2010/11 - for the meeting held on 9 December 2009.

She questioned what criteria would be used to determine how much money would be available to each district partnership.

Item 14

TO RECEIVE RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN THE PREVIOUS ITEM FROM APPROPRIATE CABINET MEMBERS

10010184

In response to Councillor Williamson, Councillor Sykes explained despite the good news in the report, the Council was not complacent and was stepping up the speed with which it needed to change.

Recent successes had included Passport to Summer, a big reduction in the Council's debt and less anti-social behaviour across the Borough. Area working had been established, with each pilot area getting £100,000 to experiment with new ways of working. Better links with partners were also being created. There had been investment in new facilities at the Civic Centre and the new brand was beginning to appear on signs across the Borough.

The Council had balanced its budget and achieved significant in year savings of £15 million in 2009/10.

The approval of the Metrolink extension through Oldham town centre showed the Borough was recognised at a city region level.

There had been a significant investment in staff through the Trust Oldham programme. There were more than 100 Trust Oldham leads who were helping change the organisation's culture from the bottom up. This was backed up by positive remarks from the inspector from Investors In People (IIP).

In response to Councillor Butterworth, Councillor Blyth explained it was clear in the budget that each partnership would received £100,000.

Item 15

TO RECEIVE OBSERVATIONS ON ANY ITEMS WITHIN THE MINUTES OF THE CABINET

10010185

**RECEIVED ABOVE FROM MEMBERS OF THE
COUNCIL WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE
CABINET**

Councillor Judge regarding item six - Budget Proposals 2010/11 and Urgent Item Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Performance and Value for Money Select Committee on the Budget Proposals 2010/11 - for the meeting held on 9 December 2009.

He explained the Performance and Value for Money Select Committee had recommended two highways inspectors would be appointed, but the appointment had not happened. The problems caused to roads and pavements following the recent cold weather was clear. The inspectors would have found faults, informed the responsible authority of the need to make repairs and then ensure the repairs were carried out properly.

Item 16 **TO RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM APPROPRIATE
CABINET MEMBERS TO OBSERVATIONS MADE
UNDER THE PREVIOUS ITEM** 10010186

In response to Councillor Judge, Councillor Alcock explained the recommendation had been accepted and the Council was recruiting for these posts. There had been a delay due to a recruitment freeze in the Highways Department because of the potential redeployment of some staff. This had now been resolved and the highways inspectors were due to start work by the end of April.

Item 17 **NOTICES OF MOTION** 10010187

1. Councillor McMahon MOVED and Councillor Dean SECONDED the following notice of motion:

"This council notes with disappointment the Supreme Court ruling which sees the end to the Office of Fair Trading challenge on bank charges.

"This council does not believe that bank charges are fair and proportionate.

"Fairness cuts through party politics and this council supports the Early Day Motion headed by Rt Hon Vince Cable MP which states 'That this House notes the judgement of the Supreme Court that banks and building societies were legally entitled to charge penalty fees for unauthorised overdrafts; further notes that the Supreme Court conclusion was not a judgement on the fairness of such charges; condemns the disproportionate penalty charges levied on customers by banks and building societies; welcomes the Office of Fair Trading's assessment that such charges are unfair; urges the Office of Fair Trading to continue to pursue this issue using the other powers available to it; calls on the British Bankers' Association

to amend the Banking Code to make explicit the industry's principles on service charges; further calls on the Government to review existing pricing structures; and further calls on banks and building societies to voluntarily refund unfair and disproportionate penalty charges.'

"This council formally recognises the impact of unfair bank charges on some of the most vulnerable and financially excluded residents.

"This council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to;

1. write to the borough MPs requesting that they support Early Day Motion 283
2. write the appropriate minister to outline our support."

Councillors Blyth, Hudson, Jabbar, Roughley and Thompson spoke in favour of the motion.

Councillor McMahon responded.

On a vote being taken, the motion was CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

This council notes with disappointment the Supreme Court ruling which sees the end to the Office of Fair Trading challenge on bank charges.

This council does not believe that bank charges are fair and proportionate.

Fairness cuts through party politics and this council supports the Early Day Motion headed by Rt Hon Vince Cable MP which states 'That this House notes the judgement of the Supreme Court that banks and building societies were legally entitled to charge penalty fees for unauthorised overdrafts; further notes that the Supreme Court conclusion was not a judgement on the fairness of such charges; condemns the disproportionate penalty charges levied on customers by banks and building societies; welcomes the Office of Fair Trading's assessment that such charges are unfair; urges the Office of Fair Trading to continue to pursue this issue using the other powers available to it; calls on the British Bankers' Association to amend the Banking Code to make explicit the industry's principles on service charges; further calls on the Government to review existing pricing structures; and further calls on banks and building societies to voluntarily refund unfair and disproportionate penalty charges.'

This council formally recognises the impact of unfair bank charges on some of the most vulnerable and financially excluded residents.

This council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to;

1. write to the borough MPs requesting that they support Early Day Motion 283
2. write the appropriate minister to outline our support.

2. Councillor McCann MOVED and Councillor Holley SECONDED the following notice of motion, making a minor typographical amendment in doing so:

"This Council recognises the value of holding major sporting events within the region both in economic terms and for their important potential to stimulate healthy sporting activity amongst the citizens of this Borough.

"This Council therefore gives its moral, political, and vocal support to the campaign to restore Ashes Test cricket to the North West, and calls upon our representatives within 4NW (the Regional Leaders Board for the north west of England) to provide the leadership to ensure that this comes about in 2013."

Councillor Hindle spoke in favour of the motion.

Councillor McCann responded.

On a vote being taken, the motion was CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

(i) This Council recognises the value of holding major sporting events within the region both in economic terms and for their important potential to stimulate healthy sporting activity amongst the citizens of this Borough.

This Council therefore gives its moral, political, and vocal support to the campaign to restore Ashes Test cricket to the North West, and calls upon our representatives within 4NW (the Regional Leaders Board for the north west of England) to provide the leadership to ensure that this comes about in 2013.

(ii) The notice of motion on further and higher education be deferred to the next meeting of Council.

Item 18

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGMA CONSTITUTION

10010188

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor McMahon SECONDED the report of the Borough Solicitor and the Assistant Chief Executive, which sought approval of amendments to the AGMA constitution.

On a vote being taken, the recommendations were CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

1. The proposed amendments to AGMA's Constitution be approved, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. The Borough Solicitor be requested to inform the AGMA Secretary of the Council's decision.
- Item 19 **AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION - BUSINESS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** 10010189
- Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor J Hulme SECONDED the report of the Borough Solicitor, which asked Council to consider options on the business to be transacted at Annual Council.
- On a vote being taken, the recommendation was CARRIED unanimously.
- RESOLVED**
1. The amendments to the Council Procedure Rules be approved, as set out in appendix two of the report.
- Item 20 **AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION - RENAMING THE SHAW, ROYTON AND CROMPTON DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP** 10010191
- Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor J Dillon SECONDED the report of the Borough Solicitor, which proposed an amendment to the name of the district partnership covering the Royton North, Royton South, Shaw and Crompton wards.
- On a vote being taken, the recommendation was CARRIED unanimously.
- RESOLVED**
1. The name of the district partnership covering the Royton North, Royton South, Shaw and Crompton wards be changed in the Council's Constitution to: Royton, Shaw and Crompton District Partnership.
- Item 21 **REVIEW OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY COUNCIL REQUIRING ACTION ARISING OUT OF NOTICES OF MOTION AT THE MEETING OF COUNCIL ON 16 DECEMBER 2009** 10010192
- RESOLVED**
1. The report be noted.
- The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 8.35pm.

COUNCIL – EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
24/02/2010 at 18:00

PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor McArdle)

Councillors: Ali, Akhtar, Alcock, Barker, Barrow, Bashforth, Ball, Beeley, Bell, Blyth, Buckley, Butterworth, Chadderton, Dawson, Dean, J Dillon, P Dillon, Dinoff, Heffernan, Hibbert, Hindle, Holley, Hudson, E Hulme, J Hulme, Hussain, Jabbar, D Jones, J Jones, Judge, Knowles, Knox, Larkin, Lord, Martin, Masud, McCann, McClaren, McMahan, Miah, Pendlebury, Quinn, Qumer, Rogers, Roughley, Salamat, Sedgwick, D Shaw, G Shaw, Stanton, Sykes, Thompson, Uddin, Ur Rehman, Wheeler, Williamson, Wingate and Wrigglesworth

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Iqbal.

Item 2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

Item 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

Item 4 **COUNCIL SUMMONS - EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** 10020115

This was noted.

Item 5 **GREATER MANCHESTER STATUTORY CITY REGION - GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS** 10020116

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor McMahan SECONDED the report of the Leader of the Council, which sought approval for matters in relation to the Manchester city region pilot and outlined the consultation framework for the proposed changes to the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities' (AGMA) governance framework.

Councillors Hibbert and Judge spoke in support of the report's recommendations.

Councillors Hudson, J Hulme and Martin spoke against the report's recommendations.

Councillor Sykes responded.

On a vote being taken, the report's recommendations were CARRIED by 50 votes in favour and seven against.

RESOLVED

1. The document "City Region Governance - a consultation on future arrangements in Greater Manchester", including a draft scheme for the

establishment of a Combined Authority (CA) be considered.

2. Without prejudice to the consideration of the outcome of the further work to be completed as part of the review under Part 6 of the Local Democracy Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (LDEDCA), AGMA's view be endorsed that the work which has been undertaken so far as part of the review supports the establishment of a CA in Greater Manchester on the basis that it would be likely to improve:

(a) the exercise of the statutory functions relating to economic development, regeneration and transport in the area;

(b) the effectiveness and efficiency of transport in the area; and

(c) economic conditions in the area.

3. It be noted work has been commissioned by AGMA from KPMG to produce a business case / plan regarding the benefits of a CA compared to alternative options.

4. The proposals in the draft scheme be supported, in particular:

(a) the establishment of a CA with responsibilities for economic development, regeneration and transport;

(b) the establishment of a joint committee of the CA and the ten district councils to assume responsibilities for the exercise of transport function specified in the draft scheme;

(c) the proposed area of the CA;

(d) the proposed naming of the CA and the joint transport committee as the Manchester City Region Authority (MCRA) and the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee (TfGMC) respectively;

(e) the membership of the proposed MCRA and TfGMC;

(f) the proposed voting arrangements;

(g) the proposed functions of MCRA and TfGMC;

(h) the proposed scrutiny arrangements;

(i) the proposals relating to the current GMPTE and, in particular, the proposals to integrate into it various specified transport units and then rename it Transport for Greater Manchester Executive; and

(j) any other issues raised in or by the consultation document.

5. The Leader of the Council be authorised to consider

the conclusions of the review and to approve (with or without modifications) any final draft scheme to be presented to the February AGMA Executive board.

6. It be agreed the conclusions of the review and final scheme agreed by the AGMA Executive board be approved by delegated authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the other Group Leaders.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.15pm.

COUNCIL
24/02/2010 at 18:15

PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor McArdle)

Councillors: Ali, Akhtar, Alcock, Barker, Barrow, Bashforth, Ball, Beeley, Bell, Blyth, Buckley, Butterworth, Chadderton, Dawson, Dean, J Dillon, P Dillon, Dinoff, Heffernan, Hibbert, Hindle, Holley, Hudson, E Hulme, J Hulme, Hussain, Iqbal, Jabbar, D Jones, J Jones, Judge, Knowles, Knox, Larkin, Lord, Martin, Masud, McCann, McClaren, McMahan, Miah, Pendlebury, Quinn, Qumer, Rogers, Roughley, Salamat, Sedgwick, D Shaw, G Shaw, Stanton, Sykes, Thompson, Uddin, Ur Rehman, Wheeler, Williamson, Wingate and Wrigglesworth

Item 2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

Item 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Hindle declared a personal interest in item 3 (d) - item 9 on these minutes - (Housing Revenue Account Estimates 2009/10 to 2012/13 First Choice Homes Oldham Management Fee 2009/10 and 2010/11) as his wife was an employee of First Choice Homes Oldham.

Councillors Barrow, Judge and Martin declared personal interests in item 3 (d) - item 9 on these minutes - (Housing Revenue Account Estimates 2009/10 to 2012/13 First Choice Homes Oldham Management Fee 2009/10 and 2010/11) as they were members of the First Choice Homes Oldham Main Board.

Item 4 **COUNCIL SUMMONS**

10020109

This was noted.

Item 5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON THE 9TH FEBRUARY 2010**

10020108

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor Thompson SECONDED the minutes of Cabinet on 9 February 2010.

On a vote being taken, the recommendation was CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

1. The minutes of Cabinet held on 9 February 2010 be noted.

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor Thompson SECONDED the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which set out the strategy for the 2010/2011 treasury management activities.

On a vote being taken, the recommendations were CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

1. The Treasury Limits for 2010/11 to 2012/13 be approved, as set out in section 5.1 of the report.
2. The limits to interest rate exposures be approved, as set out in section 5.2.2 of the report.
3. The upper and lower limits on fixed rate debt maturity structure be approved, as set out in section 5.2.3 of the report.
4. The projected position as at 31/03/2010 be noted, as per paragraph 5.3.2 of the report.
5. The Borrowing Strategy for 2010/11 be approved, as per section 5.6 of the report.
6. The Annual Investment Strategy be approved, as per section 5.8 of the report, including the investment credit rating criteria and the level of investment in non specified investments.
7. The Minimum Revenue Provision policy and method of calculation be approved, as per section 5.9 of the report.
8. The 2010/11 to 2012/13 Prudential Indicators be approved, as per section 5.10 of the report.

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor Thompson SECONDED the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which set out the strategy for the 2010-13 capital programme and the proposed 2010-11 capital programme, including prioritisation of the identified capital requirements having regard to the resources available.

On a vote being taken, the recommendations were CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

1. The capital strategy for 2010-13 be approved, as per section 5 and Appendix 1 of the report.
2. The actions going forward be approved, as per section 6 of the report.

Item 8 **INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: A BUDGET READY
FOR RECOVERY - CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010-11
to 2012- 2013** 10020099

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor Thompson SECONDED the report of the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which set out the proposed 2010-11 to 2012-13 capital programme, including prioritisation of the identified capital requirements.

On a vote being taken, the recommendations were CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

1. The capital programme for 2010-11 to 2012-13 be approved, as set out in section 5 of the report.
2. It be noted individual capital schemes will be submitted for approval after Stage 2 business cases have been assessed.

Item 9 **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ESTIMATES
2009/2010 TO 2012/2013 FIRST CHOICE HOMES
OLDHAM (FCHO) MANAGEMENT FEE 2009/2010
AND 2010/2011** 10020104

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor Thompson SECONDED the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources and the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing, which set out the latest Housing Revenue Account (HRA) estimates for 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 and strategic estimates for 2011/2012 and 2012/2013. It also set out the management fee to be paid to First Choice Homes Oldham (FCHO) for 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 and the dwelling rents and non dwelling rents and service charge increases to be applied from 5 April 2010.

Councillors Holley and McCann spoke in support of the report's recommendations.

Councillors Dean and Martin spoke in relation to the report's recommendations.

Councillor Sykes responded.

On a vote being taken, the recommendations were CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

1. The forecast out-turn for 2009/2010 be noted.
2. The proposed HRA budget alternatives for 2010/2011 be approved.
3. The alternative FCHO management fee proposals for 2010/2011 be agreed.
4. The proposed increases in dwelling rents, non-

dwelling rents, service charges and leaseholder service charges be approved.

5. The alternative strategic forecasts for 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 be noted.

Item 10 **STATEMENT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ON ADEQUACY OF PROVISIONS AND RESERVES, ROBUSTNESS OF THE ESTIMATES AND AFFORDABILITY AND PRUDENCE OF CAPITAL INVESTMENTS** 10020105

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor Thompson SECONDED the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which proposed the level of reserves necessary to support the 2010/11 budget and revised Medium Term Financial Strategy as approved by Cabinet on 9 February 2010.

On a vote being taken, the recommendations were carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

1. The recommended level of general reserves to support the 2010/11 budget of £12,302k be agreed.
2. The projected levels for the following two years be agreed at £13,579k and £12,570k.
3. The Borough Treasurer's assurance about the robustness of the estimates and reserves be noted, as set out in paragraph 10.1 and what this assurance is based on.

Item 11 **MOTION: INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: A BUDGET READY FOR RECOVERY - REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS** 10020113

RESOLVED

Council Procedure Rule 10.7 (Length of Speeches) be suspended to enable the following:

- (i) the Leader of the Council to speak for 15 minutes in proposing the report;
- (ii) the Leader of the Opposition to speak for 10 minutes in proposing the amendment;
- (iii) the Leader of the Minority Opposition to speak for 10 minutes on either the amendment or the original/ substantive motion.

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor Thompson SECONDED the report of the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which presented the updated 2010/11 revenue budget position incorporating all information available on 15 February 2010 and included recommendations of

Cabinet at its meeting on 9 February 2010. It set out specifically:

- the latest projections for the budget for 2010/11;
- the final stage of the budget process leading to the setting of the 2010/11 budget and Council Tax at Council on 24 February 2010;
- information arising from the budget consultation process.

AMENDMENT

Councillor McMahon MOVED and Councillor Akhtar SECONDED the following amendment:

"The Council adopts the opposition budget for the municipal year 2010/11."

Councillors Bashforth, Butterworth, Chadderton, Dean, Jabbar, J Jones, Judge, Larkin, McLaren, G Shaw, Ur Rehman and Wrigglesworth spoke in favour of the amendment.

Councillors Barrow, Beeley, Buckley, Dawson, P Dillon, Hindle, Hudson, J Hulme, Knowles, Knox, Masud, McCann, Pendlebury, Sedgwick, Stanton and Wheeler spoke against the amendment.

Councillor Sykes responded.

Councillor McMahon responded.

On a vote being taken, the amendment was LOST by 23 votes in favour and 37 against.

ORIGINAL MOTION

Councillor Sykes responded.

On a vote being taken, the original motion was CARRIED on the Mayor's casting vote with 30 votes in favour and 30 against.

In accordance with Council procedure rule 12.3 at least five Members requested a recorded vote on the original motion. The vote was recorded as follows:

For the original motion:

Councillors: Alcock, Barrow, Beeley, Buckley, Blyth, Dawson, J Dillon, P Dillon, Dinoff, Heffernan, Hindle, Holley, Knowles, Knox, Lord, Masud, McArdle, McCann, Miah, Pendlebury, Roughley, Stanton, Sedgwick, D Shaw, Sykes, Thompson, Uddin, Wheeler, Williamson and Wingate

Against the original motion:

Councillors: Akhtar, Ali, Ball, Barker, Bashforth, Bell, Butterworth, Chadderton, Dean, Hibbert, Hudson, E Hulme, J Hulme, Hussain, Iqbal, Jabbar, D Jones, J Jones, Judge, Larkin, Martin, McClaren, McMahon,

Quinn, Qumer, Rogers, Salamat, G Shaw, Ur-Rehman and Wrigglesworth

RESOLVED

1. The net budget requirements for 2010/2011 be determined at £206.801m including a levy of £11.041m from Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority (GMWDA) and £14.844m from the Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority resulting in a levy for Oldham Council only on the Council Tax of £84.478m.

2. It be noted, at its meeting held on 9 February 2010, the Cabinet calculated the following amounts for the year 2010/2011 in accordance with Regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(i) 62,769 being the amount calculated by the Cabinet, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities

(Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its Council Tax Base for the year; and

ii) Part of the Council's area

The Parish of Saddleworth 9,868

The Parish of Shaw and Crompton 6,475

being the amounts calculated by the Cabinet, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax Base for the year 2010/2011 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

3. The following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2010/11 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a) £206,800,872 being the amount by which the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act exceeds the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;

(b) £122,052,397 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of redistributed Non-Domestic Rates and Revenue Support Grant increased by the

amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its Collection Fund to its General Fund pursuant to the Collection Fund

(Community Charges Directions under Section 98(5) of the Local

Government Finance Act made on 7 February 1995);

(c) £1,350.16 being the amount at 3(a) above, less the amount at 3(b) above, all divided by the amount at 2(i) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year;

(d) £270,817 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act;

(e) £1,345.85 being the amount 3(c) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(d) above by the amount at 2(i) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates;

(f) Part of the Council's area

£17.90 The Parish of Saddleworth

£14.54 The Parish of Shaw and Crompton

being the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 2(ii) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate;

(g) Part of the Council's area

Oldham (other than Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton) Valuation Bands

A £897.23

B £1,046.77

C £1,196.31

D £1,345.85

E £1,644.93

F £1,944.01

G £2,243.08

H £2,691.70

Saddleworth Valuation Bands

A £909.16

B £1,060.69

C £1,212.22

D £1,363.75

E £1,666.81

F £1,969.87

G £2,272.91

H £2,727.50

Shaw and Crompton Valuation Bands

A £906.92

B £1,058.08

C £1,209.23

D £1,360.39

E £1,662.70

F £1,965.01

G £2,267.31

H £2,720.78

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(e) and 3(f) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

4. It be noted for the year 2010/2011 the major precepting authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Precepting Authority

Greater Manchester Police Authority Valuation Bands

A £96.22

B £112.26

C £128.09

D £144.33

E £176.40

F £208.48

G £240.55

H £288.66

Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority
Valuation Bands

- A £35.10
- B £40.95
- C £46.80
- D £52.65
- E £64.35
- F £76.05
- G £87.75
- H £105.30

5. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(g) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2010/2011 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Part of the Council's area Oldham (other than Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton) Valuation Bands

- A £1,028.55
- B £1,199.98
- C £1,371.40
- D £1,542.83
- E £1,885.68
- F £2,228.54
- G £2,571.38
- H £3,085.66

Saddleworth Valuation Bands

- A £1,040.48
- B £1,213.90
- C £1,387.31
- D £1,560.73
- E £1,907.56
- F £2,254.40
- G £2,601.21
- H £3,121.46

Shaw and Crompton Valuation Bands

- A £1,038.24
- B £1,211.29
- C £1,384.32

D £1,557.37

E £1,903.45

F £2,249.54

G £2,595.61

H £3,114.74

6. The reduction to £8.266m of previously approved Tranche 1 savings proposals be approved.

7. The Tranche 2 and 3 savings proposals of £2.720m and £150k be approved.

8. The use of £138k surplus resources now identified in the budget process for use on further Priority Investment Opportunities be approved.

9. It be approved the revenue spending forecast for 2010/11 is £247.710m of which £235.075m is for Council Services and £271k for Parish Precepts with £27.534m funded by the Area Based Grant, £1.011m by reserves leaving a net budget requirement for the Council and Parishes of £206.801m.

10. It be approved the total draw on the Collection Fund is £97.631m inclusive of the Collection Fund surplus, with £84.933m for Council Services.

11. The proposals for risk management be approved.

12. The use of any GMWDA levy rebate in 2010/11 as a contribution to the reserve for smoothing future levy increases be approved.

Item 12 **APPENDIX 13 INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: A BUDGET READY FOR RECOVERY 2010/2011- BUDGET CONSULTATION DOCUMENT** 10020114

The minute for this item is included as part of item 11 of the minutes.

Item 13 **AMENDMENT TO MOTION - MEETING THE CHALLENGE - ALTERNATIVE BUDGET** 10020129

The minute for this item is included as part of item 11 of the minutes.

Item 14 **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY - A FRAMEWORK** 10020107

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor Thompson SECONDED the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which presented a framework for the development of the medium term financial strategy (MTFS) to be undertaken immediately after the anticipated change in local government funding following the forthcoming national general election, and an update of the current MTFS.

On a vote being taken, the recommendations were

CARRIED unanimously.

RESOLVED

1. The framework for the MTFS 2010/11 to 2012/13 be agreed.
2. The current updated MTFS be agreed.

The meeting started at 6.15pm and ended at 9.25pm.

Item 6

COUNCIL
21st APRIL 2010

LIST OF PETITIONS

Executive Director, Economy, Place & Skills

1. David's Handy Rider Coaches parked on Stoneleigh Street and Oban Avenue (received 15TH February 2010) (46 signatures)
2. Request for a larger car park in High Crompton (received 9th March 2010) (64 signatures)
3. Request for Residents Only Parking on Repton Avenue, Hollins (14 signatures)
4. Proposed Residents' Parking Scheme for Gordon Street and Lily Street (25 signatures)

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE AUTHORITY

15th January, 2010

Meeting commenced: 9:30 a.m.
“ ended: 11:25 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Paul Murphy – in the Chair

Councillor Warren Bray, Mrs Sharron Hardman, Mr Ian Hargreaves, Mr Majid Hussain, Mrs Christine McGawley, Mrs Gloria Oates, Councillor Keith Pendlebury, Councillor Charles Rigby, Mr Lee Rowbotham, Councillor Noel Spencer, Mrs Pam Taylor, Councillor Barbara Todd, Councillor Roy Walker and Councillor Susan Williams

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Barbara Spicer, Chief Executive
Russell Bernstein, Executive Director
Roger Bell, Head of Financial Services
Anthony Rich, Monitoring Officer
Alison Connelly, Head of Governance and Policy
Sam Frenz, Head of Scrutiny and Engagement
Donna Bell, Strategic Communications Officer
Jo Barr, Policy Officer
Nikki Park, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Peter Fahy, Chief Constable
Simon Byrne, Deputy Chief Constable
Lynne Potts, Assistant Chief Officer (Business Resources)
Terry Sweeney, Assistant Chief Constable
Ray Thomas, Force Finance Director
Mike Pomfret, Facilities Director
Mark Lynch, Project Accountant

61. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Ms Elaine Belton, Mrs Cathy Conchie, Councillor David Lancaster and Councillor Paul Porgess

62. FULL BUSINESS CASE FOR THE NEW NORTH MANCHESTER DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND REFURBISHMENT OF COLLYHURST POLICE STATION

The Chief Executive and the Chief Constable submitted a joint report (a) updating Members on the progress which had been made since the approval of the Outline Business Case on 14th August, 2009, (Minute No. 34 refers), and (b) which sought approval of the Full Business Case.

The Executive Director reported that there had been some concerns with regard to the funding for the project, however, following intense negotiations, lead by the Chairman, funding as originally agreed would be received.

The Assistant Chief Officer (Business Resources) reported on the progress which had been made since the approval of the Outline Business Case.

The Chief Constable reported that the project re-enforced the Policing Strategy, highlighting that it would provide greater efficiencies and would improve team working.

In response to a question raised with regard to access to the police in Manchester City Centre, the Chairman reported that Manchester City Council would be involved, at the appropriate time, in any discussions with regard to the relocation of a Police Station in the City Centre.

In response to a concern raised with regard to the revenue consequences, the Head of Financial Services reported that at present he was confident that this provision could be met. The Chairman indicated that there had been a clear commitment from Government that the three areas of spending (police, health and education) would be protected, however, significant savings would need to be made, but an assurance had been given that this project was manageable. The Vice Chair commented that the new headquarters would be more efficient and fit for purpose. The Chief Executive reported that this project had been built into the long term budget proposals, and in the overall Estates Strategy, whilst big investments would be made, these new facilities would take more people, so there use would be maximised. The Chief Constable commented that at present the custody estate was disorganised, such proposals would involve a smaller number of larger more modern buildings, which would be more efficient, therefore, there would be associated savings.

A Member referred to the capital costs, and questioned why there was a difference. The Project Accountant reported that the financial costs had been updated to reflect the final design stage.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the Full Business case be approved, subject to the receipt of written confirmation of the funding arrangements.

(2) THAT upon receipt of the abovementioned written confirmation, delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chair of the Police Authority, and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Finance, Assets and Technology Resources Committee to make the final decision to approve the Full Business Case.

(3) THAT the Chairman and all those involved in the negotiations with regard to the funding for the project be thanked for their hard work.

(4) THAT all those involved in producing the Full Business Case be thanked for their hard work.

63. UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND PROVISION OF CUSTODY

The Chief Constable submitted a report updating Members on the work the Force had initiated with regard to the strategy for the management of and provision of custody.

The Assistant Chief Constable reported that a business case would be progressed for each of the options identified and a further report would be submitted at a future meeting for consideration.

A Member commented that the report was welcomed as it would address some of the issues identified by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary.

Members expressed concern with regard to the option for a centralised custody facility due to the amount of time this may involve travelling to and from the premises. The Assistant Chief Constable reported that a range of options were being investigated, a business case would be produced, the costs for each would be assessed, and this would assist in determining how best to deliver the service. .

A Member referred to the welfare of detainees whilst in the custody suite and the need for this to also be considered during their transportation, and the Assistant Chief Constable provided an assurance that all comments/concerns would be taken on board.

The Chief Constable commented that this process was not just about the facilities, there was also a need to consider whether current practices were too complex.

A Member referred to detainees with mental health issues and the assessment that needs to be made as to whether they are at risk, as it was considered that it should not be the Force's responsibility to make that judgement. The Assistant

Greater Manchester Police Authority
15th January, 2010

Chief Constable commented that it had been recommended that health care provision within police custody should become the responsibility of the National Health Service.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the work being undertaken with regard to the development of an Outline Business Case for a new custody model be supported.

(2) THAT Mr Ian Hargreaves be appointed as the Lead Member for Custody, to engage with the Custody Review Team as the new strategy is developed.

(3) THAT any additional comments be submitted to the Assistant Chief Constable at the earliest opportunity.

64. UPDATE ON THE FORCE'S STRATEGIC FINANCIAL OUTLOOK AND LINKS WITH "PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST", THE FORCE'S MODERNISATION AND CHANGE PROGRAMME AND PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Treasurer to the Authority and the Chief Constable submitted a joint report, updating Members on the Force's Strategic Financial Outlook and its links with "Putting People First", the Force's modernisation and change programme, and their performance improvement plan.

Members referred to the increase of 200 officers in Neighbourhood Policing Teams, the civilianisation of 200 police officer posts, and the disestablishment of 100 police officer posts engaged in non frontline duties. The Chief Constable reported that (a) there would be a long term programme of civilianisation of some police officer posts, 100 police officer posts had been identified as not needed, and there would be an increase of 200 in Neighbourhood Policing, and (b) there was a need to improve efficiencies and ensure that the public received the maximum value. The Chairman commented that it was evident that the public wanted more police officers on the streets, there were future challenges and this report identified how those would be addressed.

RESOLVED: THAT the report, and the amendment highlighted on page 43, to delete '£11.5M, and substitute '£17M' be noted.

65. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: THAT under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as specified in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, as amended.

66. OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF ROCHDALE
DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS

(NOTE: Members confirmed their decision to consider this item without the public being present as the public interest would not be served in releasing information relating to the financial or business affairs of the Authority)

The Chief Executive and the Chief Constable submitted a joint report which sought approval to (a) the Outline Business Case for the refurbishment of Rochdale Divisional Headquarters, and (b) continue to develop the Full Business Case for the preferred option for the development.

The Project Accountant reported on the work which had been undertaken to produce the Outline Business Case.

The Chief Constable reported that the proposals complimented the Policing Strategy and were an example of how modernising premises could assist the Chief Superintendent to modernise the culture.

In response to a question with regard to whether there would be an impact on policing in Rochdale while work was being undertaken, the Chief Constable reported that procedures were in place to continue the service provision.

A Member referred to the need to ensure that the foundations/underpinning for the development were in place prior to work commencing. The Facilities Director reported that a full structural survey had been completed and there would be some preparatory work undertaken.

In response to comments made in relation to custody arrangements, the Assistant Chief Constable reported that this would be considered as part of the overall Custody Strategy.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the Outline Business Case and the refurbishment of the existing Divisional Headquarters as the preferred option be approved.

(2) THAT the completion of the Full Business Case for the preferred option be approved.

(3) THAT all those involved in producing the Outline Business Case be thanked for their hard work.

This page is intentionally left blank



Present: Councillor Swannick (in the Chair)

Councillors Akram, Alexander, Coupe, Darvesh, Dillon, Fitzpatrick, Glover, Gordon, Hurst, Jones, J Murphy, N Murphy, Piddington, Shaw, Wright and Young

Officers Clerk to the Authority, Treasurer and Deputy Clerk to the Authority, Executive Director, Director of Contract Services, Director of Resources and Solicitor to the Authority

Apologies: Councillors Barrow, Burgoyne, Molyneux and Talbot

M71 Urgent Business, if any, introduced by the Chair

There were no urgent items introduced by the Chair.

M72 To receive Declarations of Interest in any contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting

There were no declarations of interest raised at the meeting.

M73 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 20th November 2009

RESOLVED: The minutes dated 20th November 2009 were confirmed as an accurate record subject to the following amendments:

- minute 68 resolution d) i) - 'pre' should be amended to 'pie'; and
- minute 70 resolution c) - 'be carried out' should be removed from the resolution.

73.1 Community Waste Fund (minute 63)

Members were informed that a report would be presented to the next Authority meeting on 9th April 2010.

73.2 Plastics: A Way Forward (minute M69)

It was explained that the recent study undertaken by the consultants had raised more questions than answers therefore a further report would be considered at a future meeting.

73.3 Delegated Decisions

The Treasurer/Deputy Clerk reported that, in future, delegated decisions would not be included in the Authority's agenda. They would continue to be placed on the Modern.Gov system and a pack would be circulated to Members at each meeting.

M74 Strategic Partnership Board

The Chair updated the Authority of the discussions at the Strategic Partnership Board which took place on 10th December 2009. It was noted that given the commercially sensitive nature of the discussions, those issues were contained within the closed reports within the agenda.

RESOLVED: That the Authority notes the report.

M75 Communications Update: Waste Minimisation

The Authority considered the report of the Treasurer/Deputy Clerk which at the request of the Authority covered areas to be developed for broader joint work with Viridor Laing (Greater Manchester) Ltd (VLGM) along with the key milestones for the development of the Authority's own plans.

In response to a question raised regarding the timing of the waste composition analysis work, Members were reassured that the work would have a staggered roll-out covering both residual and bulky waste, with the Authority working with the Waste Collection Authorities as to when and where to undertake the analysis. This would also incorporate a seasonal check to ensure that the Authority received the maximum amount of information.

The Chair reported that the interim report was moving in the right direction however given the communications budget the Authority needed to start seeing the outcomes and the impact of the expenditure particularly surrounding the important areas such as waste prevention and minimisation.

RESOLVED: That the Authority

- a) notes the work being undertaken and planned;
- b) approves the initial release of funding to undertake the work listed in paragraph 5.10 and the in principle findings as set out in paragraph 5.11 of the report;
- c) agrees the principle of carrying forward the remaining balance of the budget into 2010/11 to augment spend at a critical time for districts roll out; and
- d) requires a report setting out proposals for 2010/11 activity, key deliverables and recommended spend to be presented to the 9th April 2010 meeting of the Authority.

M76 Performance Monitoring - nine months to 31st December 2009

Consideration was given to the Joint Officers' report which provided Members with a summary of performance for the third quarter of the year.

A question was raised regarding whether there would be a reduction in the level of recyclates for that period due to the recent adverse weather conditions. In response, the Executive Director reported that whilst most of the HWRC's stayed opened, it was envisaged that there would be some decrease in tonnages; however it was felt that it would not be of great significance.

Regarding the monitoring arrangements of performance, it was explained that the performance indicators were reviewed on a monthly basis by not only the Management Team but through the contract's governance arrangements.

A Member asked for clarification on what would warrant a 'red' status in respect of payment of invoices and it was reported that 'red' status would apply if the Authority felt that the issue was unsolvable.

Given the adverse weather conditions it was suggested that the Executive Director should write to the districts and request that access roads to all the HWRC's should be given priority status to ensure that residents had an outlet for their waste particularly when collection services were unable to collect waste from resident's homes.

It was confirmed that the fourth quarter performance monitoring report would go to the 9th April Authority meeting.

- RESOLVED: That the Authority
- a) notes current performance for the third quarter to the end of December 2009; and
 - b) endorses the remedial action being taken to ensure that, in the limited areas where performance is not meeting targets, targets are met at year end.

M77 Modernising the Authority and Organisational Review

The Authority considered the report of the Clerk, Executive Director and Treasurer/Deputy Clerk which provided Members with an update of the work being undertaken in relation to modernising the Authority. The areas covered were:

- Section 4 - Implementation of Phase 1 of the Constitutional Review
- Section 5 - Phase 2 of the Constitutional Review
- Section 6 - Members' Allowances
- Section 7 - Organisational Review

Members were informed that the Audit Committee interviews for 2 Independent Members would be held on 2nd February 2010 and the first meeting of the committee meeting was scheduled for 1st March 2010.

- RESOLVED: That the Authority
- a) notes progress in modernisation;
 - b) requests that a further report is considered at the next Authority meeting on 9th April 2010, in relation to Phase 2 and the Organisational Review; and
 - c) agrees a target saving of £100K for the Organisational Review.

M78 Audit 2008/09 Annual Audit Letter

Jackie Bellard, District Auditor and David Nuttall, Internal Audit was present to answer Members questions.

Members considered the report of the Treasurer/Deputy Clerk and the presentation from the Audit Commission's representative, which set out the findings outlined within the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter 2008/09.

The Authority discussed in detail the findings and recommendations of the Audit Commission along with the action and timeframes for implementation which were contained within the Action Plan, situated at Appendix 2 of the Annual Audit Letter.

- RESOLVED: That the Authority
- a) notes the report and the Annual Audit Letter 2008/09 as set in Appendix A, of the report;
 - b) notes the work undertaken to address the 'except for' VFM conclusion; and
 - c) confirms that a copy of the Annual Audit Letter is to be placed on the Authority's website.

M79 Budget and Levy 2010/11 to 2014/15

Consideration was given to the Joint Officers' report which presented a further update on the budget requirements and levy prospects for the next five financial years. It was noted that a final review would be undertaken by the AGMA Executive Board on 29th January 2010, prior to firm proposals on the budget and levy being considered at the 12th February 2010 Special Purposes meeting.

It was explained that a companion report which considered commercial confidential information underpinning the budget was contained within the agenda at item 12 - Budget and Levy 2010/11 to 2014/15.

The Treasurer/Deputy Clerk explained that the RPIx (Retail Price Index excluding mortgage) interest rate had increased meaning that a further £300k needed to be added to the figures. Members were reassured however that the virtual smoothed levy would remain at 10.7%

RESOLVED: That the Authority notes progress being made in compiling robust budgets for the 2010/11 to 2014/15 financial years.

M80 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: That, in accordance with Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting at this juncture for the following business on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respectively indicated paragraph 3 and that it would not be, on balance, in the public interest to disclose the information to the public because disclosure would be likely to breach the reasonable requirements of companies to commercial confidentiality at this stage of the procurement process.

M81 Budget and Levy 2010/11 to 2014/15

The Authority considered the Joint Officers' report in relation to the budget assumptions which, due to the commercially sensitive nature of the information used in compiling the budget, was not reported as part of the update report considered in the open section of the agenda.

The Clerk updated the Authority on the current position of Wigan Council and explained that a detailed report setting out the Authority options in relation to spare capacity would be brought to the next Authority Meeting on the 9th April 2010.

Whilst it was acknowledged that a prudent approach had been taken due to the outstanding issues, clarity was sought as to whether Districts would have to wait until April 2011 to receive any rebate. It was explained that a number of the issues would not have a huge impact because the expenditure would be spread over a number of years. The big variances would however apply to the Inter Authority Agreement and tonnages. Members were further reassured that Officers had been working with District Treasurers to obtain more accurate figures.

A series of questions were raised regarding Pensions and the Treasurer/Deputy Clerk explained how the ring-fenced scheme operated.

Clarity was sought why windrow tonnage were within the IAA figures and it was explained that within the Contract VLGM, through third parties, had windrow facilities to accommodate Green Waste Collection Services until the IVC's became functional to take Districts food and green waste services.

The Chair enquired whether there had been any financial savings through the strengthening of clienting arrangements within the Contract. In response the Director of Contract Services explained the total amount of saving the Authority has made through the arrangements.

- RESOLVED: That the Authority
- a) agrees the strategy set out in the report, in relation to budgets for the five financial years 2010/11 to 2014/15; and
 - b) requests that a report on the strategy regarding surplus capacity be presented to the next Authority Meeting on the 9th April 2010.

M82 Bolton IVC

Consideration was given to the Joint Officers' report which provided Members with an update on the emerging cost position in respect of developing the proposed fourth In Vessel Composting (IVC) facility on land at Over Hulton, Bolton, and to suggest two potential ways to move forward. It was explained that the options needed to be further developed to assess which would be the preferred option.

Whilst the report set out various options in relation to the Bolton IVC, Members sought assurance that all Districts would not be affected by the outcome of the chosen approach. The Executive Director reassured Members on this issue.

On Behalf of Bolton Council, Cllr Darvesh requested that that the next report provided an analysis on the impact to Bolton and Bury particularly surrounding the implication of not being able to implement food collection services if there was no Bolton IVC.

The Chair agreed that the way forward needed to be carefully thought through and whilst he acknowledged that there had been particular problems in finding a suitable site, the Authority should look to find a solution that met the aspirations of Bolton and Bury.

- RESOLVED: That the Authority adopts the twin track approach set out in paragraph 8.1 of the report.

M83 Risk Management

Members considered the Director of Resources' report which provided an outline of the Authority overall approach to risk management, the key risks and provided assurance that there were appropriate controls and systems in place to mitigate those risks.

- RESOLVED: That the Authority endorses the approach to risk management and the Risk Management Policy at Appendix 1 of the report.

The meeting commenced at 11.10am and closed at 12.32pm

This page is intentionally left blank

**ANY AMENDMENTS TO THESE MINUTES WILL BE SHOWN WITHIN THE TEXT OF THE
MINUTES FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE**

Meeting: National Park Authority Meeting

Date: 4 December 2009

Venue: Aldern House Baslow Road Bakewell Derbyshire

Chair: Mr N Bajarria

Present: Mrs A Ashe, Clr T Bagshaw, Miss P Beswick, Clr Mrs J Bevan, Mr C Carr, Dr R Clarke, Ms P Coleman, Clr Mrs T Critchlow, Clr A Favell, Prof J Herbert, Ms S Leckie, Clr A Marchington, Clr C McLaren, Mr G Nickolds, Clr C J Pearson, Mr C Pennell, Mr R Priestley, Mrs L C Roberts, Clr Mrs M Stockdale, Clr Mrs J A Twigg, Clr Mrs D Ward, Clr Mrs J Wharmby. Clr Mrs D Wilde.

Apologies for absence: Mr C J Bowell, Clr Mrs H M Gaddum, Clr Mrs C G Heath, Mrs K Potter, Clr G Purdy.

76/09 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair expressed thanks to everyone for their part in the celebrations for the 60th Anniversary of the National Parks legislation. Tree planting ceremonies will be held on the 16th December, together with a reception for individuals and organisations that have played their part in the history of the National Park.

He reminded Members about the Constituent Councils conference on 8th January 2010.

He thanked the staff for organising the recent Planning Conference at Losehill Hall which had been well attended.

77/09 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 18 September and 2 October 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

78/09 7. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item No 8.1 to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information under S100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Paragraph 3 "Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person" and Paragraph 5 "Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings".

Part B Exempt Information

Summary

STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT

79/09 8.1 LONGSTONE EDGE 1952 PERMISSION (MIN.2382/JJL)

The meeting considered a report on the present position on the outstanding concerns relating to the 1952 planning permission for mineral extraction at Longstone Edge.

The decision of the Meeting is recorded in the PART B Exempt Minutes relating to this item.

Part A The meeting re-opened to the public.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

80/09 9.1 DEFRA CONSULTATION ON NATIONAL PARKS CIRCULAR (A.11/JBD)

The meeting considered the proposed Authority's comments on the recent Defra consultation on a Circular on English National Parks and the Vision for National Parks.

When considering the report Members made comments and suggested changes which were noted by officers. These will be considered in the preparation of the final response to the consultation document.

RESOLVED:

1. **That the general comments set out in part A paragraphs 1-8 of Appendix 1 to the report, amended in line with the general views expressed by Members at the Authority meeting, be noted as the basis of the Authority's response to the Defra consultation on its draft Circular on National Parks in England.**
2. **That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority be given delegated authority to make detailed changes to the consultation response prior to submission to Defra.**

The meeting adjourned at 12.55 pm and reconvened at 1.30 pm.

Chair: Clr T Bagshaw

Present: Mrs A Ashe, , Miss P Beswick, Clr Mrs J Bevan, Mr C Carr, Dr R Clarke, Ms P Coleman, Clr Mrs T Critchlow, Clr A Favell, Prof J Herbert, Ms S Leckie, Clr C McLaren, Mr G Nickolds, Clr C J Pearson, Mr C Pennell, Mr R Priestley, Mrs L C Roberts, Clr Mrs M Stockdale, Clr Mrs J A Twigg, Clr Mrs D Ward, Clr Mrs J Wharmby. Clr Mrs D Wilde.

Apologies for absence: Mr N Bajaria, Clr A Marchington both attending other Authority business.

81/09 9.2 POLICY ON TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERS DETERMINING PLANNING MATTERS (A.111/JBD)

The meeting considered a draft policy on planning training for members.

RESOLVED:

That the policy on training requirements for Members determining planning matters at Appendix 1 of the report be amended in light of Members' comments and considered by the Member Learning and Development Task Team to finalise the draft for consideration at the February Authority meeting.

CORPORATE RESOURCES

82/09 10.1 STRENGTHENING CORPORATE PLANNING: CORPORATE OBJECTIVES AND FOCUS FOR 2010/11 (A197/RMM)

This report requested approval of the new Corporate Objectives and focus for the 2010/11 Performance and Business Plan and service plans.

The Director of Corporate Resources agreed to make some minor amendments in light of Members' comments.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the new Corporate Objectives, including an additional Objective under section 11 on 'using our planning powers to achieve our outcomes', as given in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.**
- 2. That the focus for the 2010/11 Performance and Business Plan and service plans as given in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.**
- 3. That the finalisation of performance indicators for the Corporate Objectives be delegated to the Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of Audit and Performance Committee**

83/09 10.2 PRIORITISATION OF CORPORATE OBJECTIVES (A197/RMM)

This report asked the meeting to approve the ranking of the new Corporate Objectives into priority levels 1, 2 and 3 following the Member workshop in November.

Appendix 1 was amended on page 2 as follows:

Using the ranking results:

Level 2 - delete "if any should fall into level three" insert "whether resources can be saved or efficiencies made."

RESOLVED:

That the ranking of the new Corporate Objectives into priority levels 1, 2 and 3 as given in Appendix 2 to the report be approved.

84/09 10.3 FINANCIAL PLANNING: UPDATE ON PLAN FOR 2010/11 AND NEXT STEPS FOR PERIOD 2011/12 TO 2013/14 (A137/ RMM)

The meeting considered a report on the progress against the three year financial plan agreed in February 2009 and the proposed next steps to address the financial planning scenarios for the period 2011/12 to 2013/14.

An amendment was made to Appendix 1 against the entry “disposal of interests in estates and/or other estate management changes”.

The words were amended to:

It is proposed that the savings target for 2010/11 will be met from:

Estates budget (£7k), other property services budget (£4k), Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership (£6k), efficiency savings in Visitor service/Cycle Hire budgets (£24k). The baseline target of £41k will be fully met from estates from 2011/12.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the progress against implementing the financial plan for 2010/11 be noted and changes proposed in Appendix 1 to the report, as amended above, be agreed so that these can feed into the detailed 2010/11 budget report to Members in February 2010.**
- 2. That the next steps and key milestones, as detailed in paragraph 10 of the report, for addressing the financial planning scenarios for the three year period from 2011/12 to 2013/14 be agreed.**
- 3. That the principles underpinning these next steps as given in Appendix 3 to be agreed.**

The meeting closed at 3.15 pm.

MINUTES

Meeting: **National Park Authority Meeting**

Date: 5 February 2010

Venue: Aldern House Baslow Road Bakewell Derbyshire

Chair: Mr N Bajaria

Present: Mrs A Ashe, Clr T Bagshaw, Miss P Beswick, Clr Mrs J Bevan,
Mr C Carr, Dr R Clarke, Clr Mrs T Critchlow, Clr A Favell,
Clr Mrs H M Gaddum, Clr Mrs C G Heath, Prof J Herbert, Ms S Leckie,
Clr A Marchington, Clr C McLaren, Mr G Nickolds, Clr C J Pearson,
Mr C Pennell, Mrs K Potter, Mrs L C Roberts, Clr Mrs M Stockdale,
Clr Mrs J A Twigg, Clr Mrs D Ward, Clr Mrs D Wilde.

Apologies for absence: Mr C J Howell, Ms P Coleman, Mr R Priestley, Clr G Purdy
Clr Mrs J Wharmby.

1/10 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair reported on a useful meeting that had held with the English National Park Authorities Association and Huw Irranca-Davies MP the Environment Minister. Interviews had been arranged by Defra to appoint Members to fill the two vacancies that will arise on the Authority in April.

Members were reminded about the Constituent Councils Conference to be held at Aldern House on 19th March 2010. He expressed the Authority's thanks to all the Field Services staff for their assistance given to the local communities during the recent severe weather and for their snow clearing work at the Authority's premises.

2/10 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 4 December 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3/10 MATTERS ARISING

80/09 9.1 DEFRA CONSULTATION ON NATIONAL PARKS CIRCULAR (A.11/JBD)

The Chief Executive thanked Members and Officers for their comments on the draft circular. The Authority's response had been sent to Defra. This had been copied to all Members together with the responses of the English National Park Authorities Association (ENPAA) and the Campaign for National Parks. Defra and ENPAA officials were working together on the final version. Publication was expected in mid-March.

4/10 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair reported that there was one item of urgent business that will be considered in Part B after Agenda item No.10

CHIEF EXECUTIVE & CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

5/10 7.1 BUDGET 2010/11 (A.137/PN)

This report presented the final budget proposals for 2010/11, based on the outline budget approved by the Authority in February 2009 as part of the three year financial plan, and following the finance workshop on 6th November and an update report on 4th December.

RESOLVED:

1. That the base budget for the 2010/11 financial year shown in Appendix 1 and 2 to the report be approved.
2. That any proceeds from the sale of assets up to £585,408 be paid to the Capital Adjustment Account, with the effect that these funds remain available for use within the General Reserve, rather than the Capital Reserve.
3. That the financial position of the Authority in respect of planning for the following 2011-12 to 2013-14 financial years be noted.
4. That all officers be thanked for their work on the budget and the clear manner in which it had been presented.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

6/10 8.1 POLICY ON TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERS DETERMINING PLANNING APPLICATIONS (A.111/JBD)

The meeting considered a proposed policy for planning training for Members.

RESOLVED:

That the policy on training requirements for Members determining planning matters at Appendix 1 to the report, with the addition of the words "all of" after "attend" in the last paragraph, be adopted with effect from 1 April 2010.

7/10 9. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item No 10 and the item of urgent business to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information under S100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Paragraph 3 "Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person" and Paragraph 5 "Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings".

8/10 10. EXEMPT MINUTES

The exempt minutes of the meetings held on 4 December 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Part B Exempt Information

Summary

STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT

9/10 5.1 LONGSTONE EDGE 1952 PERMISSION (MIN.2382/JJL)

The meeting considered a report on the up to date position on the outstanding concerns relating to the 1952 planning permission for mineral extraction at Longstone Edge.

The decision of the Meeting is recorded in the PART B Exempt Minutes relating to this item.

The meeting closed at 12 noon.

This page is intentionally left blank

Minutes

UNITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD

17 December 2009

Lees Suite, Civic Centre, Oldham

9.00am

Present: Charlie Parker (Chair)
Councillor Butterworth
Councillor J Hulme
Councillor McCann
Councillor Sykes
Councillor Thompson
Emma Alexander
Steven Garratt
John Howard
David Knight
Steve Morriss

1 Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor McMahon and Maura Brooks

2 **Minutes and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

Matters Arising

Actions:

Item 4 - 01/10/09

Cost of the mortgage for the Civic Centre that could be ring fenced to the infrastructure to be reported back to the Board, under item 'Update on Highways Service Development'.

1. Matter to be determined by Council did not have a set date in which it would be determined.

Item 4 - 12/11/09

Position of the Partnership on the Exchequer Services League table to be provided, under item 'Exchequer Performance'.

1. Circulated to all Members

Item 5 - 12/11/09

Detail around the way pot-holes were repaired to be reported back to the next meeting, under item 'Highways Service: Improvement Plans'.

1. Action required

Item 6 - 12/11/09

Present position to be reported back to the Board as a matter of urgency, under item 'Review of Parking Fine Bailiff Services Proposal'.

1. Action required

Item 7 - 12/11/09

David Knight to attend the Board meeting in December, under item 'Review of Community Liaison Officer Role and Opportunities'.

1. On the agenda for this meeting

3 Managing Director's Report

John Howard presented the update:

Highlights included:

- Strong progress in all areas except property, which had been identified as a problem area and new management were undertaking improvement plans
- Technological improvements in Exchequer Services providing real time data updates and improving efficiencies
- Benefits processing had improved significantly when compared against other Greater Manchester authorities, taking Oldham Council to 2nd for the average time to process benefit claims, and 3rd for the average time to process change of circumstances for benefits
- Improvements in Council Tax collection, but with acknowledgement that further improvement was required
- Sickness absence was reducing, down 19% from October 2009.
- New website had been launched following staff input

Members acknowledged the achievements made, especially those areas where volumes had increased due to the current economic climate.

The Board welcomed the report and wished to give thanks to the Unity staff.

ACTION:

- 1. To pass on thanks to staff for their work and concerted effort. JH**
- 2. To promote good news in future. JH**

4 Joint Working between the Trust Oldham and Pathfinder Programmes

John Howard presented the report informing the Board of plans for joint working between the change programmes of Oldham Council and the Unity Partnership. Members of the Board expressed a need to see a more detailed programme of activity taking place.

The Board discussed the importance of joint working in implementing the Phase 2 transfer.

ACTION:

To provide a detailed report of the Phase 2 transfer to the January or February meeting of the Board. EA / JH

5 Discussion With Community Liaison Officer

David Knight, Community Liaison Officer, attended the meeting and informed the Board of his background, current activities being undertaken in his role, and asked for input to develop the role.

Members asked a range of questions including the level of engagement from the young and elderly, and the scale and scope of his role.

ACTION:

David Knight to attend Board meetings quarterly to provide updates. JH

6 Time and Date of next Meeting

28th January 2010 in the Lees Suite at 9.00am.

The meeting started at 9.00am and ended at 10.08am.

Minutes

UNITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD

28 January 2010

Lees Suite, Civic Centre, Oldham

9.00am

Present: Charlie Parker (Chair)
Councillor J Hulme
Councillor Lord (substitute for Councillor Sykes)
Councillor McCann
Councillor McMahon
Councillor Thompson
Emma Alexander
Maura Brooks
Steven Garratt
John Howard
Steve Morriss

- 1 Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Butterworth and Councillor Sykes
- 2 **Minutes and Matters Arising**
The minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2009 were agreed as a correct record.
- 3 **Managing Director's Report**
John Howard presented the update.

Highlights included:

- Positive co-ordination work with the Council during the snow, with no impact on KPI points.
- Property is still the most challenging area, but progress was continuing.
- Preparation for the benefits inspection taking place in the coming months.
- New staff taken on within Highways for the Retaining Walls Programme.
- Impact to properties of the freezing weather conditions were kept to a minimum by adjusting the night time temperatures to ensure maintenance continued.

The Board discussed the benefits inspection and were informed of the process involved, including interviews, self assessment and how it would be an opportunity to show how the integration with Unity has helped improve the services provided. It was noted that the benefit inspector's time needed to be well managed, and that the

Council were working closely with Unity with the inspections being a top priority in the coming months.

Members raised issues around highways schemes being frequently overspent, causing a knock-on with other programmed work. It was identified that there were known issues relating to the costing and design of schemes being different to how they are delivered, and that this issue would be resolved within the Phase 2 transfer.

The Board was informed that the Unity Operations Board was to be reviewed and re-organised.

ACTION:

- 1. To bring an interim report regarding Highways costing issues, in addition to attendance from Highways representatives, to the next meeting of the Board. MB / JH**
- 2. That a progress note on the Highways review be circulated to Members of the Board at the next Board meeting. MB / JH**
- 3. That an update on Highways be included on future agendas as a standing item. MB**
- 4. That a comparison be made comparing the NNDR target with other AGMA authorities. JH**

4 Update on Phase 2

Emma Alexander gave a update presentation on the Phase 2 transfer, outlining previously set objectives, rationale and principles of the partnership, and detailing the next steps for building delivery capacity, scoping the services and possible opportunities for transfer, including Human Resources and Finance transactional services, streamlining of Highways management services and Customer Contact expansion.

The Board was informed that the Phase 2 transfer would also include a review of the Phase 1 contractual arrangements to ensure clarity and transparency in the commercial agreements.

ACTION:

- 1. That an Update on Phase 2 be included on future agendas as a standing item. EA / MB**

5 Approval of Business Case

Emma Alexander provided a verbal update making the Board aware of the need to bring a number of change controls to a future meeting for sign-off. The areas involved included the Integrated Transport Unit and Vision. The changes would bring associated benefits to which payments were linked to.

6 Time and Date of next Meeting

11th March 2010 in the Lees Suite at 9.00am.

The meeting started at 9.00am and ended at 10.55am.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
GREATER MANCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

HELD ON 11TH FEBRUARY 2010

Present:

Councillor James Pearson (in the Chair), Councillor Paul Shannon (Vice-Chairman), Councillor Wendy Meikle (Deputy Chairman), Councillors David Acton, Paul Ankers, Mohammed Ayub, John Bell, Eric Burgoyne, Peter Clegg, Henry Cooper, Basil Curley, Sean Ell, Derek Heffernan, Barrie Holland, Michael Hollick, Phil Holley, Tommy Judge, Iain Lindley, James Lord, John O'Brien, Paula Pearson, Peter Rush, Jim Taylor, Jack Walton, Fred Walker, David Wilson and George Wilson.

Also in Attendance: Steve McGuirk (County Fire Officer and Chief Executive), David Smith (Treasurer), Nick Mure (Assistant County Fire Officer – Service Delivery), Jim Owen (Assistant County Fire Officer – Fire Safety), Gwynne Williams (Deputy Clerk and Authority Solicitor) and Donna Parker (Democratic Services Manager).

At this point in the proceedings the Meeting was adjourned at the request of Councillor Fred Walker. The Meeting reconvened at 11.28am.

67. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jack Davis, Bernard Judge and Pamela King.

68. MINUTES: The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th December 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

In relation to Minute 57 – Audit Committee, the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive reported that the high volume pump appliance which had been used to assist in the clear-up operation in the Cumbria floods had now been returned to GMFRS.

69. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

1. Councillor John Bell (Chairman of the Human Resources Committee) and Councillor Jack Walton both declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in the Human Resources Committee Minutes - 21st January 2010 (Minute 30 – North West Charter on Elected Member Development – Member Personal Development Plans), by virtue of being Members of the North West Employers Organisation.

2. Councillors Jim Taylor and Jack Walton both declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in the Joint Policy and Finance & General Committee Minutes – 28th January 2010 (Minute 18 – Bury and Rochdale Fire Station Replacement: Acquisition and Disposal of Sites), by virtue of being Elected Members at Bury Metropolitan Borough Council and in relation to the acquisition and disposal of sites.
3. Councillors Peter Clegg and Peter Rush both declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in the Joint Policy and Finance & General Committee Minutes – 28th January 2010 (Minute 18 – Bury and Rochdale Fire Station Replacement: Acquisition and Disposal of Sites), by virtue of being Elected Members at Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council and in relation to the acquisition and disposal of sites.
4. Councillor James Pearson (Chairman) and Councillor Fred Walker both declared a Personal Interest in Minute 79 - Fire and Rescue Service Circular 73/2009 Consultation FiReControl: Agreement Between LACCs and CLG by virtue of being Directors of the North West Regional Fire Control Company (LACC).
5. Councillor Fred Walker declared a Personal Interest in Minute 79 - Fire and Rescue Service Circular 73/2009 Consultation FiReControl: Agreement Between LACCs and CLG by virtue of being appointed to the new NDPB Overseeing National Projects – FireControl, Firelink and Firebuy.

70. URGENT BUSINESS (IF REQUIRED): There were no items of urgent business submitted by the Chairman.

71. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The Chairman reminded Members that a Member Development Session on 'Risk Management' would be taking place at the rise of this meeting and would conclude at approx 1.30pm.
2. The Chairman reminded Members that the 'Member Training Day at Leigh Technical Services Centre' would be taking place on Thursday, 25th February 2010 commencing at 10.00am till approx 4.00pm.
3. The Chairman reminded Members to book their Member Personal Development Interviews, the dates available were Thursday 11th March, Thursday 18th, Friday 19th March, Tuesday 23rd March, Wednesday 24th March and Thursday 25th March 2010. This piece of work was part of the Authority's commitment to achieving Level 1 of the North West Charter for Elected Member Development.
4. The Chairman updated Members on the Royal Day which took place in Manchester on Thursday, 4th February 2010, when The Prince of Wales visited the John Rylands Library to meet the UK-ISAR Team members who were deployed to assist in the Haiti response.

5. The Chairman provided an update on the meeting of the Select Committee which took place on Monday 8th February 2010.

72. STANDARDS COMMITTEE: The Minutes of the proceedings of the Standards Committee held on 4th December 2009 were submitted (Appendix 1).

Resolved: That the proceedings of the Standards Committee held on 4th December 2009, be approved.

73. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE: The Minutes of the proceedings of the Human Resources Committee held on 21st January 2010 were submitted (Appendix 2).

Resolved: That the proceedings of the Human Resources Committee held on 21st January 2010, be approved.

74. JOINT POLICY AND FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEES: The Minutes of the proceedings of the Joint Policy and Finance & General Purposes Committees held on 28th January 2010 were submitted (Appendix 3).

Resolved: That the proceedings of the Joint Policy and Finance & General Purposes Committees held on 28th January 2010, be approved.

75. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES: Consideration was given to a report of the Clerk which requested Members to consider whether or not to suspend the application of indexation provisions relating to basic, special responsibility and co-optees' allowances contained in the Authority's Scheme of Members' Allowances for the 2010/11 financial year.

Resolved: That the application of indexation provisions relating to basic, special responsibility and co-optees' allowance contained in the Authority's Scheme of Members' Allowances for the 2010/11 financial year, be suspended.

76. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010/11 TO 2012/13 – PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS AND MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION (MRP) STATEMENT 2010/11: Consideration was given to a report of the Treasurer in consultation with the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which set out the requirements to determine prudential indicators for the forthcoming financial year 2010/11. It was reported that the detail contained within the report was consistent with the Revenue Budget report for 2010/11 to 2012/13.

Resolved: That:

1. The various prudential indicator requirements, as detailed in the report, be noted.
2. The setting of the Operational Boundary and the Authorised Limit, as detailed in Table 7 and Table 8 of the report, be approved.
3. The Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Objectives, as detailed in Table 11 of the report, be approved.
4. The Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2010/11, be adopted.

77. REVENUE BUDGET AND PRECEPTS 2009/10: Consideration was given to a report of the Treasurer which recommended the setting of the Revenue Budget for 2010/11 as required under Section 43 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the precepts and relevant levels of Council Tax required under Section 40, 44 and 47 of the Act.

It was reported that a Joint Meeting of the Policy and Finance & General Purposes Committees held on 28th January 2010 had considered the Authority's budgets in detail. The Committee had made certain recommendations in respect of the budget strategy for 2010/11 based upon an increase in the precept. On the assumption that the recommendations were acceptable, the report set out the necessary resolutions and statements to be approved by the Authority in order to set the budget and precept for 2010/11.

Members were informed that with regard to the budgets and precept implications discussions had taken place with the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) Leaders and the budget pressures and uncertainties shared with them in full. Separate challenge sessions had taken place with AGMA Treasurers where the budgets had been scrutinised to ensure that they were fully informed of the financial management issues. All relevant reports had been sent to the Chamber of Commerce and an invitation to discuss these had been extended to their representatives.

Resolved: That:

1. The Revenue Estimates in accordance with the summary submitted for the Revenue Estimates for 2010/11, as detailed in Appendix A of the report, be approved.
2. The Authority had calculated the amount of 798,399 as its Council Tax base for the year 2010/11, being the aggregate of the tax bases calculated by the Districts, as detailed in Appendix C of the report, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33 (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, be noted.

3. The following amounts to be calculated in accordance with Sections 43 to 48 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, be approved:-

(a) £146,028,646 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Authority estimates for the items set out in Section 43 (2) (a) to (d) thereof (Appendix 'B')

(b) £28,484,158 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Authority estimates for the items set out in Section 43 (3) (a) to (b) thereof (Appendix 'B')

(c) £117,544,488 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Authority, in accordance with Section 43 (4) of the Act, being its budget requirement for the year (Appendix 'B')

(d) £75,334,660 being the aggregate of the sums, which the Authority estimates will be payable to it for the year in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant (Appendix 'D').

(e) £174,121 being the aggregate of surpluses and deficits on District Council Collection Funds at 15 January 2010 calculated in accordance with Regulations made under Section 99 (3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Appendix 'D').

(f) £52.65 being the amount at (c) above less the amount at (d) less the amount at (e) above all divided by the amount at paragraph 36 of the report, calculated by the Authority, in accordance with Section 44(i) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (Appendix 'D').

(g) Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£35.10	£40.95	£46.80	£52.65	£64.35	£76.05	£87.75	£105.30

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (f) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5 (1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in Band D, calculated by the Authority, in accordance with Section 47 (1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- (h) The Amounts (precepts) payable by each Billing Authority are detailed at Appendix 'E', calculated as being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (f) by the tax bases calculated by Districts in accordance with Section 33 (1) of the Act, adjusted for surpluses and deficits on District Collections Funds.

78. TREASURY POLICY STATEMENT: Consideration was given to a report of the Treasurer which sought approval of the Treasury Policy Statement to cover the 2010/11 financial year.

It was reported that the Authority had adopted CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services 'Code of Practice'. The expected revision to the CIPFA Code of Practice had recently been released following the Icelandic crisis including follow-up reports by the Communities and Local Government department and the Audit Commission.

In addition, Members were informed that a mid year review report was now required, together with an annual report by the Treasurer which would be presented to the Finance and General Purposes Committee and a meeting of the Authority by no later than 31 July in the succeeding financial year.

Resolved: That:

1. The Treasurer report at least twice a year on the operation and exercise of delegated Treasury Management Powers.
2. A mid year review report, together with an annual report by the Treasurer be presented to the Finance and General Purposes Committee and a meeting of the Authority by no later than 31 July in the succeeding financial year.

79. FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE CIRCULAR 73/2009 CONSULTATION – FIRECONTROL: AGREEMENT BETWEEN LACCS AND CLG:

Consideration was given to a report of the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which informed Members of CLG's Consultation on the development of the Firecontrol Agreement between Local Authority Control Companies (LACCs) and CLG and sought Members' views on the response to the Consultation.

Members were informed that the consultation was released on 4th December 2009 and would run until 5th March 2010. The responses received would inform the development of the contract and CLG aimed to develop a comprehensive version of the contract by the end of March 2010.

Resolved: That:

1. The content of the report and comments, be noted.
2. The Authority's response to the consultation, as detailed in the report, be approved.

80. INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2010/2011:

Consideration was given to a report of the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which advised Members of the outcome of the public consultation process carried out as part of producing the Authority's Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for 2010/11.

It was reported that three late responses to the consultation document had been received since the closing date on 25th January 2010.

Resolved: That the outcome of the consultation process, be noted.

81: UNITED KINGDOM INTERNATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM (UK ISAR) DEPLOYMENT TO HAITI:

Consideration was given to a report of the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which informed Members of the deployment of GMFRA staff, as part of the United Kingdom International Search and Rescue Team (UK ISAR), to assist search and rescue efforts following the Haiti earthquake.

Deputy Borough Commander Peter Stevenson who had lead the GMFRS Team and had been designated as Operations Commander for UK contingence and Station Manager Dean Nankivell were in attendance and gave a presentation on rescue operations in Haiti. It was reported that unfortunately Echo, GMFRS fire dog, was under quarantine for up to 6 months following his return from Haiti, and GMFRS were in the process of lobbying Government with regard to this matter.

Members had an in-depth discussion on the deployment to Haiti and what it involved including how the team communicated with their families whilst they were deployed and the support they had received since returning home. In response, Councillor John Bell (Chairman of the Human Resources Committee) reported that he was commissioning the Human Resources Committee to undertake a piece of work to standardise conditions of service for staff whilst on deployment.

Councillor James Pearson (Chairman) on behalf of the Authority took the opportunity to thank the GMFRS UK ISAR Team and staff involved at GMFRS for all the hard work and commitment they had given to this deployment. In addition, it was reported that a reception evening would be arranged in the near future for both members of the GMFRS UK ISAR Team and Elected Members to attend in recognition of the work of the rescue team.

Resolved: That:

1. The content of the report and presentation, be noted.
2. The Authority continue to support the work of GMFRS Urban Search and Rescue Team (USART).
3. Member recognise the dedication and professionalism shown by the GMFRS UK ISAR Team and support the formal recognition of the teams achievements.

CHAIRMAN

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
GREATER MANCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

HELD ON 10TH DECEMBER 2009

Present:

Councillor James Pearson (in the Chair), Councillor Paul Shannon (Vice-Chairman), Councillor Wendy Meikle (Deputy Chairman), Councillors David Acton, Paul Ankers, Mohammed Ayub, John Bell, Eric Burgoyne, Peter Clegg, Henry Cooper, Basil Curley, Sean Ell, Derek Heffernan, Barrie Holland, Michael Hollick, Phil Holley, Bernard Judge, Pamela King, Iain Lindley, James Lord, John O'Brien, Paula Pearson, Peter Rush, Jim Taylor, Jack Walton and Fred Walker.

Also in Attendance: Steve McGuirk (County Fire Officer and Chief Executive), Joyce Redfearn (Clerk), David Smith (Treasurer), Kieran Nolan (Deputy County Fire Officer), Ged Murphy (Director of Finance and Technical Services), Nick Mure (Assistant County Fire Officer – Service Delivery), Jim Owen (Assistant County Fire Officer – Fire Safety), Gwynne Williams (Deputy Clerk and Authority Solicitor) and Donna Parker (Democratic Services Manager).

48. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jack Davis, Tommy Judge, Colin MacAlister and George Wilson.

49. MINUTES: The Minutes of the Meeting held on 29th October 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

50. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

1. Councillor James Pearson (Chairman) declared a Personal Interest in Minute 61 – Volunteer Reservist Armed Forces Policy, by virtue of being an Officer in the Territorial Army, Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council's Representative on the North West Reserve Forces and Cadets Association and a Member of the Greater Manchester SaBRE Committee.
2. Councillor James Pearson (Chairman), Paul Shannon (Vice-Chairman), Wendy Meikle (Deputy Chairman), John Bell, John O'Brien, Peter Rush and Fred Walker declared a Personal Interest in Minute 62 – Local Government Association Fire Conference and Exhibition/Local Government Annual Conference, Annual Fire and Rescue Conference and Exhibition, by virtue of being appointed to the Local Government Association (LGA) as a GMFRA representative.

51. URGENT BUSINESS (IF REQUIRED): There were no items of urgent business submitted by the Chairman.

52. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC – SECTION 100A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972:

Resolved: That the public be excluded from the meeting when the following item is considered for the reason set out below:

Agenda Item No.	Title	Minute No. (to be added)	Description of Exempt Information by reference to the paragraph number(s) in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972
E.1	Pumping Appliance Replacement Programme 2009/2011 Financial Implications	66.	3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person or organisation including the Authority)

53. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The Chairman reminded Members that the Authority Christmas Lunch would be taking place at the rise of this meeting in the Canteen.
2. The Chairman reminded Members that the Christmas Carol Service would be taking place on Tuesday, 15th December commencing at 7.30 p.m. at St. Anne's Church, Manchester. Transport would be available from the Training Centre.
3. The Chairman reminded Members of the forthcoming Prince's Trust Presentation Events and encouraged Members to attend:-
 - Trafford Team 6 – Thursday 10th December
 - Manchester East Team 15 – Tuesday 15th December
 - Wythenshawe Team 6 – Wednesday 16th December
 - Salford Team 21 – Thursday 17th December
4. The Chairman informed Members that he had received a letter from Kevin Brown, FBU Regional Secretary, on behalf of the Palestinian Fire-fighters who received the 'Train the Trainers' course at Bolton Fire Station on 16th -19th November 2009. The Chairman requested that a formal thanks was placed on record to the following people who had assisted in this project, namely:-
 - AM Kirkham – Bolton Borough Manager
 - SM Aspinall – Fire Service HQ
 - WMA G. Shanks – Brigade Training Centre
 - WMA Cant – Brigade Training Centre
 - WMA Simpson – Operation Florian
 - WMA Jordan – Operation Florian

FF Copley – Operation Florian
Bernie Lees – Operation Florian

5. The County Fire Officer and Chief Executive provided an update on the Health and Safety Executive Inspection of the Fire and Rescue Authorities 2009/10 which had recently taken place at GMFRS.

54. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: The Minutes of the proceedings of the Personnel Committee held on 5th November 2009 were submitted (Appendix 1).

Resolved: That the proceedings of the Personnel Committee held on 5th November 2009, be approved.

55. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE: The Minutes of the proceedings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 12th November 2009 were submitted (Appendix 2).

Resolved: That the proceedings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 12th November 2009, be approved.

56. POLICY COMMITTEE: The Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy Committee held on 26th November 2009 were submitted (Appendix 3).

Resolved: That the proceedings of the Policy Committee held on 26th November 2009, be approved.

57. AUDIT COMMITTEE: The Minutes of the proceedings of the Audit Committee held on 2nd December 2009 were submitted (Appendix 4).

The County Fire Officer and Chief Executive provided an update on the GMFRS assistance in the Cumbria floods and the problems that were currently being encountered with regard to the return of the high volume pump appliance normally based at Stretford Fire Station since its deployment in the clear-up operation.

Resolved: That the proceedings of the Audit Committee held on 2nd December 2009, be approved.

58. MEMBERSHIP: Consideration was given to a report of the Clerk to the Authority which advised Members of a change to the Membership of the Authority.

Members were advised that Stockport MBC had appointed Councillor David Wilson (Labour Group) on Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority in place of Councillor Colin MacAlister (Labour Group). Official notification of this change was received from Stockport MBC on 24th November 2009. Therefore, the change in Membership would take effect on 25th December 2009.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank Councillor Colin MacAlister for the support and commitment he had given whilst being a Member of the Authority and wished him all the best for the future.

Resolved: That:

1. The changes to the Authority Membership to take effect from 25th December 2009, be noted.
2. The following changes to the Committee Membership and Outside Bodies for the remainder of the 2009/10 Municipal Year, be approved:-
 - a) Councillor David Wilson be appointed to replace Councillor Colin MacAlister on the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
 - b) Councillor Eric Burgoyne be appointed to replace Councillor Colin MacAlister on the Best Value Focus Group.
 - c) Councillor Eric Burgoyne be appointed to replace Councillor Colin MacAlister on the Best Value Consultative Forum.
 - d) Councillor John O'Brien be appointed as first Labour substitute and Councillor Eric Burgoyne be appointed as second Labour substitute to the North West Fire and Rescue Management Board.

59. REVENUE SUPPORT GRANT CONSULTATION 2010/11 PRECEPT

PAYMENTS: Consideration was given to a report of the Treasurer which outlined the Government's proposals for Grant distribution for 2010/11. This was the final year of the three-year settlement.

Members were informed that the Government had announced the proposals for the Formula Grant Settlement for 2010/11. This marked the start of the consultation period on the Formula Grant Settlement and comments on the proposals should be submitted in writing by 6th January 2010. Members were requested to consider any comments they may wish to submit as part of the consultation process. The final settlement was expected late January to early February 2010.

Resolved: That:

1. The Treasurer be given delegated power to respond to the Revenue Support Grant Consultation 2010/11.
2. The Treasurer be given delegated power to respond to the District Councils on their proposals for the schedule of payment for precept in 2010/11.

60. TREACLE 2009 – PLANNING AND ACTIVITY OVER THE BONFIRE NIGHT PERIOD:

Consideration was given to a report of the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which provided Members with early headline results of the work undertaken by GMFRS during the planning and activity of the Treacle 2009 campaign. In addition, the report provided an update on the process of identifying key learning outcomes that would inform planning

recommendations for future campaigns. Members viewed the Treacle Safe4autumn Website as part of the presentation.

Members were informed that for the third consecutive year the Treacle Partnership could report successful reductions in the negative impact of Halloween and bonfire night on the public of Greater Manchester.

The Chairman thanked Officers for the informative report and Members reported that they had found the list of the premises which had registered with GMFRS for the storage of fireworks that had been circulated to them in October prior to the Bonfire period very useful and requested that an updated list was circulated to Members prior to the Christmas period.

Resolved: That:

1. The content of the report and the improvement in performance during the 2009 Bonfire and Firework period, be noted.
2. The Authority acknowledge the professionalism and hard work of all the staff that had been involved in the work which had taken place over the Halloween and Bonfire period 2009.
3. The Authority support the continuation of the Treacle Stakeholder Group and their approach to identify key learning outcomes that will inform planning recommendations for future campaigns.
4. An updated list of premises which had been registered with GMFRS for the storage of fire works be circulated to Members prior to the Christmas period.

61. VOLUNTEER RESERVIST ARMED FORCES POLICY:

Consideration was given to a report of the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which sought approval of the Authority to adopt a 'Volunteer Reservist Armed Forces Policy' to clarify the Fire and Rescue Authority's obligation towards employees who were members of the Reserve Forces. In addition, the Policy provided a consistent approach in providing support, guidance and assistance to Volunteer Reservists.

The Vice-Chairman took the opportunity to thank the Chairman for leading on this piece of work.

Resolved: That:

1. The 'Volunteer Reservist Armed Forces Policy', attached at Appendix 1 of the report, which included the possibility of granting paid special leave up to an aggregate total of 1800 hours to cover 15 days of continuous training period referred to as 'annual camp', be adopted.

2. The financial implications of adopting the Policy, as detailed in paragraphs 22 and 23 of the report, and the impact of one post on the establishment, be noted.
3. The Authority support the approach to reclaim any training and re-training costs.

62. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL FIRE CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION/LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE/ANNUAL FIRE AND RESCUE CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION:

Consideration was given to a report of the Clerk which advised Members that the Local Government Association Annual Fire Conference and Exhibition was being held in Manchester on 9th and 10th March 2010 and sought Member approval to sponsor the event.

It was reported that the Authority had been invited to sponsor the event jointly with Manchester City Council. In addition to advertising and promotion, the Conference sponsorship package included conference and exhibitor passes, and additional places at the conference dinner. The cost of sponsorship was £5,000.

Members were also requested to align the standing resolutions on Member representation at the Local Government Association Annual Conference and the Annual Fire and Rescue Conference and Exhibition.

Resolved: That:

1. Sponsorship of the 2010 Local Government Association Fire Conference and Exhibition which was taking place in Manchester on 9th and 10th March 2010, be approved.
2. Delegated power be given to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Authority to decide the level of Member representation at the Local Government Association Annual Fire Conference and Exhibition, the Local Government Association Annual Conference and the Annual Fire Conference and Exhibition.

63. GREATER MANCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE'S INVOLVEMENT WITH THE LOCAL TASKING MEETINGS FOR THE GORTON AREA:

Consideration was given to a report of the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which advised Members of the Partnership work currently being undertaken in the station area, S19 Gorton, Manchester North Borough. The report detailed the success of the partnership work and made reference to the work of Watch Manager Paul Brunt from Gorton Fire Station, whose efforts had been formally recognised by the local Police Inspector.

The Chairman on behalf of the Authority took the opportunity to thank Watch Manager Paul Brunt for all the hard work and commitment he had given to the Gorton area.

Resolved: That the content of the report and comments, be noted.

64. PUBLICATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT (CAA) ORGANISATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF GREATER MANCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY:

Consideration was given to a report of the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which advised Members of the Audit Commission's publication of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) Organisational Assessment of the Authority. The CAA Report was made available to the Authority on 4th December 2009 and remained under embargo until 9th December 2009, when it was published on the Oneplace Website. This was a new joint inspectorate website for independent information about the performance and prospects for improvement of local public services throughout England.

The outcome of the Organisational Assessment was that overall, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority was performing well. A copy of the report was circulated to Members, for their information.

The Chairman on behalf of the Authority took the opportunity to thank the Deputy County Fire Officer and his team for all their hard work and commitment they had given to this piece of work.

Resolved: That:

1. The content of the report and comments, be noted.
2. The information contained within the Comprehensive Area Assessment Organisational Assessment, be noted.

65. PUMPING APPLIANCE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME 2009-2011:

Consideration was given to a report of the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which set out the background to the procurement of pumping appliances for 2009-2011 and sought approval for the purchase of replacement pumping appliances as part of the 2009-2011 Capital Programme for Operational Appliances. Members raised a series of questions and comments on this report relating to the maintenance and mileage of the current appliances which were answered accordingly.

Members were informed that this report should be read in conjunction with Item E.1 – Pumping Appliance Replacement Programme 2009-2011 Financial Implications, Minute 66 refers.

It was reported that further to the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 12th November 2009, this report had been prepared to provide an update on the underpinning policies with respect to the proposed procurement of replacement pumping appliances in 2009-2011.

In addition, Members were informed that the Interschutz Fire Exhibition that was recognised as the premier showground for fire appliances and equipment throughout the world was taking place in June 2010 at the International

Exhibition Centre in Leipzig Germany and approval was sought for a delegation of Officers and Members to attend the Exhibition.

The Chairman on behalf of the Authority took the opportunity to thank the Director of Finance and Technical Services and his team for the informative report.

Resolved: That:

1. The content of the report and comments, be noted.
2. A delegation of three Officers and four Members including the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Leader of the Opposition of the Authority attend The Interschutz Fire Exhibition in June 2010, be approved.

66. PUMPING APPLIANCE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME 2009-2011 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Consideration was given to a report of the County Fire Officer and Chief Executive which set out the financial implications relating to the procurement of pumping appliances for 2009-2011 and sought approval for the purchase of replacement pumping appliances using the national framework agreement as part of the 2009-2011 Capital Programme for Operational Appliances.

Members were informed that this report should be read in conjunction with Item 16 – Pumping Appliance Replacement Programme 2009-2011, Minute 65 refers.

Resolved: That:

1. Approval be given to accept the offer submitted by John Dennis Coachbuilders Ltd, being the lowest received, for the supply of replacement pumping appliances, in the total sum of £3,730,201.00.
2. The release of the 2009-2011 capital provision for the replacement of operational appliances, be approved.

CHAIRMAN

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
GREATER MANCHESTER INTEGRATED
TRANSPORT AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON
FRIDAY, 18 DECEMBER 2009**

PRESENT: Councillor Keith Whitmore (In the Chair)

Councillors Dylan Butt, Stuart Corris, Jim Dawson, Doreen Dickinson, John Dillon, Peter Evans, Andrew Fender, Alan Godson, Roland Griffin, Lynne Holland, Richard Knowles, Ian Macdonald, Eddie McCulley, Brian Rigby, David Sandiford, Peter Scott, Val Stevens, Barry Theckston, David White, David Wilkinson, Michael Winstanley and Craig Wright

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mark Aldred, David Chadwick, Yvonne Creswell, Peter Davison, David Jones, Colin Shaw, Eunice Smethurst, Mike Smith, Barry Warner and Alan Whitehead

ITA/9/57 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair announced that he had agreed to the submission of details of a conference 'Local Transport Act – one year on' to enable the Authority to determine whether there should be GMITA representation at the conference which was to be held before the Authority next met.

ITA/9/58 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Knowles declared a personal interest in the business reported at Minute ITA/9/71 as a work colleague of one of the potential appointees to the position of Independent Member of the Standards Committee.

ITA/9/59 MINUTES

RESOLVED/-

That the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Authority held on 16 October 2009 be approved as a correct record subject to the inclusion of Councillor Eunice Smethurst in the list of attendees.

ITA/9/60 AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Audit Committee meeting held on 16 October 2009 were submitted. In response to a question, it was noted that details of the proposed Risk Management Strategy would be submitted to the February meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED/-

That the Minutes of the proceedings of the Audit Committee meeting held on 16 October 2009 be received.

ITA/9/61 CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Capital Projects Committee held on 6 November 2009 were submitted.

The Chair of the committee stressed the importance of maintaining the pressure on government to resolve the issue of overcrowding on rail lines in Greater Manchester, particularly those on which diesel units operated. He added that the announcement regarding the electrification of lines was to be welcomed but this was some way off. The government had been set to order 200 units in July mainly for service in the north, but had pulled out of that order and subsequently refused to commit to diesel rail cars. He urged that further written representations be made to government regarding the concerns about the lack of commitment to supply new diesel rail cars.

The Chair of the Authority said that meetings with Greater Manchester MPs had taken place and Tony Lloyd MP had met with Lord Adonis to discuss the issue. A further letter had been sent to Lord Adonis and a further meeting between Tony Lloyd and Lord Adonis was to be held. The Chair assured members that the matter was being actively pursued.

The Chair of the Capital Projects Committee acknowledged the above but said the public's perception was that electrification would resolve the issue of overcrowding when that was not the case.

Another member said that following electrification, class 185 units, which were very reliable, would become redundant. In his view, the units should be retained for use on lines that would not to be electrified, such as the Calder Valley Line.

The Interim Bus and Rail Director reported back on the latest in a series of meetings with DfT officials, their consultants and Northern Rail. The whole basis of previous modelling was being reviewed. It was encouraging to note that that work was starting to support the argument with officials about their projections for growth and their understanding of the drivers of growth. There was a real need to get meaningful outputs within the timescales available. He assured members that the points referred to by members had been robustly made with the DfT. While a meaningful piece of work was expected on CP4 phase 2, DfT officials acknowledged that there were still issues to be addressed.

The barriers to DfT were value for money, affordability and what could actually be delivered. On the first point, work had been done to strengthen value for money over and above the case DfT had before it. On the second point, the announcement regarding electrification and the commitment to 1300 new

vehicles nationally was an indication of affordability. On the latter point, it was not clear what plans were in place to deliver rolling stock. Every effort was being made to shift the position.

Another member raised the issue of buses reversing off stands at certain bus stations, for example Rochdale Transport Interchange and asked whether in future it would be possible to consider other ways for buses to exit from bus stations.

In response, the Interim Bus and Rail Director said there was no absolute policy with regard to drive through or drive/in reverse out for buses using bus stations. Historically the Authority had favoured drive through bus stations. The importance of creating a better environment for passengers had to be recognised. He agreed to discuss the issue further with the member following the meeting.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Capital Projects Committee held on 6 November 2009 be received.
2. That a joint letter, to be signed by the 3 party leaders, be forwarded to the DfT reinforcing the case for diesel rail units to relieve the problems of overcrowding on services.

ITA/9/62 BUS NETWORK AND PTE SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Bus Network and PTE Services Committee held on 13 November 2009 were submitted. The Interim Rail and Bus Director thanked members who had attended the recent bus shelters visit.

RESOLVED/-

That the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Bus Network and PTE Services Committee held on 13 November 2009 be received.

ITA/9/63 POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 20 November 2009 were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 20 November 2009 be received.

ITA/9/64 RAIL AND METROLINK NETWORKS COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Rail and Metrolink Networks Committee were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Minutes of the proceedings of the Rail and Metrolink Networks Committee meeting held on 4 December 2009 be received.
2. That a report be submitted to the January 2010 meeting of the Committee regarding the aspirations for improvements to the December 2010 rail timetable

ITA/9/65 CITY REGION PILOT AND GOVERNANCE

A report was submitted on progress on matters concerning the City Region Pilot and associated governance arrangements including the passage of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and actions taken by the AGMA Executive Board in November on the next steps regarding the framework for future AGMA governance including transport. The report also outlined the progress going forward.

The Clerk reported back on the debate that had taken place at the AGMA Executive Committee meeting held earlier in the day. 8 of the constituent councils had supported the proposals, with none against, and had expressed a clear commitment to examine the issues in greater detail.

AGMA Executive was scheduled to meet again at the end of February 2010 and, based on the outcome of further consultation, would determine whether it wished to proceed and how. Following that, a submission would be made to the Secretary for Communities and the Secretary of State for Transport in March 2010.

The Chair read to the meeting a proposed revised set of recommendations to those contained in the report before the Authority. The Clerk sought clarification that the proposed amendments would enable the Authority to be part of the proposed review. The Chair confirmed that the Authority would participate in the review.

In response to a question about when the final document containing the actual constitution would be available, the Clerk advised the Authority that the consultation document was now being written and would be available early in the New Year.

RESOLVED/-

1. That it be noted that the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act) had now received Royal Assent.

2. That the resolutions of the AGMA Executive Board on 27 November 2009 be noted.
3. That it be noted that the AGMA Executive Board on 18 December 2009 approved a report on a City Region Governance which includes proposals to remove the statutory transport powers from GMITA and to create a Combined Authority and a Joint Committee which would have delegated powers, the final arrangements of which are to be agreed but would ensure that the Joint Transport Committee will have powers which are similar to those which the GMITA currently enjoys.
4. That the provisional timetable and next steps in the governance review process be noted, including the submission of any draft scheme to the Authority in February 2010 and a final scheme which takes account of the outcome of the consultation on the draft scheme in March 2010.
5. That it be noted that a Consultation exercise on those proposals will now commence in which the Authority would take part, following the consultations in the Autumn in which the majority of respondents preferred transport powers remaining with the GMITA and only one council approving a Combined Authority.
6. That it be noted that the Government still has to decide how the Manchester City Region can assume greater transport influence and responsibilities comparable to the powers now held by Transport for London.
7. That it be agreed that the GMITA will respond to these proposals in the New Year and will organise an early session in January for GMITA members to discuss and formulate a response.

**ITA/9/66 GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT FUND –
ACCELERATED PACKAGE DELIVERY PROGRAMME AND
FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE**

A report was submitted for the purpose of presenting an update on the development of the Greater Manchester Transport Fund (GMTF) Accelerated Package schemes. The report also gave an overview of the financial strategy and outlined the borrowing requirements for GMTF in 2010/11.

The Chief Executive informed the Authority that the Chorlton and East Didsbury Metrolink package was still being assessed by the DfT. An announcement on the outcome of that assessment was not expected until the New Year. The DfT was happy with the case made with the exception of the bid for 2 additional trams. As a result of financial pressures on the DfT it was unlikely that they would provide funding for the two additional trams.

The attention of members was drawn to the reference in the report to the Trafford Depot. The budget for the full Trafford Depot was allocated on a proportional basis across all the Metrolink lines included within the Transport

Fund including the Accelerated Package extensions to Ashton and East Didsbury and the extensions to Oldham Town Centre, Rochdale Town Centre and the Airport. Rather than build the Depot on a piecemeal basis it was proposed that the full capacity depot be built now, resulting in an anticipated saving of approximately £0.7 million compared to a phased construction.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the progress to date on the GMTF Accelerated Package be noted.
2. That the content of the report and the progress made to date on developing the schemes within the Accelerated Package be noted and approval be given for the entering into of a number of the contractual agreements for the Metrolink Phase 3B Accelerated Schemes, as set out in the report, which are expected to be concluded, within approved budgets, before the end of 2009;
3. That the overarching financial strategy for the GMTF, as set out in the report submitted and the report to the Authority in July 2009, be noted and, in particular, the overall level of capital financing costs to be met by the GMITA, which will need to be explicitly approved as part of the Authority's Prudential Indicators
4. That approval be given for the release of the budget and associated borrowings for the construction of the Trafford Depot included within the budgets for the Airport line and the Oldham and Rochdale Town Centre extensions of £12.9 million, excluding risk provisions, contingency and procurement costs, to enable these works to progress in line with the timescales set out in the report submitted.
5. That it be agreed that the Authority can borrow up to an additional £140 million in 2010/11 (including borrowings associated with the Trafford Depot) and that interest costs of circa £4.9 million will be incurred in 2010/11 in respect of existing and additional borrowings for the development and delivery of public transport projects within the GMTF, which will be funded by the application of ring fenced levy contributions referred to in the report submitted.

ITA/9/67 DfT GREEN BUS FUND BID SUBMISSION

A final update on GMPTE's submission to DfT's Green Bus Fund and the results of the competition was submitted.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the success of the GMPTE in being awarded £3.16 million from DfT's Green Bus Fund to support the purchase of 66 low-carbon vehicles, which will require capital investment of up to an estimated £9.08 million by

GMPTTE, plus £1.17 million from SEMMMS Minor and Wigan TIF, be welcomed.

2. That the successful bids submitted by three local bus operators, with the support of the GMPTTE, which will result in 48 further low-carbon vehicles deployed on key bus corridors in Greater Manchester, contributing to the enhancements under the Transport Fund Accelerated Package, also be welcomed.
3. That it be noted that further reports will be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee once more detailed implementation plans have been initiated.

ITA/9/68 BETTER RAIL STATIONS

A report on the independent review of rail stations and subsequent Department for Transport consultation was submitted.

Several Members questioned the consistency of the statistics detailed in the Appendix to the report. It was noted that officers shared some of the frustration expressed by members about the figures which had been derived from a number of sources. The figures focussed on peak travel and there had been debate about patronage figures compared with travel sales figures. The Interim Bus and rail Director said he would investigate further and report back to the Rail and Metrolink Networks Committee. A member stressed the importance of challenging in particular the figures for Victoria and Piccadilly rail stations. There was a need to make sure an accurate footfall figure was available for Victoria Station to assist the business case.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the contents of the report be noted;
2. That authority for agreeing a final response to the Department for Transport consultation be delegated to the Clerk and Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and Leader of the Opposition.
3. That authority to approve any proposed GMITA bid be delegated to the Clerk to the Authority and the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and the Leader of the Opposition.
4. That a report focussing on footfall data at rail stations be submitted to the Rail and Metrolink Networks Committee.

ITA/9/69 PROPOSED RESPONSE TO DfT CONSULTATION ON LOCAL AUTHORITY SPECIAL GRANT FUNDING IN 2010/11 FOR THE NATIONAL BUS CONCESSION IN ENGLAND

A report setting out a proposed response to the Department for Transport consultation was submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the consultation be noted and the proposed response approved.

ITA/9/70 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

A report seeking the views of members on what action, if any, should be taken in respect of members' allowances in the light of the recent pay award to public sector employees was submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That no action be taken to up-rate Members' Allowances for 2009/10.

ITA/9/71 STANDARDS COMMITTEE: INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

The Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Standards Committee Recruitment Panel held on 15 December 2009 to interview candidates for the vacant positions of Independent Member were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the recommendations of the Panel be approved as follows:

- a) approve the appointment of the following as Independent Members of the Standards Committee for the terms shown:

- Alan Edgeworth (3 years)
 - Dawn Leake (4 years)
 - Christine Rice (4 years)

- b) confirm that Dawn Leake should continue to act as Chair of the Standards Committee until the Annual Meeting of the Authority in June 2010.

ITA/9/72 CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

1. That Councillor David Sandiford be appointed to represent the Authority at the 'Great Transport Debate' conference to be held in London on 17 February 2010.
2. That Councillor David White be appointed to represent the Authority at the 'Local Transport Act – One Year On' conference to be held in London on 12 January 2010.

ITA/9/73 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED/-

That, under Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in paragraph 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972.

ITA/9/73 RAIL BUDGET SUMMARY AND FUNDING OF SUNDAY RAIL SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS

Consideration was given to a report setting out the forecast costs and funding sources for rail related activities and providing an up-date on current performance against budget and on the current status of local rail service developments.

A member said that he would like confirmation that Moorside Station would be included in the proposed Sunday services on the Atherton line. The Interim Bus and Rail Director agreed to find out and respond direct to the member.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the current budget position be noted
2. That the current status of service development priorities be noted.
3. That, in the light of the consequences for other subsidised services, support be given for the Atherton Line Sunday service for one year from May 2010 and that a review be undertaken in November 2010 to determine whether to continue to support the service beyond May 2011;
4. That it be noted that additional funding has not been forthcoming from other stakeholders for the winter Sunday service enhancement on the Hope Valley Line; and
5. That officers be requested to continue dialogue with stakeholders in relation to funding for the Hope Valley winter Sunday service and to update members on progress during early 2010.

ITA/9/74 PROPERTY DISPOSALS

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval to a number of property disposals. In response to a question the Interim Bus and Rail Director agreed to check on the arrangements for bus crew toilet facilities at Wythenshawe Bus Station and to respond direct to the member concerned.

RESOLVED/-

That approval be given for the following property disposals:

- a) Land adjacent to Old Trafford Metrolink stop
- b) Land at Wythenshawe Bus Station
- c) Land adjoining the Jolly Carter Public House, Manchester Road, Droylsden

ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER 2009 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, BURY TOWN HALL

Present: -

In the Chair: Councillor Peter Smith - (Wigan MBC)

<u>BOLTON COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Cliff Morris Steve Arnfield
<u>BURY COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Bob Bibby Councillor Jack F Walton Mark Sanders
<u>MANCHESTER CC</u>	Councillor Richard Leese Howard Bernstein Susan Orrell Sara Tomkins Smyth Harper
<u>OLDHAM COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Howard Sykes Charlie Parker
<u>ROCHDALE MBC</u>	Councillor Irene Davidson Roger Ellis
<u>SALFORD CC</u>	Councillor John Merry Barbara Spicer
<u>STOCKPORT MBC</u>	Councillor David Goddard John Schultz
<u>TAMESIDE MBC</u>	Councillor Roy Oldham Steven Pleasant
<u>TRAFFORD COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Matthew Colledge Janet Callender
<u>WIGAN COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Peter Smith Joyce Redfearn Andrew Taylor
<u>WARRINGTON BC</u>	Councillor Ian Marks
<u>GMITA</u>	Councillor Keith Whitmore Councillor Ian Macdonald
<u>GMPTE</u>	David Leather

<u>GMWDA</u>	Councillor Neil Swannick
<u>COMMISSION FOR NEW ECONOMY</u>	Mike Emmerich Baron Frankal
<u>HOUSING & PLANNING COMMISSION</u>	Councillor Derek Antrobus
<u>AGMA POLICY UNIT</u>	John Hawkins Margaret Green
<u>AGMA SCUTINY</u>	Councillor Simon Ashley Nicola Ward David Tomlinson
<u>BUSINESS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL</u>	John Early Martin Douglas

108/09 MANCHESTER CITY REGION

Howard Bernstein introduced the report and the finalised agreement with central government which it was now recommended the Executive Board formally endorse and present for signature by AGMA and the Government. If agreed by Ministers the agreement would assist in the development of financial strategies over the next two/three years and would be a platform for change.

Councillor Peter Smith thanked Howard and the team for the work undertaken.

The Executive Board AGREED to endorse the Agreement.

109/09 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Alan Taylor.

Councillor Smith requested that the Executive Board record their appreciation for the contribution Councillor Taylor had made to the work of the Executive Board and suggested John Hawkins write to Councillor Taylor to this effect.

110/09 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 27 NOVEMBER 2009

It was AGREED by those present that these were a true record of the meeting.

111/09 CITY REGION GOVERNANCE

The Executive Board considered a further report on the issue of City Region Governance. The report provided a response to the Executive Board's decision on 29 November to request a further report on a detailed scheme for future AGMA governance, including transport. The report was for consideration and approval of a detailed scheme, for consultation purposes, as part of a review of governance

under the Local Transport Act, 2008 and the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act, 2009.

In presenting the report Howard Bernstein also explained that:-

- (a) resolution 4 in the report would be amended to include the words 'work to facilitate' after 'authorise officers to commission'. This was in order to make it clear that any final scheme could only be prepared and published following the review and consultation.
- (b) Paragraph 24(g) in the report and paragraph 33 of Appendix 2 (the draft scheme) would be amended so that the 3rd bullet point in the list of functions to be referred for recommendation to the proposed new Joint Committee would read "major and strategic transport policies". Following discussion with GMITA members this amendment made clear that the new Committee would have delegated powers for determining anything other than major and strategic transport policies and the other functions listed.
- (c) as far as the proposed Scrutiny arrangements in paragraph 24 (j) were concerned it was envisaged that the scrutiny process would operate at a higher level in relation to Greater Manchester wide and major strategic issues, such as those referred for recommendation to the proposed new Joint Committee for Transport.

On behalf of Trafford Council, Councillor Colledge drew the Board's attention to a statement that had been submitted to the Chair. This would be circulated to all Board members. The statement, and accompanying report to Trafford's Executive, set out the decision made on this issue by Trafford's Executive at its meeting on 15th December and the key issues of concern that would need to be addressed during the consultation process to the satisfaction of Trafford's Executive.

The Leader of Stockport Council, Councillor Goddard, made it clear that his vote on this issue did not constitute his Council's agreement to participate in the preparation of a scheme under section 109 of the 2009 Act.

The Executive Board then agreed

- 1 to note the progress on the City Region Pilot;
- 2 that the work which had been undertaken so far on the AGMA/GMITA governance review supported the establishment of a Combined Authority on the basis set out in the report as this would be likely to improve:
 - (a) the exercise of statutory functions related to economic development, regeneration and transport in the area
 - (b) the effectiveness and efficiency of transport in the area
 - (c) economic conditions in the area

On this resolution (number 2 above) Councillor Goddard recorded his abstention.

3. to approve the draft scheme in the report as a basis for consultation with district councils, GMITA and other stakeholders as part of a review under the Local Transport Act, 2008 and the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act, 2009;
4. to authorise officers to commission work to facilitate the preparation of any final scheme including a business case examining in detail the relative benefits of a Combined Authority compared to other options and including the costs associated with the proposals;
5. to note that a further report would be submitted to the Executive Board in February with the results of the consultation and the outcome of further work undertaken in relation to the review and;
6. to agree that the costs involved in undertaking the review and preparation of any scheme should be shared between the authorities in proportion to their populations as provided for in the AGMA Constitution.

112/09 FUTURE JOBS FUND – GREATER MANCHESTER PROGRAMME

The Executive Board considered a progress report on The AGMA Future Jobs Fund which was now 'live'. The board agreed to

1. Note the immense progress made to date by all involved
2. Re-affirm their commitments to the agreed number of jobs pledged, and to
3. Convert these commitments to vacancies as an urgent priority

113/09 COMMISSION FOR NEW ECONOMY: MEETING OF 5 NOVEMBER 2009

The Executive Board considered draft minutes of the Commission held on 5th November 2009; but raised no issues.

114/09 MINISTERIAL VISIT FROM PHIL WOOLAS M.P.

Councillor Peter Smith welcomed Phil Woolas M.P. to the meeting and expressed his thanks and pleasure for his involvement in the signing of the city region pilot agreement. The Minister stated he felt proud to be asked particularly as he had been involved with this agenda for the last four years and he looked forward to signing the agreement and both implementing and making this stronger in the future.

115/09 LARGE DOMESTIC BUSINESSES

John Early, Chair of Business Leadership Council introduced Martin Douglas, a member of BLC and General Manager UK and Ireland Cargills PLC who gave an overview of the report which included a presentation.

Councillor Peter Smith thanked John and Martin for the report and presentation and suggested the report be circulated to the Commissions with a view to reporting back to the AGMA Executive Board in February.

116/09 REPORT OF THE WORK OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION ON HEALTHY WEIGHT

The Executive Board considered a report which set out the work to date of the Commission on this issue and agreed to

1. Note the development of a number of proposals for future work on this issue and commit to receiving a further update on them from the GM Health Commission
2. Endorse the adoption of the NW Healthy Catering Guidelines to inform AGMA sponsored events and to promote these within all boroughs in Greater Manchester.

117/09 HEALTH COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME

The Executive Board considered and agreed the proposed work programme for the Commission for 2010. They also agreed that only those items related to the Commission's own Organisation Development Implementation Plan would be exempt from the process of potential referral back to the Executive Board

118/09 PLANNING AND HOUSING COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME

The Executive Board considered and agreed the proposed work programme for the Commission for 2010. No items were identified which would be exempt from the process of potential referral back to the Executive Board.

119/09 GM HOUSING STRATEGY

Councillor Derek Antrobus, Chair of Planning and Housing Commission referred to the report and raised several concerns:-

- Links between GM Strategy and GM Housing Strategy
- Ensure no overlap with single authorities and the Commissions
- Consultation allowed us to improve the strategy and improve the links between housing and health

Councillor Antrobus also raised two key issues:-

- Strategic objectives outlined – more detailed action plan next financial year
- Review mechanism – the Commission were concerned housing projections rely on housing formations

The Executive Board AGREED to approve the draft GM Housing Strategy for ratification by districts in the New Year.

120/09 PLANNING AND HOUSING COMMISSION: MEETING 9 DECEMBER 2009

The Executive Board considered draft minutes of the Commission held on 9th December 2009; but raised no issues.

121/09 JOINT WORKING AND SHARED SERVICES

Roger Ellis, Chief Executive, Rochdale MBC gave a verbal update on the work of the AGMA Efficiency Programme Office and reported savings of approximately £3.6m in 2009 and a forecast of £12m savings in 2010. Roger confirmed that Chief Executives would be reviewing the programme at the beginning of February with recommendations to Executive Board at end of February 2010.

122/09 AGMA SCRUTINY PANEL – MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 DECEMBER 2009

The Executive Board considered draft minutes of the Scrutiny Panel held on 11th December 2009; but raised no issues.

123/09 FORWARD PLAN

John Hawkins, Head of the AGMA Policy Unit introduced the report which drew Executive Board members' attention to:-

- The awayday for Leaders and Chief Executives in January – it had been agreed to use the morning of the AGMA Executive meeting on 29 January commencing at 9.30 a.m. for the awayday and only take urgent items of business for the Executive, have a working lunch and finish at 1.30 p.m.
- Amendments to AGMA Constitution – report stated the amendments agreed by the Executive Board on 28 August concerning reporting of Commission decisions to Executive Board members had been ratified by four of the ten authorities, Bury Council had also now confirmed and other authorities were taking this through their processes in January and these would hopefully be confirmed at the January Executive Board meeting.
- Declarations of Interest – AGMA District Secretaries Group have been asked to consider this and proposals would be brought back to Executive Board early in 2010. It was confirmed that this would also apply to the sub-group reporting direct to the Executive Board on 14-19 issues.

Councillor Richard Leese, Manchester CC referred to item 4 of the Forward Plan and stated the Manchester Knowledge Capital Board was not a Sub Committee of the Commission for the New Economy and there were no proposals that it should be.

125/09 AGMA UNIT BUDGETS

The board considered a report from the AGMA Treasurer on AGMA Unit budgets for 2010/11. All Units who responded had proposed a cash standstill budget based on 2009/10 levels. However in line with agreements reached in November 2008 the Executive Board agreed an increase in line with inflation for the annual grant to the Halle Concerts Society. It was noted that as yet the Treasurer had not received a detailed budget proposal for the Specialist Trading Standards Unit for 2010/11.

126/09 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2.

The Board agreed an addendum to the Minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on 30 October 2009 in order to record that the three resolutions at the AGM of The Commission For The New Economy Limited had been agreed unanimously.

Chair

ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY 29th JANUARY 2010 AT ROCHDALE TOWN HALL

Present: -

In the Chair: Councillor Peter Smith - (Wigan MBC)

<u>BOLTON COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Cliff Morris Sean Harriss
<u>BURY COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Bob Bibby Mark Sanders
<u>MANCHESTER CC</u>	Councillor J Battle Howard Bernstein
<u>OLDHAM COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Howard Sykes Charlie Parker
<u>ROCHDALE MBC</u>	Councillor Irene Davidson Roger Ellis
<u>SALFORD CC</u>	Councillor John Merry Kevin Brady
<u>STOCKPORT MBC</u>	Councillor David Goddard Lauren Donnan
<u>TAMESIDE MBC</u>	Councillor Roy Oldham Steven Pleasant
<u>TRAFFORD COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Matthew Colledge Janet Callender
<u>WIGAN COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Peter Smith Joyce Redfearn
<u>GMITA</u>	Councillor Keith Whitmore Councillor Ian Macdonald
<u>GMPTE</u>	David Leather
<u>GMWDA</u>	Councillor Young John Bland
<u>GM FIRE</u>	Steve McGuirk
<u>GMPA</u>	Councillor Paul Murphy Russell Bernstein
<u>GMFRS</u>	Councillor J Pearson

<u>GMFRA</u>	Paul Shannon
GMJTT	Roy Newton
<u>COMMISSION FOR</u>	Mike Emmerich
<u>AGMA POLICY UNIT</u>	Joanne Horrocks Kerry Bond

127/09 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Richard Leese, Barbara Spicer, John Schultz, Peter Fahy, Councillor Ian Marks, Diana Terris and John Hawkins.

On behalf of the Executive Board, Lord Peter Smith, Chair wished John Hawkins well and a speedy recovery.

128/09 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 18 DECEMBER 2009

It was AGREED by those present that these were a true record of the meeting.

129/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

130/09 ATLANTIC GATEWAY

It was AGREED to delegate to the Chair and Vice-Chairs sign-off of AGMA's formal response to the NWDA consultation on the draft strategy for "Atlantic Gateway" following consultation with all ten districts and that the Chief Executives would be engaged in drafting the response and for the response to be shared with Leaders.

131/09 TOTAL PLACE UPDATE

The Executive Board considered a report from Joyce Redfearn, Wigan MBC updating on progress with the Manchester Total Place pilot, seeking delegated authority to the Chief Executive of Wigan in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chairs to finalise the Total Place report and submit to Government by 5 February 2010 on behalf of the Greater Manchester and Warrington pilot.

The report focuses on efficiencies that can be delivered and identifies specific savings.

AGREED: The Executive Board agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Executive of Wigan, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chairs to finalise the Total Place report and submit to Government on behalf of the Greater Manchester and Warrington pilot.

132/09 LTP FINANCE REVIEW FOR 2010/11

The Executive Board considered a report presented by Roy Newton outlining proposals for the distribution of Local Transport Plan (LTP) funding for 2010/11 and AGREED -

1. That GMITA fund the following during 2010/11 from the revenue budget:
 - Joint Transport Team costs (£301K);
 - LTP3 preparation costs (£150K);
 - LTP Monitoring inc GMTU Core SLA (£518K);
 - Transport Planning Support GMTU SLA (£227K);
 - Studies and Research (£25K);in exchange for an equivalent capital amount to be top-sliced from the LTP Integrated Transport Block for 2010/11.
2. To note that, in line with previous AGMA Executive Board decisions (28th March 2008 and 31st July 2009), there will be a topslice from the Integrated Transport Block in 2010/11 of £7.25 million as a contribution to Metrolink Phase 3a and a £10 million topslice as a contribution to the GM Transport Fund.
3. To note that the DfT settlement for 2010/11 includes £6.539 million for the SEMMMS authorities (Manchester, Tameside, Stockport, GMITA) and will be distributed in accordance with the allocation method agreed by the SEMMMS authorities. 2010/11 is the last year of this funding.
4. To note that the DfT settlement for 2010/11 includes a £3.5 million contribution to the Transport Infrastructure Fund (for Bolton and Wigan) with a further £3.5 million being made available by GMITA. 2010/11 is the last year of this funding.
5. Use option 4 reducing the proportion of resource available to public transport as outlined in the report to distribute the remaining Integrated Transport Block funds for 2010/11.

133/09 GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT FUND – APPRIVAL
RECOMMENDATION FOR ASHTON NORTHERN BYPASS

The Executive Board considered a report (extract of the minutes held on 8 January 2010) from the Wider Leadership Team which contained an approval recommendation for the Ashton Northern Bypass. This recommendation had been made by the 'Review Panel' consisting of GMPTE officers and independent external parties, as part of the approval processes for schemes agreed by the AGMA Executive Board at its meeting on 27 November 2009 (Minute 96/09).

AGREED:

1. Full approval be given for contract 1 of the scheme (retaining walls and Mosque relocation).
2. Conditional approval be given for contract 2, highway works.

134/09 AMENDMENTS TO AGMA CONSTITUTION

It was brought to the Executive Boards attention that the required seven out of ten Local Authorities had now endorsed the changes to the AGMA Constitution in

respect of Commission work programmes which were agreed by the Executive Board in August 2009, and that the new arrangements are now effective.

135/09 JOINT AUTHORITY BUDGET PROPSALS 2010/11

a) GMFRA Revenue Budget 2010/11 and Medium Term Forecast 2010/11 - 2012/3

Paul Shannon presented the report of the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority updating the Executive Board following dialogue with the Leaders and Treasurers of Oldham MBC and Salford MBC.

The report provides details of the proposed budget and precept for 2010/11 together with the Medium Term Forecast for 2010/11 – 2012/13.

AGREED: The indicative precept increase of 2.5% for 2010/11.

b) GMPA Budget and Precept Report 2010/11

Councillor Paul Murphy, GMPA presented the report submitted by the Chief Constable and Treasurer, GMPA following a request received from the Chair of the Resources and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee for a report dealing with the process used to set the police precept and the factors that have influenced the decision.

AGREED: That the report be noted and that the 7½% increase be approved on the condition that the 10 districts will get their money back if the returns which GMPA outlined (extra officers) are not delivered.

It was agreed that Chief Superintendent meet with each Leader to discuss, GMPA agreed to progress arrangements.

c) GMITA/E Budget 2010/11

The Executive Board considered a report submitted by the Clerk to GMITA & Chief Executive, GMPTE giving an update on the GMITA/PTE's 2010/11 budget and outcome of the scrutiny meeting with the Leaders and Treasurers of Wigan, Trafford and Bury.

AGREED:

1. To note the issues which are affecting GMITA/PTE's 2010/11 budget projections.
2. Approve the 5.6% increase in the GMITA levy for 2010/11; 3% of the increase being to fund the financing costs for the Greater Manchester Transport Fund ('GMTF').

d) GMWDA Budget and Levy 2010/11 and 2014/15

The Executive Board considered the GMWDA Budget and Levy Report for 2010/11 and 2014/15.

AGMA Scrutiny Pool submitted a report providing the AGMA Executive with feedback as to the findings of the review of the GMWDA Joint Authority Budget for 2010/11.

AGREED:

i) A levy increase of 3.9% and 10.74% increase in virtual smoothed levy requirements.

It was noted that the AGMA Scrutiny Pool thanked the GMWDA for explaining the rationale behind the budget plans and recommend that the planned budget proposals are reasonable given the GMWDA future obligations.

e) AGMA Scrutiny - Marketing Manchester

The Executive Board considered a report from the City Treasurers of Manchester and Salford. As part of the scrutiny process further information was requested in order to fully assess the budget request from Marketing Manchester for 2010/11. The report addresses the following issues-

- Marketing Manchester key performance indicators and its impact on visitor numbers and perception shifts.
- The Manchester Conference Partnership budget highlighting the distinction between fixed and variable costs.

AGREED: The funding for 2010/11 of £334,000 for core funding and a further £100,00 for a conference partnership.

Following the recent review and funding error discovery, Manchester kindly AGREED to waive the overpayment as detailed in the report. It was AGREED that all future payments be made in accordance to the correct allocation.

136/09 QUARTERLY BUDGET MONITORING REPORTS

The Executive Board considered the report of the AGMA Treasurer providing members with a brief summary on the financial progress of the units for the third quarter 2009/10.

AGREED: That the report be noted.

137/09 COMMISSION MEETINGS

- a) The Executive Board considered draft minutes of the Commission held on 18th January 2010; but raised no issues.
- b) The Executive Board considered draft minutes of the Scrutiny Panel meetings held on 15 January 2010; but raised no issues.
- c) The Executive Board considered draft minutes of the Health Scrutiny meeting held on 12 January 2010; but raised no issues.

138/09 NEW APPOINTEE AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Lord Peter Smith, AGMA Leader welcomed Councillor Irene Davidson as the new appointee of the Executive Board for Rochdale MBC following the resignation of Councillor Taylor as Leader of Rochdale MBC.

139/09 EXECUTIVE BOARD 26 FEBRUARY 2010

Lord Peter Smith, AGMA Leader asked members of the Board to note that the venue of February's meeting will be Manchester Openshaw College campus and that following the scheduled meetings there will be a lunchtime session with College Principals and students: 12noon - 1:30pm.

140/ 09 AOB

Lord Peter Smith, AGMA Leader brought to the Boards attention that he had been approached by and had met with Cheshire East Council to discuss becoming Associate Members of AGMA, and that this would be formally agreed at next months Executive Board meeting.

Chair

ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2010 AT MANCHESTER COLLEGE, OPENSHAW CAMPUS

Present: -

In the Chair: Councillor Peter Smith - (Wigan MBC)

<u>BOLTON COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Cliff Morris Sean Harriss
<u>BURY COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Bob Bibby Mark Sanders
<u>MANCHESTER CC</u>	Councillor Richard Leese Howard Bernstein
<u>OLDHAM COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Howard Sykes Charlie Parker
<u>ROCHDALE MBC</u>	Councillor Irene Davidson Roger Ellis
<u>SALFORD CC</u>	Councillor David Lancaster Barbara Spicer
<u>STOCKPORT MBC</u>	Councillor David Goddard John Schultz
<u>TAMESIDE MBC</u>	Councillor Roy Oldham Steven Pleasant Adam Allen
<u>TRAFFORD COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Matthew Colledge Janet Callender
<u>WIGAN COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Peter Smith Joyce Redfearn
<u>GMITA</u>	Councillor Keith Whitmore Councillor Ian Macdonald
<u>GMPTE</u>	David Leather
<u>GMWDA</u>	Councillor Neil Swannick Councillor Michael Young
<u>GMFRA</u>	Councillor Paul Shannon
<u>AGMA SCRUTINY</u>	Councillor Simon Ashley

Nicola Ward

COMMISSION FOR
NEW ECONOMY

Mike Emmerich
Nick Gerrard

MANCHESTER
SOLUTIONS

Richard Guy
Drew Thomas

AGMA POLICY UNIT

John Hawkins
Joanne Horrocks
Julie Gaskell

141/09 CITY REGION GOVERNANCE

The Board considered a report on the outcome of a review of governance under Part 6 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, including the results of the consultation exercise on a draft scheme, a business case prepared by KPMG, and further work undertaken in the course of the review. A final draft scheme for the establishment of a Combined Authority was also submitted for the Board's consideration.

The Board also considered additional resolutions proposed by GMITA and the AGMA Scrutiny Pool.

A number of members also stated that if the proposals to establish a combined authority, now before the Board, were not approved by any of the ten Councils, officers should prepare a report to the Board on the options for progressing combined governance arrangements open to the remaining authorities in relation to both economic regeneration and transport.

Following discussions the subsequent resolutions were put to a vote and agreed by 8 votes to nil, with Councillors Goddard (Stockport MBC) and Colledge (Trafford MBC) abstaining;

- a) That the name of the proposed Combined Authority be the "Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)" ;
- b) that the proposal to establish a Combined Authority would be likely to improve:
 - a) the exercise of statutory functions related to economic development, regeneration and transport in the area
 - b) the effectiveness and efficiency of transport in the area
 - c) economic conditions in the area for the reasons set out in the review document;
- c) that the Final Draft Scheme at Appendix 4 to the report be approved subject to the words "and paragraph 15A below" being added after the words "Subject to the provisions of any enactment" in paragraph 15 of the Final Draft Scheme and the following words to be added as paragraph 15A;

"The following matters will require the support of at least 7 members of the GMCA for approval:

- The adoption of the Sustainable Community Strategy (ie the Greater Manchester Strategy, the Greater Manchester Housing Strategy and other related strategies)
 - The adoption of the Multi-Area Agreement
 - The approval of the local economic assessment
 - The adoption of the Local Transport Plan and policies contained therein
 - The Greater Manchester Combined Authority's annual budget
 - The setting of the transport levy
 - Approval of new schemes to be financed by the Greater Manchester Transport Fund
 - Borrowing limits, Treasury Management Strategy, the investment strategy and the capital budget
 - The acceptance of any proposed delegation of functions or budgets to the GMCA by the Secretary of State
 - Such other plans and strategies as are determined by the GMCA."
- d) that the final draft scheme as amended at c above, should be recommended to the 10 district councils as a Final Scheme to be published and submitted to the Secretaries of State under Section 109 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and Section 82 of the Local Transport Act 2008;
- e) that the Executive Board gives the clearest possible commitment regarding the future role of the Joint Committee as set out in the Final Draft Scheme and, to this end, agrees that Chairs and Vice-Chairs should work with the Chair and Vice-Chair of GMITA on a draft scheme of delegation of powers by the Combined Authority to the Joint Committee for approval by the Executive Board and GMITA not later than June 2010
- f) that a Formal agreement be completed in the terms of the side letter tabled at the meeting which supplements paragraph 46 of the scheme relating to the support given by other authorities to an individual authority wishing to withdraw from the GMCA;
- g) that the proposals contained in paragraph 66 of the report for a review of scrutiny arrangements and support as endorsed by the AGMA Scrutiny Pool be supported;
- h) that the 10 authorities be requested to arrange for consideration of the review and the Final Draft Scheme as a matter of urgency following this meeting;
- i) that subject to all 10 districts consenting to their area being included in the Final Scheme, officers be authorised to prepare all necessary documentation for submission to the Secretaries of State;
- j) that progress reports be submitted to the Executive Board's meeting in due course.

142/09 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor John Merry, Councillor James Pearson, Councillor Ian Marks, Peter Fahy and Diana Terris.

143/09 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 29 JANUARY 2010

Item 135/09 (GMFRA Revenue Budget 2010/11 and Medium Term Forecast 2010/11-2012/13) to be amended as "Councillor James Pearson presented the report..." not Councillor Paul Shannon.

Otherwise, AGREED by those present that these were a true record of the meeting

144/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Swannick declared a personal interest in item 11, NHS Reform and the City Region.

145/09 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – CHESHIRE EAST

The Executive Board considered an overview presented by Steven Pleasant, Chief Executive, Tameside Council, of the benefits of Cheshire East becoming an Associate Member of AGMA.

The Executive Board agreed to admit Cheshire East to Associate Membership of AGMA

146/09 FORWARD PLAN - UPDATE

John Hawkins, Head of the AGMA Policy Unit introduced the report which drew Executive Board members' attention to the away day for Leaders and Chief Executives being rescheduled for May, September and November. The report was noted.

147/09 MANCHESTER SOLUTIONS STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORT

Richard Guy and Drew Thomas, Manchester Solutions, presented the Strategic Business Plan and Annual report to the Executive Board.

The Executive Board AGREED to note the Draft Annual Report and Consolidated Statutory Accounts to be approved by the Manchester Solutions Finance & Audit Committee.

148/09 BUSINESS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Nick Gerrard, Commission for the New Economy, updated the Executive Board on the comments made by the Commission, the Environment Commission and GMIPA/GMPTE in relation to key findings and recommendations arising from a study undertaken by the Business Leadership Council of the performance of Greater Manchester as a business environment for "large domestic" businesses.

The Executive Board AGREED:

1. The responses set out in the report to each of the fourteen recommendations contained in the Business Leadership Council's study: The Performance of Greater Manchester as a Business Environment for 'Large Domestic' Businesses.
2. To request that the Commission for the New Economy, the Environment Commission and GMITA/GMPTE work directly with the Business Leadership Council in taking forward the study's recommendations in accordance with their respective responses to each of these.

149/09 AGMA RESPONSE TO NW REGIONAL STRATEGY (RS2010) PART 1 CONSULTATION

Mike Emmerich, Commission for the New Economy, presented a report updating the Board on the progress of the Single, Regional Strategy (RS2010).

Mike stated that following a recent conference there were some additional minor textual amendments proposed to be made to AGMA's response. As a consequence it was AGREED for the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Executive Board to be delegated approval of the amendments.

150/09 REVIEW OF IMPROVEMENT AND EFFICIENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

Roger Ellis, Chief Executive, Rochdale, outlined the outcome of discussion amongst AGMA Chief Executives on the lead responsibility for various aspects of work on Improvement and Efficiency.

The Executive Board AGREED:

1. that the AGMA Procurement Hub and SpendPro continue to operate and that a fair mechanism for funding should be developed.
2. that the Procurement Hub be integrated with the Collaborative Services Programme Office, under one Director
3. that the responsibility for the Procurement Hub would remain with Trafford Council, the sponsor authority
4. that a further report detailing the financial implications of funding the Unit through an invest to save process be brought back to the Executive Board for consideration
5. to review the location of the Collaborative Services Programme Office/Procurement Hub
6. that Manchester City Council, in their Regional role, continue to lead on the Procurement Improvement within individual authorities

151/09 NHS REFORM AND THE CITY REGION

Sir Howard Bernstein introduced the report which informed the Executive Board on the context and proposals for NHS reforms to Transform Community Service

provision currently being brought forward by GM PCTs for consideration by NHS North West.

The Executive Board considered and AGREED the following recommendations;

1. to note the involvement of Local Authorities to date in considering options at a LA/PCT level for the reform of community service provision
2. that the reforms did not go far enough in realising the potential for greater integration and strategic fit between the commissioning roles of the NHS and Local Government at appropriate spatial levels.
3. that a Task and Finish Group of AGMA Members and Officers together with representatives of NHS North West and the Association of GM PCTs be established to examine both the strategic fit of the emerging PCT proposals and the wider opportunities for NHS/AGMA collaboration both in commissioning and, where appropriate, delivering services at a range of spatial levels from the Neighbourhood to the sub-region
4. that the Task and Finish Group be jointly led by AGMA, the Health Commission and NHS and be given three months to complete this work and report back to the June meeting of the AGMA Executive Board with an options paper for Members' consideration
5. to welcome the agreement of the Secretary of State for Health to chair a sub-regional leadership seminar on 15th March 2010 as an important opportunity to further develop NHS/AGMA collaboration.

152/09 MINIMUM UNIT PRICE FOR ALCOHOL

Councillor Cliff Morris, Chair, Greater Manchester Commission presented a report and invited the Board to discuss and consider advocating strongly nationally and locally for a minimum unit price for alcohol of 50p.

RESOLVED : Report noted and proposals supported.

153/09 UPDATE IN RELATION TO COMMISSION FORMALISATION AND SELECTION OF NON-ELECTED MEMBERS

Barbara Spicer, Chief Executive, Salford, presented the report of the Public Protection Commission which asked for the Board to agree the non-elected membership of the Commission.

It was AGREED to appoint the six non-elected members as originally sent to the Fire Authority representative and the Public Protection Commission and that this non-elected membership be reviewed after 12 months.

154/09 AGMA SCRUTINY PANEL

a) The Executive Board considered draft minutes of the AGMA Scrutiny Pool – Environment, Spatial and Economy Panel meeting held on 12th February 2010; but raised no issues.

b) The Executive Board considered draft minutes of the AGMA Scrutiny Pool – Governance, Improvement and Finance meeting held on 12th February 2010; but raised no issues.

c) The Executive Board considered draft minutes of the AGMA Scrutiny Pool meeting held on 12th February 2010; but raised no issues.

155/ 09 DIG GREATER MANCHESTER, ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT UPDATE

The Executive Board were asked to consider the recommendation of a revised proposal for an AGMA wide archaeological project as proposed by the Centre for Applied Archaeology at Salford University and that Dig Greater Manchester continues in a scaled down form using only already committed AGMA funding.

RESOLVED: Report noted and proposals agreed.

156/09 AGMA ENGAGEMENT

The Executive Board considered suggestions for engagement activity of key stakeholders for AGMA and approved in principal to progress a detailed proposal.

RESOLVED; Report noted and recommendations agreed.

157/09 AOB

Mark Sanders referred to the minutes of the 16-19 group which had been separately issued. No points were raised by Board members.

Chair

- PRESENT Councillor Sykes (Chair)
Councillors Blyth, Hibbert, Knox, Lord, McCann, Stanton, Thompson and Uddin.
Apologies received from Councillor Alcock
- Item 2 **URGENT BUSINESS**
The Chair agreed to accept an Item of urgent business, Disposal of Land at Stansfield Street, as the matter could not be reasonable deferred due to the need to progress to a commercial conclusion. The matter was considered at Item 21 EDRS ref 10010168.
- Item 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
Councillor McCann declared a personal interest in Item 14 by virtue of his appointment by Council as a Board Member of OCLL. Councillor Sykes declared a personal interest in Item 21 by virtue of his appointment by Council as a Director of Oldham Property Partnership.
- Item 4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
There were no public questions received.
- Item 5 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 23 DECEMBER 2010** 10010128
The Minutes were approved as a correct record of the Cabinet meeting held on the 23rd December 2009.
- Item 6 **PRIORITY PROGRAMME FUNDING - A MOVE TO COMMISSIONING** 10010121
Cabinet received a report that informed Members of the findings and recommendations of the Move to Commissioning Task and Finish Group.
The Task and Finish Group was re-established with a remit to look at the preparatory work that was being undertaken on the Commissions in respect of the infrastructure organisations, the Legal Advice Services and Community Development and engagement.
The terms of reference were:
 - the impact of the move to commissioning on the groups affected;
 - the methods by which the level of funding for various groups was determined;
 - who would determine the level of funding for groups;
 - the need to continue to support groups to look for alternative sources of funding (grant based,

where possible); and

- the provision of community development facilities within the Borough.

Members discussed the themes which had emerged from the responses received from Community and Voluntary groups. Those responses had highlighted uncertainty within the sector about how they would continue to provide a service and if they were able to provide any, should they receive a reduced level of funding. The Task and Finish Group representative, Councillor Pendlebury advised Cabinet that the group wished to see a preferred bidder for Infrastructure support, with a 3 year contract, with performance targets and effective monitoring process in place to ensure that the selected bidder delivered to the contractual agreement and delivered on the agreed/expected output/targets.

RESOLVED: That

1) The work by the Communities Unit in the preparation of the commissioning arrangements and the consultation with the voluntary and community sector, be noted

2) Cabinet noted that as a result of the new commissioning arrangements, there was a need to begin work immediately to address the concerns which have been raised by the voluntary organisations and, ensure that there was a clear structure in place to provide support to all organisations in Oldham affected by the changes in the funding arrangements to help them to 'remain in business';

3) Cabinet noted, the Move to Commissioning Task and Finish Groups recommendation to allow for a period for of Expressions of Interests at the time of the ring-fenced tendering process, be extended beyond the current period of 21 days to allow smaller organizations sufficient time to be able to prepare and submit their bid;

4) Cabinet noted the Move to Commissioning Task and Finish Groups preference in relation to the infrastructure sector, a preferred bidder on a 3 year contract, procured via a ring-fenced tendering process, with performance targets and effective monitoring processes in place to ensure that the selected bidder delivered to the contractual agreement, and the agreed/expected outputs or targets.

Item 7

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES 2008/09

10010125

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health that informed Cabinet of the

outcome of the Performance assessment process for Adult Social Care services in Oldham for the year 2008/9.

Members were advised that an Annual performance assessment of the Adult Social Care services in Oldham was undertaken by the Care Quality Commission. The assessment identified that Adult Social Care Services in Oldham were judged as performing Well.

Members offered their congratulations to the staff in Adult Social Services.

RESOLVED: That the record of performance assessment for Adult Social Care in Oldham be noted.

Item 8

MONTH 8 REVENUE MONITOR

10010123

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources that updated Members on the Authority's budget position forecast to the year end as at the period ending 30 November 2009.

Cabinet were advised that the report set out the revenue forecast for 2009-10 as at Month 8, planned improvements in the financial management of budgets and identification of the requirement for on going management actions to ensure the year -end position would result in a balanced budget.

The Cabinet Member without portfolio requested information in relation to the ERDF clawback and was advised that the figure requested should be available within the Month 9 monitor

RESOLVED: That

1) Cabinet noted at the end of Month 8 (30 November 2009) the full year forecast projected a potential overspend of £2,474k, a decrease of £477k against the forecast included in the last corporate monitoring report for month 5 (£2,951k).

2) Cabinet noted the forecast reflected the most up to date financial position after adjustments to Directorate budgets for the Zero Based Budget exercise, the Efficiency Programme savings and the Priority Investment Programme be noted

3) The continuation of the work currently being undertaken by Executive Directors and Lead Members to develop plans to reduce the forecasted overspend by the year end be agreed.

Item 9

MONTH 8 CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2009/10

10010124

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for

Finance and Resources that set out the latest position and forecast outturn on the 2009-10 Capital Programme and the proposed changes to the 2009-10 capital programme.

Members were advised of the most up to date capital spending proposals for 2009-2013, which included the current forecast outturn position of £74.319 million expenditure and £70.5 million income, that left an in year over programming of £3.819 million This was a reduction in forecast over programming from Month 5 of £287,000. However based on previous years expenditure the outturn forecast was in the region of £66.1 million.

Members discussed the variations and detail of the report and were advised that further information of detailed schemes would be produced on request to Cabinet Members.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) The proposals for re-profiling identified in Table 2 and Appendix A of the report be approved.
- 2) Chief Officers continue to review the capital programme to bring it to a balanced position and to ensure there is no risk of unforeseen revenue implications be approved.
- 3) The variations to the 2009-10 capital programme as detailed in Appendix C of the report advising of budget movements and re-profiling schemes to future years resulting in a reduction in expenditure of £7.334m and a reduction in resources of £7.282m in 2009-10 be approved.

Item 10

**HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ESTIMATES
2009/10 TO 2012/2013. FIRST CHOICE HOMES
OLDHAM MANAGEMENT FEE 2009/2010 AND
2010/2011**

10010003

Cabinet received a Joint report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources and the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing, which set out the latest Housing Revenue account estimated for 2009/2010 and 2010/2011, together with strategic estimates for 2011/2012 and 2012/2013. It also set out the Management fee to be paid to First Choice Homes Oldham for 2009/10 and 2010/2011 and the dwelling, non dwelling rents and service charges increases to be applied from the 5th April 2010.

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources confirmed that the position on the Housing Revenue Account would remain healthy irrespective of the result of the Housing Stock Transfer ballot.

RESOLVED: That

- 1)The forecast outturn for 2010/11 be noted
- 2) The proposed Housing Revenue Budget alternatives for 2010/2011 be approved
- 3)The Alternative First Choice Homes management fee proposals for 2010/2011 be agreed
- 4) The proposed increases in dwelling rents, non-dwelling rents, service charges and leaseholder service charges be approved
- 5)The alternative strategic forecasts for 2011/2012 and 2012/13 be noted
- 6) The strategy be submitted to Council on the 24th February 2010.

Item 11

REVISIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S ADOPTED STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

10010085

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure that sought approval to publish for public consultation, revisions to the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.(SCI)

Members were advised that the Statement of Community Involvement was adopted in 2007 and outlined the engagement of the community on the Local Development Framework (LDF) matters and planning applications. In 2008 Local Planning Authorities were required to review the SCI and undertake public consultation in February and March 2010 on any changes in order to have the newly approved document in place prior to publications of the LDF core strategy in Autumn 2010.

RESOLVED: That the public consultation on the review of the Statement of Community Involvement be authorised.

Item 12

GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES HIGHWAYS RETAINING WALLS MAJOR MAINTAINENCE SCHEME - GRANT OFFER FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT (DfT) AND PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

10010095

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure that updated Members on the current position in relation to the Joint Greater Manchester Authorities Highways Retaining Walls major Maintenance scheme bid and the offer of grant aid from the Department of Transport (DfT), that set out the financial implications for the Authority and sought formal approval to the acceptance of grant aid from the DfT and the procurement strategy outlined in the

report.

Members were advised that the preferred procurement strategy would be to utilize the framework contract established by Stockport and Trafford Council's - Streetscene alliance. The Comprehensive framework contract would enable the delivery of a wide range of highway engineering functions. Contracts would be placed through the framework in 2009/10 and would not preclude the use of other procurement methods should the need arise to enable project delivery.

RESOLVED: That

1)The grant offer from the Department of Transport in relation to the schemes in Oldham be accepted

2)The Council's contribution to the Greater Manchester Highways Authorities Highways Retaining Walls Major Maintenance scheme and the method of financing that contribution be approved.

3)That the procurement strategy outlined at 5.5 to 5.8 of the report be approved

4)All other matters relating to the delivery of the project be delegated to the Assistant Executive Director, Place Making and Management in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure.

Item 13

UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF LAND TO THE NORTH OF THE LANCASTER CLUB, FAILSWORTH

10010109

Cabinet considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration that provided Members with an update on proposals introduced by Oldham Athletic to redevelop the Lancaster Club Site owned by BAE Systems and the utilization of an area of Council owned land to the north of the site to create a replacement football stadium.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration advised the meeting that the Council had submitted further information to the Charities Commission and were awaiting a definitive view on the land to north of the site and to the south of Failsworth Lower Memorial Park.

RESOLVED: That

1) The report be noted

2) That further information on the land identified within the report would be submitted to Cabinet, when further information had been received.

Item 14

THE FUTURE OF THE LEISURE ESTATE

10010126

Cabinet received a Joint Report of the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing and Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure that:

- concerned the future of the Council's leisure estate - the pools, sports centres, and also the synthetic turf and grass playing pitches;
- noted that to continue to operate the estate as at present was not a realistic option;
- outlined the key strategic vision / principles that would frame any future partnering arrangements for the leisure estate in Oldham;
- recommended that the estate's future be determined in conjunction with a third party by means of a competitive dialogue procurement process; and
- proposed appropriate governance arrangements to ensure the effective delivery of that competitive dialogue procurement.

Members were advised the Council's broad strategy vision for further development of the estate including the desire to develop a major new family leisure facility in Oldham Town centre and rationalisation over time of the remainder of the estate. Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing advised Cabinet that further to the report the recommendation to Cabinet in relation to the OCLL contract be amended, to extend the contract to November 2011.

RESOLVED: That

1)The strategic vision for the Leisure estate as outlined in the report, subject to the vision being further refined through the proposed procurement process be confirmed.

2)A competitive dialogue procurement exercise be conducted through which potential partners would be invited to make proposals for the operation of the estate linked to the following options:

(i) To transfer the whole estate to an independent third party who would take on the entire responsibility for it; and

(ii)To adopt a variant of the above where the Council retains some influence over the service provided to residents;

3)That suitable governance arrangements be immediately put in place to ensure the procurement was conducted effectively, including by clearly determining ownership of the project, establishing a formal project board to manage the process and committing sufficient resources to ensure the project was delivered. The Board to include elected member representation.

4)That subject to agreement with OCLL the current

contract with OCLL for the management of the Council's pools and sports centres be extended until November 2011 to allow sufficient time for the Council to prepare for and undertake the procurement exercise.

Item 15 **THE WAY FORWARD - A REVIEW OF THE LIBRARY STRATEGY AND SERVICES** 10010127

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing which informed Cabinet of a consultation document, 'Empower, Inform, Enrich: The modernisation review of public libraries', which identified the importance of public libraries and also provide an opportunity to consider afresh the role of public libraries.

The report advised Members that the Council had agreed the key themes of the library strategy in November 2007. Those themes had not subsequently been finalised or implemented. Since that time there had been some significant changes in the operating context for libraries and it was it was considered timely to review the library strategy within the context and framework of the Governments modernisation review.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) The outline scope and timetable of the review of the Library Strategy be approved
- 2) A further report be submitted to Cabinet in due course.
- 3) Three Elected Members be nominated to the Project Steering Group

Item 16 **ADOPTION OF NEW EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN** 10010096

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure, which provided details of the proposed adoption of a new Emergency Management Plan for the Council. The report provided details of how the Council would manage in an emergency, including the Council's Core Strategy.

RESOLVED: That the new Emergency Management Plan be approved.

Item 17 **OLDHAM YOUTH ZONE - LAND & PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS AND REVENUE REQUIREMENTS FOR FUTURE DELIVERY** 10010112

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member, Children, Young people and Families, which provided Cabinet with a further update on the Youth Zone Project, including the detailed scheme proposals, land and property implications and details of the further revenue requirements.

Members were advised that an application for Area Based Grant would be prioritised to meet the revenue requirements for the first two years of the initiative. For 2012-2013 and beyond the level of revenue commitment to the project would be reviewed on an annual basis.

The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families advised Cabinet that the project that would have a direct impact on the Health and Well being of the Children and Young People of the Borough.

A number of Land and property transactions in relation to the project required Cabinet approval, Due to the confidential nature of the information the transactions were considered at Item 19 below.

RESOLVED: That the revenue option as set out in the report be approved in conjunction with ongoing discussions with the Youth Zone Board.

Item 18 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** 99100032

RESOLVED - In accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds they contain exempt information relating to Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the information to the public because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of various persons as follows and so the public interest in maintaining the exemptions outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Item 19 **OLDHAM YOUTH ZONE - LAND & PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS AND REVENUE REQUIREMENTS FOR FUTURE DELIVERY - EXEMPT REPORT** 10010114

Consideration was given to the exempt information in relation to the property transactions that were required for the Youth Zone Project.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Disposal of Cardiff Close to NHS Oldham PCT/LIFT be approved.
- 2) The acquisition of Marjorie Lees Health Centre from NHS Oldham be approved.
- 3) A lease of the site to Onside North West Ltd be granted.
- 4) A lease of the Horsedge Street Kick Pitch to Youth Zone be granted.

Item 20 **REFURBISHMENT AND EXTENSION OF FAILSWORTH TOWN HALL AND** 10010110

REDEVELOPMENT OF FAILSWORTH DISTRICT CENTRE

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration that updated Cabinet on the latest proposals for the redevelopment of the North Bank section of Failsworth District Centre including the refurbishment and extension of Failsworth Town Hall.

The Cabinet Member without portfolio abstained from voting on this Item.

RESOLVED: That the recommendations as contained within the report be approved.

Item 21

URGENT ITEM -DISPOSAL OF LAND AT STANSFIELD STREET, OLDHAM

10010168

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure, which provided Members with details of the proposed disposal of Land at Stansfield Street, Coldhurst, Oldham.

RESOLVED: That the recommendations as contained within the report be approved.

Meeting opened at 6.00pm and closed at 6.45pm

CABINET
09/02/2010 at 09:00

PRESENT Councillor Sykes (Chair)

Councillors Alcock, Blyth, Hibbert, Knox, Lord,
McCann, Stanton, Thompson and Uddin

Item 2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no Items of urgent business received.

Item 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest declared at the meeting.

Item 4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Two public questions were received.

Question 1 received from Mr. Robert Knotts.

1. Following the press statement by the owner of Birks Quarry that he is ready to meet the officers of Oldham Council about the future use of the Quarry could the Council give an undertaking that they will be seeking an early meeting with the owner.

2. Following the outcome of the Public Inquiry which has refused a licence to tip in the Quarry, do OMBC agree in principle that the future use as a wild life haven / leisure facility as outlined in the Council's press release of 19th January 2010 is in the best interests of local residents.

3. Will Oldham Council use its best endeavours to negotiate a deal with the owners to seek a negotiated settlement that results in the former Birks Quarry being transferred to the ownership of OMBC with a designation as Public Open Space.

Answer

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure responded with the following answer:

Thank you for your question Mr Knotts

I can confirm that Council officers would be happy to meet with the owners of Birks Quarry to discuss potential, alternative uses for the site.

Under the current economic climate however, I am afraid that I am unable to give any commitment that the Council would be prepared to acquire ownership of the Quarry site. Any such proposal would have to be considered in the context of the Council's overall priorities and against a wide range of other projects in competition for the limited resources available. If we

could get funding from the government to secure ownership of the quarry that would be enormously helpful.

Question 2 received from Parish Councillor Ken Hulme.

The unfinished state of the Delph School Safety Zone has left children and parents even less safe than when the work started many months ago. Work on the safety zone stopped well before Christmas creating an appalling hazard for children crossing the road to school. Double yellow lines that were put down to stop parking were almost immediately 'blacked out' again, apparently because the proper traffic orders had not been obtained. Car parking outside the school is worse than ever and other features of the Safety Zone had been left without being completed.

This is an appalling situation creating extra danger for local school children on a busy A road. When will work on this scheme be restarted and what is the planned completion date?

Answer

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure responded with the following answer.

Thank you for your question Parish Councillor Ken Hulme

Firstly, I do not accept that the scheme has left children and parents even less safe than when the work started.

The prolonged spell of severe weather has caused delays in the scheme and although certain works are still outstanding, a highways engineer visited the site yesterday (Monday, 8 February) and confirmed that in general, it was clear and safe.

The Council's lining contractor was required to remove the double yellow lines because they were put down in error, at no cost to the Council, prior to the introduction of the Traffic Regulation Order. Subject to there being no objections, the Traffic Regulation Order should be introduced in the next four weeks and the double yellow lines will be re-laid.

The two vehicle activated signs will be installed in March/April as part of the wider scheme to introduce vehicle activated signs at various locations across the Borough. There are also a couple of other signs which need to be removed or replaced and that work will be carried out over the next few weeks.

I am afraid that I cannot provide you with a planned completion date because that will be dependent on when United Utilities complete the connections to the

electric supply.

The area of carriageway at the junction of Lodge Lane and Denshaw Road is awaiting resurfacing as part of the Council's planned maintenance programme and is not part of the Delph School Safety Zone Scheme. I can confirm however, that the work is to be undertaken over the next few weeks subject to the weather.

Item 5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON THE 27TH JANUARY 2010** 10020021

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be agreed subject to Item 10, second paragraph, the word 'healthy' be replaced with the word 'legal'.

Item 6 **INTERIM REVIEW OF AREA WORKING** 10020002

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for People and Communities that informed Cabinet of the outcomes of Area Working and set out the key areas of focus for development over the next three months.

The report outlined the Council's ambition for Area working together with partners, of delivering services that were relevant and responsive to local conditions and needs and for citizens to be active in their neighbourhoods and be involved in shaping decisions.

The Leader of the Council advised Members that further to the report, Overview and Scrutiny Management Board had welcomed the opportunity to have input into the Interim Review of Area Working at its meeting on the 18th January 2010, at which significant positive suggestions to the review were made. Cabinet were advised that the Management Board were looking forward to contributing to the final review prior to its submission to Council in May 2010.

Members noted the proposed recommendations and the proposals as set out below.

Core Offer

- a) A core offer of services to all six districts be considered, that are managed and flexibly delivered at a neighbourhood level. The initial focus is agreed as those linking to the corporate objective A Confident Place with the drive for neighbourhoods to be clean. Green and safe places for all to enjoy.
- b) This would include services such as Streetscene , parks , libraries , community development and centres , community safety , area regeneration , integrated youth services including and sports development. (May 2010)

Neighbourhood Strategy

- c) The Strategy would be produced with partners and would ensure that the activities, projects and programmes in local areas are informed by the Area Profiles. They would also address providing services in different ways and how we will effect behaviour change on the "people" agenda building on the learning and outcomes of local and regional pilots. (July 2010)
- d) To support the Neighbourhood Strategy and District Partnership Plans by further developing Area Profiles. This work would be supported by work to review coordination and integration of research and analytical activities across the Council and partners.

Support Arrangements

- e) A review of staffing and capacity within the Neighbourhood Services Division would be carried out to enable and support the recommendations proposed within this review (March 2010). Support across the Council and partners for Area Working would also be reviewed.

Governance Arrangements

- f) Review of the constitution to enable, where needed a broader discussion to take place on local matters. (May 2010)
- g) A revised report format is drafted to reflect the needs of District Partnership and aid partner input in the agenda. (May 2010)
- h) Chairs are supported and advised effectively in their role around responsibilities and flexibilities (on going)

Working with Partners

- i) Review with partners where they could effectively support the process
- j) An ongoing programme of training and support is established which would examine best practise with elected members (May 2010)

Communication and Engagement

- k) Each District Partnership area would have a clear community engagement strategy that services can link into and reflects the wider Oldham partnerships Citizen Engagement Strategy (May 2010)
- l) The Ward Partnership and Community Together (PACTS) meetings have an agreed framework

and development plan that engages other services and partners and reflects the needs of each area.(March 2010)

- m) Work with Community Champions and co-optees to review their roles on engaging the community (on going)
- n) A communication strategy is commissioned across all District Partnerships so that public and partner awareness and understanding on Area Working arrangements is enhanced

RESOLVED: That the proposed recommendations a) to n) above be approved.

Item 7

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN: REVIEW AND RATIONALISATION OF OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL'S PROPERTY PORTFOLIO

10020001

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure, which informed Members of the framework to review and rationalise Oldham Council's property portfolio, with the intention of achieving revenue savings, maximising income, capital receipts and ensuring the most efficient use of its assets by the Council.

The report was a key decision and as the inclusion of the matter on the Forward Plan was impracticable, the agreement in writing of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Management Board was obtained of the matter about which the decision was to be made.

The Cabinet Member without portfolio suggested that any details of disposal of property should be submitted to District Partnerships for consideration/consultation.

Cabinet were advised that a full list of assets identified would be available to the Leader in the next couple of weeks.

RESOLVED: That -

- a) The framework to review and rationalise Oldham Council's Property Portfolio, with the intention of achieving initial revenue savings (£350,000 in 2010/11), maximising income and long term capital receipts, and ensuring the most efficient use of its assets be agreed.
- b) The provisional operational arrangements to establish a dedicated team to deliver the project as outlined in the report be agreed.
- c) The prioritisation of this project as part of the Council's Capital Programme to the figure of £6m to ensure the initiative is appropriately funded be agreed.

- d) A further progress report on the detailed scoping work for the framework be brought forward to a meeting of the Cabinet in March 2010.
- e) The details outlined in the report would form part of a wider review and update of the Council's Asset Management Strategy and that the updated Strategy with recommendations on any decisions to be made in relation to the property portfolio would be submitted to Cabinet in April 2010.
- f) Consultation about Disposal of assets would be undertaken with the appropriate District Partnerships

Item 8

**TRANSFORMATION AND VALUE FOR MONEY;
PHASE 2**

10020004

Consideration was given to a Joint report of the Cabinet Member for Customer Services and Unity Partnership and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources that described the Council's high level intent for Phase 2 of the Unity Partnership and set out a programme of work to move forward with the implementation of Phase 2 Unity Services and the wider transformation and Value for Money Programme. The paper provided details of proposals to be considered and plans for commercial negotiations and service implementation.

Members noted that since its start in 2007 the Unity Partnership had delivered a number of benefits for the council including:

- Savings of £500,000 per year for the services they deliver.
- An investment of £250,000 in refurbishing Access Oldham
- Reduced customer waiting times by 25%,
- Improved levels of customer service in the contact centre by 40%.
- Over £900,000 of new funding to improve road safety in the Borough.

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources advised Cabinet that there was no set timescale for the implementation of phase 2 and that the report set out the framework that the Council would work towards during the coming months. Decisions about possible transfer of services would not be made until full business case were completed and approved by the Council.

RESOLVED: That -

- a) The proposed approach for Phase 2 of the Unity Contract, within the context of the overall efficiency programme for the next 2 years be approved.
- b) The financial implications of £233,000 on a non-recurrent basis from available base budget be approved.
- c) A further report be submitted to Cabinet in March 2010 setting out the council's overall strategic approach to transformation and value for money.

Item 9 **THE GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING STRATEGY** 10010201

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing that sought Cabinet ratification for the Greater Manchester Housing Strategy which was approved by the AGMA Executive Board on the 18th December 2009.

Members noted that the Strategy was developed following consultation with relevant districts and bodies within the sub-region and set out a programme of joint priorities for the next few years.

RESOLVED: That

- a) The content of the report be noted
- b) The Greater Manchester Housing Strategy be ratified.

Item 10 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2010/2011** 10020009

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources that set out the Strategy for 2010/2011 treasury management activities, including prudential indicators and minimum revenue provision policy.

Members noted the Council's legal obligations to have regard to the prudential code and to ensure it's capital investment plans were affordable, prudent and sustainable.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to approve the following:

- a) The Treasury Limits for 2010/11 to 2012/13 as detailed in section 5.1 of the report.
- b) The limits to interest rate exposures as set out in section 5.2.2; of the report.
- c) The upper and lower limits on fixed rate debt maturity structure as set out in section 5.2.3; of the report.
- d) The Borrowing Strategy for 2010/11 as per

section 5.6; of the report.

- e) The Annual Investment Strategy as per section 5.8 including the investment credit rating criteria and the level of investment in non specified investments; of the report.
- f) The Minimum Revenue Provision policy and method of calculation as per section 5.9 of the report.
- g) The 2010/11 to 2012/13 Prudential Indicators as per section 5.10 of the report.
- h) Notes the projected position as at 31/03/2010 as per paragraph 5.3.2 of the report.

Item 11

COUNCIL TAX BASE 2010/2011

10020008

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources which set out information, for use in budget deliberations the Council Tax Tax-Base for 2010/11 based on the most up to date valuation list and other information and estimates available.

Members noted the total number of Band D equivalent properties for 2010/11 was 64,214, which at a recommended collection rate of 97.75%, equated to a Tax Base of 62,769. The Tax Base had therefore reduced by 200 between 2009/10 and 2010/11.

The Tax Bases for Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton Parish Councils were 9,868 and 6,475 respectively.

RESOLVED: That

- a) The Council Tax base at 67,769 for Oldham be approved.
- b) The Tax bases for Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton Parish Councils of 9,868 and 6,475 respectively be approved.

Item 12

CAPITAL STRATEGY 2010-13

10020011

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources that set out the strategy for the 2010-2013 capital programme and the proposed 2010-2011 capital programme including prioritisation and the identified capital requirements having regard to the resources available.

It was noted that significant progress had been made through the establishment of the Capital Investment Programme Board.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to approve the following:

1. The capital strategy for 2010-13 as per section 5 and Appendix 1 of the report.

2.The following actions going forward:

- a) In order to ensure all property matters were considered and that the Council's strategies and plans were aligned around asset management the production of one report which looked at the Capital Strategy, the Property Strategy and the Asset Management Plan for 2011-12.
- b) To be able to build a longer term capital programme and to ensure a more managed approach to disposals, a five year disposals programme and a disposal strategy would be developed by the Capital Programme Investment Board and the Property Asset Management Team.
- c) To improve the performance and management of the capital programme, the Oldham Partnership Support Team would provide a support function to facilitate such improvements as monitoring of initiative outputs, and ensuring that activities address corporate or statutory outcomes.

Item 13 **INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: A BUDGET READY FOR RECOVERY - CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010-11 TO 2012-13** 10020016

Cabinet received a Joint report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources that set out the proposed 2010-2011 Capital programme, including prioritisations of the identified capital requirements and the anticipated expenditure for the Capital programme over the next three years.

RESOLVED: That-

- a) The Capital programme as presented at section 5 of the report.
- b) The noting of individual capital schemes that would be submitted for approval after stage 2 business cases had been assessed.

Item 14 **BUDGET PROPOSALS 2010/2011 - UPDATED POSITION** 10020018

Cabinet received a joint report of the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources that provided Members with details of the Administration's latest savings proposals for inclusion in the budget for 2010/11. The proposals built upon the work earlier in the financial year that allowed £8.520m of savings for 2010/11 to be approved at the Council meeting on 16th December 2009 and £2.720m that were considered at the Performance and Value for Money Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee on

January 18th 2010.

Cabinet noted the further savings proposals set out above at the meeting held on 9th December 2010.

RESOLVED: That Council recommended to approve the following:

- a) The revised budget gap of £10.998m
- b) The revised Tranche 1 savings of £8.266m
- c) The Tranche 2 and 3 savings of £2.720m and £150k
- d) The use of the £138k surplus resources now identified in the budget process be used for further priority investment opportunities.

Item 15

STATEMENT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ON ADEQUACY OF PROVISIONS & RESERVES, ROBUSTNESS OF THE ESTIMATES AND AFFORDABILITY AND PRUDENCE OF CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

10020007

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer that had been prepared to comply with Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003; the Authority's Chief Financial Officer (Borough Treasurer) was required to report on the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the budget calculations and the adequacy of the proposed reserves. This information would enable a longer-term view of the overall position to be taken. It also reported on the Borough Treasurer's consideration of the affordability and prudence of capital investment.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to approve the following:

- a) The recommended level of general reserves to support the 2010/11 budget of £12,302k.
- b) The projected levels for the following two years at £13,579k and £12,570k.
- c) The Borough Treasurer's assurance about the robustness of the estimates and reserves as set out in paragraph 10.1 and what this assurance is based.

Item 16

***UPDATED REPORT* INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: A BUDGET READY FOR RECOVERY -REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2010/2011**

10020038

Cabinet received a report of the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which presented the updated 2010/2011 revenue budget position incorporating all information that was available as at 29th January 2010 including the recommendations from the Performance and Value for Money Select Committee on the 18th January 2010.

The report set out:

- The latest projections for the budget 2010/2011
- The final Stage of the budget process leading to the setting of the 2010/2011 budget and Council Tax on the 24th February 2010
- Information arising from the budget consultation process, through the District Partnerships and budget simulator.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to approved the following:

- a) The net budget requirement be set at £248.282m, subject to receipt of confirmation of precepts.
- b) The total draw on the collection fund of £98.201m inclusive of the collection fund surplus be agreed, with £85.503m for Council services
- c) As a consequence of (b) an increase in Council Tax to £1,551.92.
- d) The Council Tax for other bands were as set out in appendix 8.
- e) The additional investment in priority investment opportunities of £612k.
- f) The proposals for risk management.

Item 17 **MINUTES OF THE PERFORMANCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE 18TH JANUARY - ANNEX TO A BUDGET READY FOR RECOVERY - ADMINISTRATION BUDGET PROPOSALS** 10020015

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Performance and Value for Money Select Committee held on the 18th January 2010 were noted.

Item 18 **MEETING THE CHALLENGE: ALTERNATIVE BUDGET** 10020013

Consideration was given to a report of the Leader of the Main Opposition Group's Alternative Budget, which set out the budget options of the Main Opposition Party, to be considered at the Council meeting of the 24th February 2010 and included the Minutes of the Performance and Value for Money Select Committee held on the 25th January 2010.

RESOLVED: That -

- a) The report be submitted to Council on the 24th February 2010.
- b) That the report and Minutes of the Performance and Value for Money Select Committee be noted.

Item 19 **MINUTES OF THE PERFORMANCE AND VALUE** 10020014

**FOR MONEY SELECT COMMITTEE 25TH JANUARY
- ANNEX TO MEETING THE CHALLENGE -
ALTERNATIVE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2010/2011**

See Item 18.

Item 20 ***UPDATED REPORT* MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY - A FRAMEWORK** 10020039

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which presented a framework for the development of the medium term financial strategy (MTFS) to be undertaken immediately after the anticipated change in local government funding following the forthcoming national general election, and an update of the current MTFS.

Members noted the possibility of a reduction in local Government funding and the need to set out a framework of key issues.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to approve the following:

- a)The framework for the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2010/11 to 2012/13 be noted
- b)The current Medium Term Financial Strategy be updated be agreed

Item 21 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW 2008-09** 10020005

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources which advised Members of the performance of the Treasury Management function of the Council for the year 2008-09, and a comparison of performance against the 2008-09 Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators.

The report outlined:

- The Council's treasury position as at 31 March 2009;
- The strategy for 2008/09;
- The economy and interest rates in 2008-09;
- Borrowing and investment rates in 2008-09;
- Treasury borrowing and restructuring for 2008-09;
- Compliance with treasury limits and Prudential Indicators;
- Investment outturn for 2008/09;

Members noted the work undertaken by the Treasury Management Team.

RESOLVED: That the Treasury Management outturn

position and activity for 2008-09 be noted.

Item 22

**TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID YEAR REVIEW
2009-10**

10020006

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which advised Members of the performance of the treasury management function of the Council to the end of September 2009. It also compared performance to the assumptions in the Treasury Management strategy and to the Prudential Indicators. Consideration of such a report is a requirement of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice.

- The report outlined:
- Performance against treasury limits for the financial year 2009-10
- Performance against Treasury Management Indicators
- The current Treasury position as at 31 September 2009
- The borrowing requirement
- Prospects for interest rates
- The Borrowing Strategy
- Debt rescheduling
- The Investment Strategy
- Performance against Prudential Indicators
- Possible implications of a Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT)

RESOLVED: That the current treasury Management performance be noted.

The meeting opened at 9.00am and closed at 9.30am

CABINET
17/02/2010 at 18:00

- PRESENT Councillor Stanton (Chair)
Councillors Alcock, Knox, Lord, McCann, Thomson and Uddin
Apologies: Councillors Blyth, Hibbert and Sykes
- Item 2 **URGENT BUSINESS**
There were no Items of Urgent Business.
- Item 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
There were no declarations of interest.
- Item 4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
There were no public questions received.
- Item 5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON THE 9TH FEBRUARY 2010** 10020089
The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 9th February were approved subject to an amendment to Item 11. The amended Minutes should read:
RESOLVED: That
a) The Council Tax base at 67,769 for Oldham be approved.
b) The Tax bases for Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton Parish Councils of 9,868 and 6,475 respectively be approved.
- Item 6 **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REPORT- OLDHAM COMMUNITY SAFETY SERVICES** 10020075
Cabinet received a report of the Overview and Scrutiny Safer and Stronger Communities Select Group that invited Cabinet to consider the recommendations of the Select Group. These were made following its consideration of the report on the Oldham Community Safety Services at its meeting on 9th November 2009.
The report from the meeting on the 9th November 2009, provided the Select Group with a summary of work undertaken by each team within the Service highlighting the current work and its future plans including key strategies and policies. The Select Group was informed that the Service had undergone a restructure making it more fit for purpose adopting a partnership approach to reduce crime and fear of crime in Oldham. Key crime statistics for Oldham and details of the current budget were also provided to the Select Group.
RESOLVED: That the following recommendations be

endorsed:

a) The work of the Oldham Community Safety Services be commended and that measures be undertaken to enable the work programme to be maintained in future years for the ongoing benefit of the wider community;

b) The Oldham Community Safety Services budget be scrutinised to ensure that any proposed financial reduction be analysed in order to determine the potential impact on the wider community;

c) Potential alternative sources of funding be identified in order to ensure that the Oldham Community Safety Services work programme could be maintained, and, where possible enhanced in the future;

d) Recognition be given to the fact that issues such as anti-social behaviour were likely to increase if the current economic climate should prevail for a prolonged period of time;

e) A progress review on Oldham Community Safety Services be provided to the Select Group in six months time

Item 7

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REPORT - SURPLUS ASSETS FOR COMMUNITY USE

10020076

Consideration was given to a report of the Overview and Scrutiny Safer and Stronger Communities Select Group, which invited Cabinet to consider the recommendations of the Select Group that met on the 9th November 2010.

The recommendations were made following its consideration of suggested amendments by Cabinet in relation to recommendation (g) of the Scrutiny Review for Disposal of Surplus Property Assets for Community Use at the Cabinet meeting on 9th September 2009. The Overview and Scrutiny Safer and Stronger Communities Select Group had provided an amended wording for recommendation (g) as well as producing an additional recommendation for Cabinet to consider.

RESOLVED: That-

a) The amended wording for recommendation (g) as detailed below be approved: -

"To develop a quality assurance system for all community centres with a view to determining whether it might be appropriate to arrange a licence or lease in order to safeguard the future of each centre and that changes be realigned to any subsequent protocols."

b) The quality assurance system be first applied to Springhead Community Centre.

Item 8

HOUSING STOCK TRANSFER - COUNCIL'S OFFER

10020061

TO TENANTS - REPORT ON STAGE 1 FORMAL CONSULTATION WITH TENANTS

Cabinet received a report of the Executive Director, Economy Places and Skills which provided feedback from comments received in relation to the Council's Offer to tenants in line with the Housing Stock Transfer Stage 1 formal consultation process. The report considered whether to amend the offer to tenants based on representations and sought approval to proceed to ballot. Subject to those decisions, the report additionally proposed authority be given for essential executive activities as detailed in the report.

Members received and considered further information in the form of an updated appendix 1 to the report which provided the latest information in relation to the consultation programme, and a summary of tenants representations as at 17th February 2010.

RESOLVED: That -

- a) The content of the report, including representations from tenants on the Stage 1 formal consultation process be noted.
- (b) Following consideration of tenant representations, the existing Offer proceed without amendment.
- (c) A Stage 2 notice be served on all the Council's affected Secure and Introductory tenants as soon as possible. The notice would inform tenants of the Council's decision to ballot and would advise them of their right to lodge objections with the Secretary of State.
- (d) A full ballot of tenants in relation to the stock transfer of homes to First Choice Homes Oldham as per the Offer Document, proceed once this could be arranged.
- (e) The Chief Executive be authorised to take appropriate action in the light of the outcome of the ballot prior to a future detailed report back to Cabinet in June.
- (f) The Assistant Executive Director (Housing) be authorised to agree to extend the current management agreement between the council and First Choice Homes to the 31st March 2011 or the date of stock transfer following a ballot in support, whichever is the earlier.

Item 9

DUNWOOD PARK HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND 'PARKS FOR PEOPLE' PROGRAMME BID: CAPITAL ALLOCATION

10020058

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure which

sought approval to the allocation of £270,000 capital funding as part of the 'Parks for People' programme project totalling £1,864,618 as submitted to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

The capital funding was to be phased over the two years of the programme from September 2010 to August 2012.

RESOLVED: That an allocation of £270,000 capital funding over the period 2010/11 - 2012/13 to support the Dunwood Park 'Parks for People' programme bid be approved.

The meeting commenced at 6.00pm and closed at 6.06pm

CABINET
17/03/2010 at 18:00

PRESENT Councillor Sykes(Chair)

Councillors Alcock, Blyth, Hibbert, Knox, Lord,
McCann, Stanton, Thomson and Uddin

NOTE: agenda items were taken in the following order
1-5, 7, 6, 8-16, 18, 17, 19

Item 2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair agreed to accept an item of urgent business,
Developing a Regional Science Centre, as the matter
could not be reasonably be deferred due to the need to
progress to a commercial conclusion. The matter was
considered at item 19, EDRS reference 10030139.

Item 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Sykes declared a personal interest in item
18 (Appropriation of Land in Respect of the Gateways
to Oldham Housing PFI Project).

Item 4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The following public questions were received:

1. From Parish Councillor Ken Hulme:

"In a report to the Oldham Cabinet meeting on
27/1/2010 - Item 8 by Councillor Lynne Thompson,
Cabinet Member, Finance and Resources monitoring
Oldham Council's revenue up to month 8 (November
2009) it is stated

"Paragraph 5.6.3 ' Parking - there is a forecast
overspend arising from the one-off non recovery of
parking penalty income due to systems failures (£283k)
This has arisen as a result of system failures in
transferring data from the Council to the Traffic
Enforcement Centre (TEC). Details of cases where no
payment had been received are meant to be
transferred to the central 'TEC' for further pursuit, but
this data transfer failed for over 12 months and most of
the outstanding Penalty Notice income has had to be
written off as a result. '

"(note: not MAY BE but HAS HAD to be written off)

"Can Cllr Thompson confirm that Oldham Council has
now reversed this decision and is now actively seeking
to recover the whole of the £283K penalty notice
income outstanding from these twelve months when
the systems failure occurred?

"How much of this £283K has been recovered to date?"

Councillor Thompson responded as Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources as follows:

"I thank Parish Councillor Hulme for his question.

"I can confirm that the Council has not written this income off and that all of the cases referred to in the Month 8 monitor report have been registered, notice of debt registrations/warrants have been processed and money is now being recovered.

"To date, around £33,000 has been recovered with more expected over the coming months.

"The process of writing off debt is a matter of acknowledging that it is unlikely to be recovered and that it is prudent to exclude it when assessing the financial position of the business.

"It does not mean, in accounting terms as it can in everyday language, that a sum of money is permanently impossible to recover, or that it is forgotten, cancelled or invalidated.

"The council's policy is to take a prudent view of its financial position. It is also policy to pursue debts, whether formally written off or otherwise, if it transpires that it is feasible and economic to do so. There has thus been no change in these policies and accordingly we continue to vigorously pursue all money owed to the council.

"I will forward a written copy of this reply within five working days."

2. From Warren Bates on behalf of the Failsworth Residents Action Group:

Failsworth Lower Memorial Park

"We refer to a report in the Oldham Chronicle concerning the above mentioned.

"Members should be aware that the Charity Commission has been requested on two occasions to since 2008, to give a view on the status on the above-mentioned land with the latest correspondence from them dated 12th February 2010.

"In this letter, it is clearly states that the Commission is not able to express a definitive view on the issue: only the Court can do this.

"We are aware that since the Council received this correspondence they have indeed taken further advice and can only presume that the advice they received was the only way to get out of their predicament is to request the Charity Commission to determine the land

as 'Charitable'.

"As we have stated the Charity Commission, have categorically stated it is beyond their jurisdiction and we are at a loss to understand why they do not accept that this is Public Land and advise the Directors of OAFIC that the land they require is not available.

"In the Charity Commission letter, Mr Young who has passed me copies of all the correspondence between OMBC and himself has outlined a schedule for the case for a Charity and a case against a Charity.

"In the case for a Charity he states there are 5 reasons for, however, item 2 suggests, 'There are strong views held by local people and the local MP David Heyes that the intention was Charitable'.

"We have written to Mr Young pointing out that the residents of Failsworth deem that this land is Public Land dedicated to those 240 who lost their lives in the Great War.

"In the case against a Charity Mr Young sites 10 reasons against, we have written to Mr Young in respect to item 12 'At a meeting of the full council on 21 June 1922 the Clerk to the Council was instructed to take all necessary steps in connection with an application to the Minister of Health for an order declaring sections 76 and 77 in Part VI of the Public Health Acts Amendment Acts 1907 applicable to recreation grounds to be in force within the Urban District of Failsworth. It is not known whether this was achieved but the fact that this was applied for points to a statutory recreation focus rather than Charitable'.

"In a copy letter to Mr Young dated 21st February 2010 that we wrote to Mr Beedle we noted that Mr Beedle failed to provide Mr Young with a copy of the order Declaring Part VI. Of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, to be in force.

"Consequently, we have provided Mr Young of the Charity Commission with a copy of the Order and should Mr Beedle not be in a position to let you catch sight of a copy we am more than willing to provide you with one.

"In the circumstances we do not comprehend (only to postpone the matter yet again) why yet again the Council are applying to the Charity Commission making a formal application to make the land "Charitable" as the Charity Commission have made their position quite clear and no further evidence has been put forward to support the application.

"However, as we have now provided Mr Young with of the Order Declaring Part VI. Of the Public Health Acts

Amendment Act, 1907, to be in force reinforces our view is that this land is protected under Halsbury's Law (Volume 34) and this will enable him to determine it is indeed Public Land.

"By way of information, we have written to Mr David Heyes MP to request that he put the case before the Attorney General as one of their roles and responsibilities is Guardian of the rule of law and of the public interest.

"The Attorney General Office have a roll in intervening in the public interest in certain charity law cases and if OMBC wish to designate this land as Charitable land we believe it would qualify for their intervention, they also have the Power to establish an inquiry:-

"(1) A Minister may cause an inquiry to be held in relation to a case where it appears that:-

"(a) Particular events have caused, or are capable of causing, public concern,

"or

"(b) There is public concern that particular events may have occurred.

"We feel that we have all the evidence required which verifies the concerns of the injustice OMBC wish to make and we also have a petition with several hundred names (to date) that confirms the Public concern in Failsworth.

"It would also be interesting to the Attorney General's Office to learn that OMBC have scant regard to the Charity Commission's findings.

"To date Mr David Heyes MP has not responded to our e-mail of 6th March 2010 and should he not respond within the next few days we will make representations to the Attorney General's Office ourselves on behalf of the residents of Failsworth who are totally against the relocation to Failsworth.

"We would recommend that the Cabinet Members postpone any decision without personally viewing all the correspondence between the Charity Commission and OMBC rather than just reading a report put before them.

"To conclude we would ask members of the Cabinet if they believe if it would not be in their best interest with all the information before them to end to this sorry state of affairs to prevent any further humiliation and allow OAFc to look at alternative proposals."

Councillor Uddin responded as Cabinet Member for Regeneration as follows:

"1. The Oldham Athletic Stadium proposals would be a major regeneration opportunity for the Borough which would see two areas of land redeveloped bringing significant investment and job opportunities to the town.

"2. Nevertheless, the Council is aware that the proposals have caused concern among residents in the area and Members understand the issues raised. Under the proposed land transaction, as you will no doubt be aware, the Council would retain an interest in the site which would enable the Council to control the use and potential impact of the stadium on the surrounding area. This is separate from any planning obligations that may or may not be imposed by the Local Planning Authority if and when an application is submitted for consideration.

"3. The proposed plans involve the possible disposal of land where a range of complex land issues have arisen.

"4. Issues have been raised which have required the Charity Commission to consider a range of documents and information relating to the initial acquisition of the land. The Charity Commission have indicated that they are unable to express a definitive view on whether the land is charitable land.

"5. The Council have taken expert Counsel advice on the issue and the recommendations are contained in the report to be considered later at this meeting.

"6. Counsel have also advised that if the matter reach the Court the Attorney General would be a party to the proceedings and therefore Counsel has advised that the Council write to the Treasury Solicitor's Department on the issues.

"7. The Council have never disputed that Failsworth UDC applied for an Order from the Minister of Health under the Public Health Amendment Act 1907. The Order gives powers as to management of recreation land and public parks within its boundaries. The issue was considered in the context of determination of charitable land. If the land is registered as charitable land, the land can only be disposed of further to a Scheme approved by the Charity Commission.

"8. It is a matter for the Cabinet to determine, taking into account the relevant considerations, the appropriate next steps."

3. From Peter Batty:

"As with other residents of Broadway, Failsworth, coupled with the residents of Park Ave, Failsworth and the Fairways Estate Moston, I have the distinction of

being one most affected by the proposed development of 30 acres on Failsworth Memorial land, Moston Brook of a 12-14,000 seat football stadium, and the ancillary buildings needed to maintain it such as, a 90 bed hotel, cinema, fitness centre & 750 space, chargeable car park.

"As the residents supported spokesperson, I would like to draw the Cabinet's attention to the following as a preamble to my questions.

"It is my considered opinion that;

"a) the Council executive, having embarked on a commitment to support & assist in the preparation of a planning application by Oldham Athletic to develop the site named above, - generally in the manner suggested & confirmed in both the Scoping Opinion request, submitted in Sept 2009 by WSP, environmental consultants for OAFc, plus publicity leaflets delivered to all residents within a 15 minute walk of the site prior to the recently aborted exhibition, have acted without due care & attention.

"b) The initial decision to provisionally dispose of the land in favour of OAFc, was made rashly & then, with undue haste, rushed through for Cabinet approval on 22/07/2009 without all factors being considered.

Furthermore, the time allocated to its consideration during the closed deliberation session by the Cabinet could not possibly have been sufficient if Cabinet had been made fully all aware of the factors.

"c) The decision to dispose of OPOL 6, an area of land carrying protected status, similar to Green Belt for the type of development proposed, is totally contrary to the Council Planning Authority's policy & strict criteria for development on green field sites & Other Protected Open Land. It is also in conflict with National & Regional Government Guidelines on the necessity to preserve & protect green space for the benefit of the community at large.

"d) The proposal stated in the Council's press announcement of 10/03/2010 in which the executive are seeking permission from Cabinet to enter into a convoluted process of trust & swap, is another example of potential folly.

"My questions are;

"1) Are the Cabinet members aware & were they at the time of the Cabinet decision to support OMBC's / OAFc's 22/07/2009, proposal which they were being asked to approve, conflicted with the Council's own policies as set out in the UDP under the section Open Environment reference OE1 to OE1.10 inclusive?

"2) Are the Cabinet members aware that the Standards Procedure Protocol on disposal of land has been contravened in at least one aspect by not advertising the land for disposal before making a decision to transfer preference of organisation from Failsworth Dynamos to Oldham athletic?

"3) Can the Cabinet confirm, as is my understanding that, some 20 years ago, when the Council were taken to court by the Crown over their, very similarly misguided, attempt (again, in favour of OAFC) to dispose of Clayton Playing Fields, a similar swapping suggestion was put to the Bench. On that occasion the judge dismissed the idea as being totally contrary to the principle of charitable trusting. Do the executive believe they will fare any better second time around.?

"May I strongly, but respectfully, urge the Cabinet to consider the best interests of the electorate of Oldham at this point as, 20 years ago, the community was the loser in the costs incurred by the executive of that time."

Councillor Uddin responded as Cabinet Member for Regeneration as follows:

"Question 1

"At the Cabinet meeting on 22 July 2009, Members were asked to approve an update on proposals put forward by Oldham Athletic FC and approve the Council entering into a conditional agreement with the club for the transfer of an area of Council owned land in support of the clubs ground redevelopment proposals.

"The conditional agreement that Members approved clearly indicated that the transfer of the land would be conditional upon the receipt of detailed planning permission being granted. The land issues were considered as distinct from the planning matters.

"To date no planning application has been submitted so the Council as the Local Planning Authority can only provide advice and guidance on the supporting documents and studies that would be required in order to register a major application.

"It is not for Council Members or officers to prejudge an application, as any future planning application and any matters arising would be for the Planning Committee or Planning Inspectorate to determine, but the Council's UDP Open Environment policies do not preclude development in appropriate circumstances.

"Question 2

"As you are aware Officers from Regeneration have already advised, the Council have not 'contravened' the Council's Public Open Space procedure in any way.

Your question would seem to suggest that it would be necessary for the Council to advertise the disposal of an area of open space prior to the Council even considering the potential scheme.

"The report resolved at Cabinet on 22 July 2009 gave approval to the principle of the scheme and made it clear that the decision would be subject to a further report being considered outlining the terms of the agreement once these had been successfully negotiated.

"It is in this interim period where officers would typically organise for the potential disposal of open space to be advertised in accordance with the protocol. Indeed, you were recently informed that in-keeping with the protocol, instructions to advertise the land had been sent to the Council's Legal department in October 2009 although, due to the uncertainties regarding the charitable status of the land which became clear at this time, it was decided that the planned advertisements should be postponed until such time whereby the land issue was resolved.

"Question 3

"Each potential disposal of land is considered in the light of the documentation circumstances existing at the time and it would be inappropriate to draw parallels to previous proposed land transactions."

Item 5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 17TH FEBRUARY 2010** 10030053

RESOLVED

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2010 be approved as a correct record.

Item 6 **METROLINK PROGRESS** 10030070

Cabinet received a report of the Leader of the Council, which explained the current position regarding the proposals for the 3B route and the way forward being pursued by Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive in respect of both Metrolink 3A and B.

In line with the original proposals for Metrolink, the 3A route would not be fully maintained once 3B was fully implemented in 2014.

Cabinet was pleased to support the proposals, which meant the development of a proper transport interchange at Mumps and a good solution for the Manchester Road roundabout. Cabinet would continue to receive updates as the project developed.

RESOLVED

1. The Passenger Transport Executive's intention that

Route 3A will not continue once 3B comes into operation be noted formally.

2. It be confirmed the changes proposed to the route of 3B are acceptable in principle and such changes may require further changes to the current Limits of Deviation.

- No station in the middle of Manchester Road Roundabout.

- Werneth Station not to reopen when 3A is bought back into commission.

- Tram to cross Manchester Roundabout at grade, not in tunnel beneath as originally proposed. Traffic flows through Manchester Road Roundabout to alter. A "cracked egg" solution is proposed to include signal controls.

- The Tramway to be in a cutting between Manchester Road Roundabout and King St Station. This may result in the closure of John Street to through traffic due to the cutting and the introduction of two way traffic to King Street to provide an alternative.

- Mumps Roundabout bridges and elevated sections to be demolished as part of 3A Contract Works.

- When 3A is reinstated, it will then cross Mumps Roundabout at Grade by way of a short term measure until 3B is opened.

- Old Mumps Station (as existing) on the 3A route will only be replaced by a temporary structure which would be removed once 3A is decommissioned.

- A new station at Mumps, which will be adjacent to the old B & Q store. The track to the east of this station will now not be elevated. The new tramway will follow existing levels to rejoin the 3A route to the North side of Mumps Roundabout at grade. This station will be in place of the one originally proposed at Bell St, which will now not be constructed as part of 3A.

Item 7

OLDHAM ATHLETIC STADIUM PROPOSALS

10030069

Cabinet received a report of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, which updated it on the status of the Council owned land to the north of the Lancaster Club, Failsworth. It also outlined the potential impact on the Oldham Athletic proposals for the site and the Council's response to the proposed development. Following advice from counsel, the report also sought approval to approach the Charity Commission to request the land to the North of the Lancaster Club, including the formal Lower Memorial Park area, was registered as a trust.

RESOLVED

1. Oldham Athletic be supported in their proposals to develop a new stadium.
2. The advice given by counsel that the land should be regarded as charitable land be accepted.
3. The Charity Commission be approached and advised the Council request the area of land to the north of the Lancaster Club be registered as a trust.
4. The feasibility of alternative land options be examined by identifying suitable alternative sites for replacement charitable land, in consultation with local ward members.
5. If a suitable site is identified, the Council consider asking the Charity Commission to consider a 'Scheme' - a legal document that would allow the newly formed charitable status to be transferred onto an alternative site within the locality.
6. A further report be brought back to update Cabinet once the suitability of the identified alternative sites have been considered further.

Item 8 **COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER 3 2009/10** 10030064

Cabinet received the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which set out the council's performance in the third quarter of the year.

Highlights in the quarter included all child protection reviews being completed on time, all planned grot spot clean ups being on track for completion by the end of the year, a continuation of the high number of preventions of homelessness and an increase in business floorspace and jobs.

The continuing challenges, particularly in relation to the national and local economic situation, were noted.

RESOLVED

1. The Council's performance for Quarter 3 of 2009/10 be reviewed, highlights acknowledged and areas of underperformance challenged as appropriate.

Item 9 **DEVELOPING A VALUE FOR MONEY STRATEGY TO DELIVER SERVICES OF CHOICE** 10030066

Cabinet received the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which set out the vision for a Value for Money Strategy which delivered services of choice. It identified the challenges inherent in bringing together and harnessing a range of different initiatives into one programme that by its scale and level of ambition would deliver real public value.

Cabinet noted the four key elements and five key strands of the Strategy.

RESOLVED

1. The development of a Value for Money Strategy to deliver Services of Choice be approved.
2. The governance arrangements proposed be approved, as set out in the report.
3. The required resourcing to build capacity and momentum to deliver the Strategy be approved, as set out in the report.

Item 10 **ANTI POVERTY STRATEGY** 10030063

Cabinet received the report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Customer Services and Unity Partnership, which presented the strategy and sought approval and support for the Council's proposed contribution to the action plans in it.

RESOLVED

1. Oldham's anti-poverty strategy and the proposed Council contribution be approved.

Item 11 **PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS IN OLDHAM 2010-2013** 10030036

Cabinet received the report of the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing, which sought approval for the new Homelessness Strategy and action plan for 2010-2013.

Members were pleased to note the number of homeless people in the in the Borough was at an all time low. In addition no homeless households had been placed in bed and breakfasts since June 2008. This meant substantial social benefits for both the families concerned and the community and also saved money.

RESOLVED

1. The contents of the new Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan (Preventing Homelessness in Oldham) be approved.
2. The new plan for distribution be approved.

Item 12 **NEIGHBOURHOOD LEARNING IN DEPRIVED COMMUNITIES FUND** 10030067

Cabinet received the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, which advised it of the allocation of Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities Funds (NLDCF) from the Learning and Skills Council for 2009/10. It noted changes were being proposed to the report's recommendations.

The substantial allocation to Oldham Boxing Club was questioned. It was agreed a break down of this would be sent to all Cabinet Members.

RESOLVED

1. It be agreed for Oldham Council to act as Accountable Body for the 2009-2010 Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Neighbourhoods Programme totalling £189,000, including accepting the risk of grant claw back should a liability arise.
2. Allocations to activity be noted.
3. It be agreed to amend the 2009/10 budget to incorporate an additional £189,000 of expenditure financed by NLDCF grant income.
4. A break down of the allocation to Oldham Boxing Club be sent to all Cabinet Members.

Item 13

INTENSIVE START UP SUPPORT FUND

10030068

Cabinet received the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources which set out the allocation of European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) from the North West Regional Development Agency (NWRDA) through the Intensive Start Up Programme (ISUS). The report also sought permission for the Council to act as the accountable body for the grant.

RESOLVED

1. The Council act as accountable body for the £1,107,600 of ERDF grant funding for the ISUS programme and agreed to the terms and conditions of the grant including accepting the risk of grant claw back should a liability arise, on the basis that matched funding of £292,500 is provided by Oldham and Rochdale Councils respectively.
2. The amendment of the budget of the Council be approved to incorporate an additional £1,107,600 of expenditure financed by ERDF grant income over the financial years 2009/10, 2010/11 and 2011/12.
3. Allocations to activity be noted.

Item 14

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

99100032

RESOLVED

In accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds they contain exempt information relating to Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the information to the public because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of various persons as follows and so the public interest in maintaining the exemptions outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Item 15	<p>ACADEMIES PROGRAMME PROCUREMENT OUTCOME</p> <p>Cabinet considered the exempt report of the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families, which set out the outcome of the Academies National Framework procurement process and the deliberations of the Evaluation Panel.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>1. The recommendations be approved, as set out in the report.</p>	10030065
Item 16	<p>ST MARY'S - DISPOSAL OF PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT SITE</p> <p>Cabinet received the exempt report of the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing, which informed it of recent activity relating to the development of land in St Mary's. Due to an important announcement being made after the publication of the agenda, an amended report was circulated.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>1. The recommendations be approved, as set out in the amended report.</p>	10030039
Item 17	<p>APPROPRIATION OF LAND IN RESPECT OF THE GATEWAYS TO OLDHAM HOUSING PFI PROJECT</p> <p>Cabinet received the exempt report of the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing, which sought approval to award the contract for the Gateways to Oldham Housing Private Finance Initiative Project. It contained additional information about the detail of the project sign off.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>1. The recommendations be approved, as set out in the report.</p>	10030037
Item 18	<p>TO CONCLUDE THE CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GATEWAYS TO OLDHAM HOUSING PFI PROJECT</p> <p>Cabinet received the exempt report of the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing, which sought approval for the purchase of land for the Gateways to Oldham Private Finance Initiative Project.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>1. The recommendation be approved, as set out in the report.</p>	10030038
Item 19	<p>DEVELOPING A REGIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE</p> <p>Cabinet received this exempt item of urgent business of the Leader of the Council, as the matter could not be reasonably deferred due to the need to progress to a</p>	10030139

commercial conclusion. The report discussed the development of a regional science centre for the Borough and sought approval for the purchase of property.

RESOLVED

1. The recommendations be approved, as set out in the report.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 7.10pm.

CABINET
31/03/2010 at 18:00

PRESENT Councillor Sykes(Chair)

Councillors Alcock, Blyth, Hibbert, Knox, Lord,
McCann, Stanton, Thomson and Uddin

Item 2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no Items of Urgent Business.

Item 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

Item 4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The following public questions were received from Mrs
C Wise:

I understand that the future of Oldham Roughyeds and
its proposed relocation to the Whitebank Stadium,
Whitebank Road, Oldham is to be discussed in closed
session by the Cabinet on Wednesday 31st March
2010 after which a decision will be made with regard to
this relocation.

May I ask that the following questions be raised and
considered prior to any decision being made.

1. What provisions are in hand to safeguard the local
population from a dramatic increase in vehicular traffic?
2. Are there any plans in hand to increase the road
width along the length of Whitebank Road, if not why
not?
3. Are there any plans to widen road junctions of
Whitebank Road at its junction with Elm Road and Stag
Pasture Road?
4. What steps will be taken to reduce noise pollution
from the increase in both vehicles and pedestrian
activities?
5. What steps are being taken in respect of litter
control?
6. What provision is being made for car parking as the
present provisions are totally inadequate with only a
maximum of 30 parking spaces?
7. What provision is made to maintain the eco
environment?
8. What steps are being taken with regard to light
pollution?
9. Bearing in mind that previous development of the
land was refused by the Planning Inspectorate has

their report received considered?

10. When will the local residents be made aware of the results of this Cabinet meeting?

11. When will the local residents views be considered over that of the commercial enterprise of Oldham Roughyeds?

Answer

The Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing, Councillor John McCann provided the following written response to Mrs. Wise:

Question 1

I would accept that, on match-days, it is likely that the Limehurst area may suffer from an increase in traffic and this would be an unavoidable consequence of the scheme. However, the Authority will use any available powers in order to manage the additional traffic flows.

As you may be aware, the Council would become the owner of part of the stadium site and it would subsequently be leased to the Roughyeds as part of a long-term agreement. Whilst the agreement is primarily designed to help support the Rugby Club, it would also allow the Council to enforce certain obligations, which would include car parking and noise mitigation measures. This landlord and tenant relationship gives the Council more power and more control over the stadium.

Question 2

There are currently no plans and there may not be a need. This will be kept under review.

Question 3

At this stage there would be no plans to alter the existing highway. However, in the event that Oldham Rugby League Football Club submit a planning application for the improvement of the site – something which is expected in the short-term – this would afford the opportunity for the Council's Highway Engineers to visit the stadium and the wider area and review the highway network. If it is considered necessary for the highway network to be improved, then the obligations for this work would pass to the Roughyeds under a Section 106 agreement.

Question 4

It should be remembered that the stadium is an existing facility and has been present, in some form, for over 50 years. The stadium has previously been deemed safe for 1000 spectators (according to the Building Control Officer, working to FA standards, ie for football); this is over and above the recent attendances of Roughyeds games. That said, Oldham Rugby League Football Club have always recognised the importance of good community relations, something highlighted by their willingness to hold a public meeting designed at addressing any residents concerns.

I will comment more fully on this a little later.

In respect to noise control and mitigation, the club have advised that they would be prepared to look at any available options, which may include a simple tree planting scheme along the frontage of Whitebank Road – which would not only help to buffer any noise emanating from the stadium, but also help to screen the stadium and improve the outlook for some residents.

Question 5

This Council has made great efforts and put resources into better cleaning the Borough's streets, which improvement has been nationally recognised. Oldham Roughyeds are an established organisation and would be aware of their responsibilities in connection with litter caused by fans. I would therefore expect that the club would carry out litter picks before and after any fixtures.

Needless to say, if the club fail to maintain a tidy environment, the Council do hold statutory powers which would insist that the club address any litter issues, this includes a "Litter Clearance Notice" which can be served by Environmental Health colleagues.

Question 6

As mentioned in the Council's correspondence to you from February 2010, at the outset of the proposals, both the Council and Rugby Club recognised the need to improve the current level of car parking. Due to the size of the site, this is an easily remedied situation and,

it is thought that the Club may choose to improve the area which runs parallel to Whitebank Road which I understand has the benefit of a previous planning consent.

Question 7

As outlined earlier, the proposals are to simply use and possibly enhance the current stadium facility. On this basis, I am not sure how the eco-environment would suffer. Indeed, if the planned tree planting scheme proceeds, this would have a positive effect on the local environment and I feel that a clean up of the site can only improve matters as the site is looking quite run down at present.

Question 8

As far as I am aware, the existing floodlights would not be altered – as they are of adequate standard and no more lights will be sought and therefore the situation would be unaffected by the proposals. However, if there are any particular problems, I would expect that Roughyeds, as a good neighbour, would look at these with environmental officers and try and solve them – there are new improved lighting systems available. I would also add that most matches are played on a Sunday from 2pm onwards in the period from February to November.

Question 9

The Council are aware of the planning status of the land. The implications and need to adhere to planning legislation is something which the Rugby Club would need to take into account as proposed land-occupier. Roughyeds would have to consult with the residents and the council regarding any proposals which may then indeed benefit local residents, especially with regard to youth and community facilities.

Question 10

The Council would make a press statement immediately following the Cabinet meeting. It is possible that the release would not be published until 1 April 2010 although, Members and Officers would be happy to advise you of the Cabinet decision at the end

of the meeting.

Question 11

The Council would always listen to local residents and, when concerns have been passed through to both Council Officers and Members, these have been responded to in a timely manner.

Similarly, I am aware that some residents have contacted their local Councillors. I have maintained a close working relationship with all Ward Councillors to ensure that the Authority take an informed view and endeavour to assist and take account of all sections of the Oldham community.

I would emphasize that what we want to do here is provide a home for Roughyeds, after the failure of previous administrations to honour promises on this issue, whilst at the same time securing for local people improvements to their local area. Roughyeds and the Council are keen to work with residents and help to diminish anti-social behaviour and give local residents, young and old alike a chance to join a club. It will, I hope, turn a run-down site into a well run community resource.

Item 5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 17 MARCH 2010** 10030165

The Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on the 17th March were approved as a correct record.

Item 6 **DELIVERING EFFICIENCY SAVINGS FROM THE PROPERTY PORTFOLIO** 10030162

Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure, Councillor Mark Alcock, which set out the results of more detailed scoping work in relation to a review and rationalisation of the Council's Property portfolio in order to realise initial revenue savings of £350,000 in 2010-11 and maximising income and long term capital receipts from the more efficient use of the overall estate.

Members were presented with proposals for the creation of a fixed term 'Property Efficiency Team' (PET) within the Economy, Places and Skills Directorate to deliver a range of efficiency savings in the use and management of the Council's property estate.

RESOLVED: That-

1) The creation of a fixed term dedicated 'Property Efficiency Team' within the Economy Places and Skills (EPS) Directorate, to lead the delivery of the programme of actions for three years in the first instance, subject to performance and funding being secured, be approved.

2) The creation of a fixed term, dedicated 'Property Efficiency Team' within EPS to lead the delivery of this programme of actions be approved for three years in the first instance subject to performance and the funding being secured.

3) As set out in Appendix 1 to the report, the nature and timescales for delivery of a range of potential future property-related efficiency savings be approved, together with the related issues upon which their achievement by the proposed 'Property Efficiency Team' would be predicated.

4) An additional £250,000 revenue budget allocation to EPS, spread over the three years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13, be approved to meet that proportion of the costs of the 'Property Efficiency Team' that, especially in the earlier period, would not be eligible for capitalisation.

5) Six-monthly progress reports on the achievements of the 'Property Efficiency Team' to inform future decisions regarding the continuing operations of the team be agreed.

6) In due course an 'invest to save' fund would be created (as part of the wider consideration of the Capital Programme and the potential for Prudential Borrowing). This fund, to be repayable from the realisation of property assets, would be used to meet the 'capitalisable' activities of the PET (ie those involved in the substantial improvement of assets to be retained) and to improve the property information systems.

Item 7

TOWN CENTRE INVESTMENT STRATEGY

10030179

Cabinet received a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Place and Skills that outlined proposals to formulate a Town Centre Investment Strategy and sought approval of funding to support the implementation proposals. Members gave consideration to five proposed Town Centre Action plan objectives and the production of an Investment strategy to be taken forward to implementation stage.

RESOLVED: That -

1)The proposed objectives of the Town Centre Action Plan be approved

2) The delivery proposals for the Town Centre

	Investment strategy be approved including one-off funding of £350,000 from the 2010/11 budget necessary to support the delivery arrangements.	
Item 8	<p>CHALLENGE FUND BIDS TO PROVIDE NEW COUNCIL HOUSING IN OLDHAM</p> <p>Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Assistant Executive Director of Housing, which sought approval for the Council to accept the funding of £797,000 offered by the Homes and Communities Agency and to undertake the associated prudential borrowing required to build twelve new Council houses.</p> <p>Cabinet was pleased to endorse the proposals to provide 12 new homes within the Borough at affordable rent.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That-</p> <p>1) The funding offered to Oldham Council by the Homes and Communities Agency be accepted, in order to develop 12 new homes for affordable rent.</p> <p>2) The associated prudential borrowing of £1,150,000 required to build the houses be undertaken.</p>	10030149
Item 9	<p>CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2009-10 MONTH 9 (31 DECEMBER 2009)</p> <p>Cabinet received a report of the Borough Treasurer, which advised Cabinet of the latest position and forecast outturn on the 2009-10 Capital Programme and the proposed changes to 2009-10 capital programme.</p> <p>Members noted the potential in year over-programming at that point in time of £3.751million. This was a reduction in forecast over programming from Month 8 of £0.14 million and it was anticipated to reduce further during the year.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That-</p> <p>1) The variations to the 2009-10 capital programme detailed in appendix D to the report advising of budget movements and re-profiling schemes to future years resulting in an increase in expenditure of £1.75 million and an increase in resources of £1.751 million in 2009-10 be noted.</p> <p>2) The prudential borrowing as the method of funding Horsedge Street be approved.</p>	10030186
Item 10	<p>REVENUE MONITOR 2009-10; MONTH 9 (DECEMBER 2009)</p> <p>Cabinet received a report of the Borough Treasurer, which provided Cabinet with an update on the Authorities 2009/10 budget position forecast to the year- end position will result in a balanced budget.</p>	10030185

Cabinet noted the end of Month 9 projected overspend of £110,000, which was a decrease of £2.364 million against the forecast included in the last monitoring report for month 8. The month 9 forecast reflected the most up to date financial position after the impact of the continued management and financial action, adjustments to Directorate budgets for the zero based budget exercise, efficiency programme savings, Priority Investment Programme and proposed adjustments following a review of reserves.

RESOLVED: That-

- 1) Executive Directors, working with Lead Members were to maintain the momentum on the work to reduce the forecast overspend by the year-end.
- 2) The Work in Progress balance of £780,000 referred to in paragraph 5.6.3 of the report be charged against the revenue budget in 2009/10.
- 3) As a result of the reassessment of future liabilities, £1.386million of the Insurance Reserve be released to support the overall financial position for 2009/10, thus leaving a reserve balance of £1.838million at the end of 2009/10.
- 4) As a result of a review of earmarked reserves, £800,000 of Economy, Place and Skills reserves be released to support the 2009/10 Directorate financial position
- 5) Virements within PCS to utilise the underspending budgets to finance those overspending be approved.
- 6) Virements to utilise the insurance reserve, VAT and the necessary proportion of the bad debt provision to finance the overspending budgets in EPS be approved.

Item 11

FINAL ACCOUNTS 2009/10

10030181

Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Borough Treasurer, which updated Cabinet on the planned programme for closure of the 2009/10 accounts.

Members welcomed the proposals and noted the target date for approval of the accounts by the Authority was the 27th May 2010, an audit opinion during August and the approval of the audit accounts at the end of August 2010. This target was necessary to continue a step change in financial management within the Council.

RESOLVED: That the planned programme for the closure of the 200910 accounts be noted.

Item 12

PRIMARY CAPITAL PROGRAMME

10030176

Cabinet received a report of the Assistant Executive Director, Children and Young People, which set out the proposals for the Primary Capital Programme and

reference the Primary Capital Programme, strategy for change document October 2008.

Members noted the proposals within the report including:

- The rationale for the remodelling of Kingfisher School based in the increasing numbers of children with severe moderate and complex learning difficulties.
- The debate for the refurbishments of Stoneleigh and Mayfield schools given in the Housing renewal programme in the Derker Area
- Issues in relation to Hodge Clough Infants and Junior School,
- Capacity issues in the Failsworth area and;
- The need to address capacity at Knowsley Junior school.

RESOLVED:

- 1) The priorities in the Cabinet report of 27th October 2008 be approved.
- 2) The remodelling of Kingfisher Special School to meet an increasing demand for places be approved.
- 3) To endorse the decision for a design brief to remodel Stoneleigh and Mayfield and address issues of capacity in the Hodge Clough area.
- 4) That an additional classroom at Knowsley Junior school be agreed.
- 5) That the surplus capacity in the Failsworth cluster of schools be removed.
- 6) To consolidate the amalgamation of Hodge Clough Infant and Junior schools on to one site.

Item 13

AREA BASED GRANT 2009/10 - 2010/11

10030180

Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Assistant Director, External Partnerships, which sought approval and allocation of the allocation of the Area Based Grant (ABG) 2009/10 and 2010/11.

Members noted the pooling of the total under spend and the figure to brought forward into the 2009/10 ABG pool. The commissioning, programme and performance arrangements for Area Based Grant through the Oldham Partnership and the review of commissioned activity during 2010 were noted.

RESOLVED: That-

!) The provisional allocation of 09/10 and 10/11 Area Based Grant to the LAA 'Blocks' was agreed and that under-spends be allocated to priorities by the Public

Service Board;

2) The utilisation of 2008/9 reconciled under-spend be agreed and noted;

3) The ABG allocations were agreed and would be incorporated in the revenue budget for 2010/11 and the revised budget for 2009/10.

4) ABG of £500k be used to support the Council's 2009/10 revenue budget and Cabinet noted the use of the previously approved £450k to support the 2010/11 revenue budget

Item 14 **SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2011/12** 10030182

Cabinet received a report of the Assistant Executive Director People, Communities and Society, that set out the Council's Statutory obligations with regards to the determination of admission arrangements to community and voluntary controlled school sin Oldham for the academic year 2011/2012.

Cabinet noted the proposed admission arrangements for admission to Academic year 2011-2012 and the current arrangement for appeals to the Independent Appeals panel.

RESOLVED: That-

1) The proposed arrangements as detailed within the report for admissions to community and voluntary controlled primary and secondary schools be approved

2) The current arrangements for appeals to Independent Appeals Panels to continue for 2011-2012.

Item 15 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** 99100032

RESOLVED

In accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds they contain exempt information relating to Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the information to the public because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of various persons as follows and so the public interest in maintaining the exemptions outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Item 16 **REVENUE MONITOR 2009-10; MONTH 9 (DECEMBER 2009) - APPENDIX** 10030184

Cabinet considered this exempt supplementary paper to the revenue budget monitoring report at Item 10.

- RESOLVED:** That the exempt appendix be noted.
- Item 17 **NSL CAR PARKING MANAGEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT** 10030049
- Cabinet gave consideration to an exempt report of the Executive Director, Economy, Place and Skills, which sought approval to enter into a contract with NSL limited for the provision of car parking Management and Enforcement Services.
- RESOLVED:** That a contract be entered into with NSL limited for the provisions of Car Parking Management and Enforcement Services subject to clarification regarding the Bailiff organisation.
- Item 18 **AQUISITION OF WHITEBANK STADIUM, LIMEHURST VILLAGE** 10030224
- Cabinet received an exempt report of the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing, which sought approval of the acquisition of Whitebank Stadium, Limehurst village.
- RESOLVED:** That -
- 1) The recommendations be approved as set out in the report
 - 2) That the report be exempted for call-in as the decision required immediate action to provide information to residents within the proximity of the stadium.
- The meeting commenced at 6.00pm and closed at 18.35pm

URGENT KEY DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET FROM 27 JANUARY 2010 – 31 MARCH 2010

CABINET – 27TH JANUARY 2010

EDRS Ref Number	Title of Report	Reason the Report was Exempt from Call-in	Decision
10010168	Disposal of Land at Stansfield Street, Oldham	N/A	RESOLVED: That the recommendations as contained within the report be approved.

COUNCIL

Draft Council Calendar 2010/11

Report of the Borough Solicitor

Portfolio Responsibility: Various

21 April 2010

Officer contact: Dan Carlsson-Hyslop
Ext. 4728

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the draft calendar for the 2010/11 municipal year.

Executive Summary

Please see above.

Recommendation

The draft Council calendar for 2010/11 be noted.

Draft Council Calendar 2010/11

Report of the Borough Solicitor

Portfolio Responsibility: Various

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report sets out the draft calendar for the 2010/11 municipal year.

2 Executive Summary

2.1 Please see above.

3 Recommendation

3.1 The draft Council calendar for 2010/11 be noted.

4 Background

4.1 The Council produces a calendar of its constituted committee meetings each year. The calendar also lists a variety of other key non-constituted meetings of particular importance to Members. The calendar includes a three week recess in August.

4.2 In line with the practice adopted in 2009, Council is asked to note the draft calendar, prior to its formal approval at Annual Council in May.

5 Current Position

5.1 The draft calendar is set out in appendix one.

6 Options/Alternatives

6.1 None – the report is for noting only.

7 Preferred Option

7.1 None – the report is for noting only.

8 Consultation

8.1 Consultation has taken place with relevant officers and councillors.

- 9 **Financial Implications**
- 9.1 None – the report is for noting only.
- 10 **Legal Services Comments**
- 10.1 None – the report is for noting only.
- 11 **Human Resources Comments**
- 11.1 None – the report is for noting only.
- 12 **Risk Assessments**
- 12.1 None – the report is for noting only.
- 13 **IT Implications**
- 13.1 None – the report is for noting only.
- 14 **Property Implications**
- 14.1 None – the report is for noting only.
- 15 **Procurement Implications**
- 15.1 None – the report is for noting only.
- 16 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**
- 16.1 None – the report is for noting only.
- 17 **Community Cohesion Implications [including Crime & Disorder Implications in accordance with Section 17 of the Act] and Equalities Implications**
- 17.1 None – the report is for noting only.
- 18 **Forward Plan Reference**
- 18.1 N/A
- 19 **Key Decision**
- 19.1 No
- 20 **Background Papers**
- 20.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the

Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

- Council's calendar of meetings 2009/10.

21 **Appendices**

21.1 Appendix 1 – draft Council calendar 2010/11

June 2010

July 2010

June 2010

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
5	6	7	8	9	2	3
12	13	14	15	16	10	11
19	20	21	22	23	17	18
26	27	28	29	30	24	25
					31	

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
7	8	9	10	11	5	6
14	15	16	17	18	12	13
21	22	23	24	25	19	20
28	29	30			26	27

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
	1 June	2	3	4	
	<p>HALF TERM</p> <p>16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP</p> <p>18:00 20:00 COLDHURST PACT</p> <p>18:30 20:30 WATERHEAD PACT</p> <p>19:00 21:00 SADDLEWORTH SOUTH PACT</p>	<p>HALF TERM</p> <p>18:00 20:00 CABINET</p> <p>18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD</p>	<p>HALF TERM</p> <p>18:00 22:00 PLANNING COMMITTEE</p> <p>18:30 20:30 FCHO - CHADDERTON LOCAL BOARD</p>	<p>HALF TERM</p> <p>09:30 12:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)</p>	
7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP</p> <p>18:00 20:00 LIB DEM GROUP</p>	<p>08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL</p> <p>09:30 11:30 LICENSING COMMITTEE</p> <p>18:00 20:00 AUDIT COMMITTEE</p> <p>18:00 20:00 FCHO - WEST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD</p> <p>18:00 20:00 O&S MANAGEMENT BOARD</p>	<p>18:00 20:00 SHAW AND CROMPTON PACT</p> <p>19:00 21:00 EAST OLDHAM DP</p>	<p>09:00 11:00 UNITY PARTNERSHIP</p> <p>18:00 20:00 PERFORMANCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY SELECT COMMITTEE</p> <p>18:30 20:30 FCHO - ROYTON AND SHAW LOCAL BOARD</p>		
14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP</p> <p>19:00 21:00 ROYTON PACT</p>	<p>17:30 19:30 FCHO - F&H LOCAL BOARD</p> <p>18:00 20:00 EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING SELECT GROUP</p> <p>18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE</p>	<p>18:00 20:00 CABINET</p>	<p>17:00 19:00 PETITIONERS/ TRO PANEL</p> <p>18:30 20:30 FCHO - EO LOCAL BOARD</p> <p>18:30 20:30 SADDLEWORTH AND LEES DP</p>		
21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP</p> <p>16:30 18:30 CONSERVATIVE GROUP MEETING</p> <p>18:00 20:00 SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT GROUP</p>	<p>08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL</p> <p>09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL</p> <p>18:00 20:00 FCHO - RESOURCES COMMITTEE</p>	<p>18:00 20:00 WEST OLDHAM DP</p> <p>19:00 21:00 FAILSWORTH AND HOLLINWOOD DP</p>	<p>14:00 16:00 OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE</p> <p>16:00 18:00 JOINT LEADERSHIP</p>		
28	29	30			
<p>16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP</p> <p>18:00 20:00 LIB DEM GROUP</p>	<p>09:30 11:30 LICENSING PANEL</p> <p>18:00 20:00 HEALTH AND WELLBEING SELECT GROUP</p>	<p>08:30 10:30 TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP</p> <p>18:00 20:00 CABINET</p> <p>18:00 20:00 ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SELECT GROUP</p> <p>18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD</p>			

July 2010

July 2010						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2010						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
			1 JULY	2	
16:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 MEDLOCK VALE PACT 18:30 20:30 ST JAMES PACT	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL 14:00 16:00 LOCAL NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL		14:00 15:30 LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD 18:00 22:00 PLANNING COMMITTEE	09:30 12:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)	
5	6	7	8	9	10
16:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 STANDARDS COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 ROYTON, SHAW AND CROMPTON DP	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL 14:00 16:00 LOCAL NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL	18:00 20:00 CABINET	09:00 11:00 UNITY PARTNERSHIP		
12	13	14	15	16	17
16:00 LEADERSHIP	16:00 18:00 STANDARDS COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 ROYTON, SHAW AND CROMPTON DP	18:00 20:00 CABINET	18:00 20:00 OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP 18:30 20:30 FCHO - CHADDERTON LOCAL BOARD 18:30 20:30 ST MARY'S PACT	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS BEGIN	
19	20	21	22	23	24
16:00 LEADERSHIP 16:30 18:30 CONSERVATIVE GROUP MEETING 18:00 20:00 LIB DEM GROUP 18:30 20:30 LABOUR GROUP	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 09:30 11:30 LICENSING PANEL 18:00 20:00 FCHO - RESOURCES COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 FCHO - WEST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD 19:00 21:00 CHADDERTON DP	18:00 20:00 COUNCIL	18:00 20:00 O&S MANAGEMENT BOARD 18:30 20:30 FCHO - ROYTON AND SHAW LOCAL BOARD 18:30 20:30 WATERHEAD PACT 19:00 21:00 SADDLEWORTH NORTH JOINT PACT		
26	27	28	29	30	31
16:00 LEADERSHIP	09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL 17:30 19:30 FCHO - F&H LOCAL BOARD 18:00 20:00 EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING SELECT GROUP	18:00 20:00 CABINET 18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD 18:00 20:00 SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT GROUP	16:00 18:00 JOINT LEADERSHIP 18:00 22:00 PLANNING COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 PERFORMANCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY SELECT COMMITTEE 18:30 20:30 FCHO - EO LOCAL BOARD 19:00 21:00 WERNETH PACT	09:30 12:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)	

October 2010

October 2010

November 2010

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 LIB DEM GROUP	09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL 14:00 16:00 LOCAL NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL 18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 HEALTH AND WELLBEING SELECT GROUP	18:00 20:00 CABINET 18:00 20:00 ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SELECT GROUP 18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD (PROVISIONAL AGM) 18:00 20:00 MEDLOCK PACT	18:00 22:00 PLANNING COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 FCHO - CHADDERTON LOCAL BOARD	09:30 12:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)	1 October
16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP 16:30 18:30 CONSERVATIVE GROUP MEETING 19:00 21:00 ROYTON, SHAW AND CROMPTON DP	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 16:00 18:00 STANDARDS COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 FCHO - RESOURCES COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 FCHO - WEST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD	08:30 10:30 TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP 18:00 20:00 CABINET 18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD	09:00 11:00 UNITY PARTNERSHIP 18:30 20:30 FCHO - ROYTON AND SHAW LOCAL BOARD		15
16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP	09:30 11:30 LICENSING PANEL 17:30 19:30 FCHO - F&H LOCAL BOARD 18:00 20:00 O&S MANAGEMENT BOARD		16:00 18:00 JOINT LEADERSHIP 18:30 20:30 FCHO - EAST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD		22
16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL	17:30 19:30 FCHO - S&L LOCAL BOARD	18:00 20:00 PERFORMANCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY SELECT COMMITTEE 19:00 21:00 WERNETH PACT	HALF TERM	29

November 2010

November 2010

December 2010

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31		
29	30												

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Sat/Sun																						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
16:00 LEADERSHIP 16:30 18:30 CONSERVATIVE GROUP 18:00 20:00 LIB DEM GROUP 18:30 20:30 LABOUR GROUP	09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL 14:00 15:30 LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD 18:00 20:00 EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING SELECT GROUP 18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE	18:00 21:00 COUNCIL	18:00 21:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)				16:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT GROUP	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 18:00 20:00 FCHO - RESOURCES COMMITTEE	18:00 20:00 CABINET	09:00 11:00 UNITY PARTNERSHIP 18:00 22:00 PLANNING COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 PERFORMANCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY SELECT COMMITTEE (main party budget)				16:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 ALEXANDRA PACT	09:30 11:30 LICENSING PANEL 18:00 20:00 HEALTH AND WELLBEING SELECT GROUP	18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD 19:00 21:00 CHADDERTON DP	16:00 18:00 JOINT LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP					16:00 LEADERSHIP 16:30 18:30 CONSERVATIVE GROUP 18:00 20:00 LIB DEM GROUP	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 18:00 20:00 AUDIT COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 PERFORMANCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY SELECT COMMITTEE (opposition budget) 18:00 20:00 SHAW AND CROMPTON PACT	18:00 20:00 CABINET 18:00 20:00 ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SELECT GROUP	18:00 20:00 WEST OLDHAM DP BOARD 18:30 20:30 FCHO - CHADDERTON LOCAL BOARD 19:00 21:00 FAILSWORTH AND HOLLINWOOD DP							
16:00 LEADERSHIP 19:00 21:00 ROYTON PACT	09:30 11:30 LICENSING COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 FCHO - WEST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD																															

December 2010

December 2010

January 2011

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
16:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 COLDHURST PACT	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL 17:30 19:30 FCHO - F&H LOCAL BOARD 18:00 20:00 FCHO - RESOURCES COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 O&S MANAGEMENT BOARD	19:00 21:00 EAST OLDHAM DP	18:30 20:30 FCHO - ROYTON AND SHAW LOCAL BOARD 18:30 20:30 SADDLEWORTH AND LEES DP	09:30 12:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)	
16:00 LEADERSHIP 16:30 18:30 CONSERVATIVE GROUP 18:00 20:00 LIB DEM GROUP 18:30 20:30 LABOUR GROUP	14:00 15:30 LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD 18:00 20:00 EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING SELECT GROUP 18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD	08:30 10:30 TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP 18:00 20:00 CABINET	09:00 11:00 UNITY PARTNERSHIP 18:00 22:00 PLANNING COMMITTEE 18:30 20:30 FCHO - EAST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL TERM	
16:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT GROUP	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 09:30 11:30 LICENSING PANEL	18:00 20:00 CABINET	14:00 16:00 OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE 16:00 18:00 JOINT LEADERSHIP		
BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY				

February 2011

February 2011						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2011						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
	1 February 09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL 18:00 20:00 EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING SELECT GROUP 18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 19:00 21:00 EAST OLDHAM DP	2 18:00 21:00 COUNCIL	3 18:30 20:30 FCHO - EAST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD 18:30 20:30 SADDLEWORTH AND LEES DP	4 09:30 12:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)	
7 16:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 ALEXANDRA PACT	8 08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 09:00 11:00 CABINET (BUDGET) 18:00 20:00 FCHO - RESOURCES COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 SHAW AND CROMPTON PACT	9 08:30 10:30 TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP 18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD	10 09:00 11:00 UNITY PARTNERSHIP 16:00 18:00 JOINT LEADERSHIP	11	12
14 16:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT GROUP 19:00 21:00 ROYTON PACT	15 09:30 11:30 LICENSING PANEL 18:00 20:00 HEALTH AND WELLBEING SELECT GROUP	16 18:00 20:00 CABINET 18:00 20:00 ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SELECT GROUP	17 18:00 22:00 PLANNING COMMITTEE	18	19
21 HALF TERM 16:00 LEADERSHIP 16:30 18:30 CONSERVATIVE GROUP 18:00 20:00 LIB DEM GROUP 18:30 20:30 LABOUR GROUP	22 HALF TERM 08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL	23 HALF TERM 18:00 21:00 COUNCIL (BUDGET)	24 HALF TERM	25 HALF TERM	26
28 16:00 LEADERSHIP					27

March 2011

March 2011

April 2011

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
	1 March 09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL 17:30 19:30 FCHO - F&H LOCAL BOARD 18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 O&S MANAGEMENT BOARD	2 18:00 20:00 CABINET	3 17:00 19:00 PETITIONERS/ TRO PANEL 18:30 20:30 FCHO - CHADDERTON LOCAL BOARD	4 09:30 12:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)	
7 16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP	8 08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 18:00 20:00 AUDIT COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING SELECT GROUP 18:00 20:00 FCHO - RESOURCES COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 FCHO - WEST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD	9 18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD	10 09:00 11:00 UNITY PARTNERSHIP 18:00 20:00 PERFORMANCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY SELECT COMMITTEE 18:30 20:30 FCHO - ROYTON AND SHAW LOCAL BOARD	11	12
14 16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP 16:30 18:30 CONSERVATIVE GROUP MEETING 18:00 20:00 LIB DEM GROUP	15 09:30 11:30 LICENSING PANEL 18:00 20:00 COLDHURST PACT 19:00 21:00 CHADDERTON DP	16 19:00 21:00 FAILSWORTH AND HOLLINWOOD DP	17 18:00 20:00 WEST OLDHAM DP 18:30 20:30 FCHO - EAST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD 18:30 20:30 SADDLEWORTH AND LEES DP 19:00 21:00 EAST OLDHAM DP	18	19
21 16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP 19:00 21:00 ROYTON, SHAW AND CROMPTON DP	22 08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL	23 18:00 20:00 CABINET	24 16:00 18:00 JOINT LEADERSHIP 18:00 22:00 PLANNING COMMITTEE	25	26
28 16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT GROUP	29 18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 18:00 20:00 HEALTH AND WELLBEING SELECT GROUP	30 18:00 20:00 ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SELECT GROUP	31		27 19:00 21:00 LIB DEM GROUP

April 2011

April 2011

M T W T F S S
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30

M T W T F S S
 1 2 3
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30

M T W T F S S
 1 2 3
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30

M T W T F S S
 1 2 3
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30

M T W T F S S
 1 2 3
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30

M T W T F S S
 1 2 3
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30

M T W T F S S
 1 2 3
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
16:00 LEADERSHIP	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 09:30 11:30 LICENSING (DRIVER) PANEL 14:00 16:00 LOCAL NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL 18:00 20:00 FCHO - RESOURCES COMMITTEE	08:30 10:30 TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP 18:00 20:00 CABINET 18:00 20:00 FCHO - MAIN BOARD	18:00 20:00 MEDLOCK VALE PACT	09:30 12:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)	19:00 21:00 LIB DEM GROUP
16:00 LEADERSHIP 16:30 CONSERVATIVE GROUP 18:30 LABOUR GROUP	16:00 18:00 STANDARDS COMMITTEE 17:30 19:30 FCHO - F&H LOCAL BOARD 18:00 20:00 O&S MANAGEMENT BOARD	17:30 19:30 FCHO - S&L LOCAL BOARD 18:00 21:00 COUNCIL	09:00 11:00 UNITY PARTNERSHIP 18:30 20:30 FCHO - CHADDERTON LOCAL BOARD 18:30 20:30 FCHO - ROYTON AND SHAW LOCAL BOARD	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL TERM	19:00 21:00 LIB DEM GROUP
16:00 LEADERSHIP	08:30 09:30 PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL 09:30 11:30 LICENSING PANEL 18:00 20:00 FCHO - WEST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD	17:30 19:30 FCHO - S&L LOCAL BOARD 18:00 21:00 COUNCIL	16:00 18:00 JOINT LEADERSHIP	BANK HOLIDAY	19:00 21:00 LIB DEM GROUP
BANK HOLIDAY	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL TERM 16:00 18:00 LEADERSHIP 18:00 20:00 FCHO - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE	18:00 20:00 CABINET	18:00 22:00 PLANNING COMMITTEE 18:30 20:30 FCHO - EAST OLDHAM LOCAL BOARD 19:00 21:00 WERNETH PACT	09:30 12:30 APPEALS COMMITTEE (IF REQUIRED)	

COUNCIL

Events Safety Group

Report of the Executive Director, Economy, Places & Skills and the Borough Solicitor

21 April 2010

Officer Contact: Paul Entwistle /John Garforth
Ext. 4822 / 5026

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to recommend to Council that the Licensing Committee's terms of reference should be extended.

Recommendations

That the remit of the Licensing Committee should be extended to cover the oversight of the Events Safety Group.

The remit of the Events Safety Group be extended to have oversight of the Grounds Safety Group.

Three Elected members be invited to be members of the Events Safety Group on the basis of one representative from each political group.

Events Safety Group

Report of the Executive Director, Economy, Places & Skills and the Borough Solicitor

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend to Council that the Licensing Committee's terms of reference should be extended.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the remit of the Licensing Committee should be extended to cover the oversight of the Events Safety Group.
- 2.2 The remit of the Events Safety Group be extended to have oversight of the Grounds Safety Group.
- 2.3 Three Elected members be invited to be members of the Events Safety Group on the basis of one representative from each political group.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Events Safety Group was convened in February 2009 to ensure effective communication between Council Officers and partner agencies relating to the use of Council land for events.

- 3.2 The terms of reference for the group are :-

- To advise the Local Authority in relation to its duty of care regarding events on its land.
- To provide a forum within the Local Authority and other agencies may develop a co-ordinated approach to proposals for public events and spectator safety.
- To advise the Local Authority in the exercising of its powers under the Licensing Act 2003 and associated legislation.
- To receive any related reports in relation to matters found during inspections by group members.
- To monitor any matters raised by the group that have been reported to the local authority, event organiser, or other person/agency and that these matters are reported back to the group.
- To discuss any significant incident or near miss to ascertain if there were any breaches of any relevant licence conditions or duty of care recommendations.

- To consider the advice published in all available guidance.

4 Role of the Events Safety Group

- 4.1 A key function of the group is to ensure engagement with key stakeholders and partners in the process of authorising events. It is not the role of the group to plan the events as separate meetings are held with organisers and area managers to offer technical advice. The group meets four times a year with special meetings being convened as and when required.
- 4.2 The group is currently chaired by the Principal Licensing Officer and admin support given by his team to communicate details of planned events and co-ordinate responses.
- 4.3 A procedure has been adopted whereby a notification form is submitted to the Council and is circulated for comment to partners. A guide to planning events has also been produced and is given to event organisers to assist in advising of their responsibilities.
- 4.4 Members of the group are as follows:

Council teams

- Licensing
- Health & Safety (Env Health)
- Building Control
- Corporate Health & Safety
- Town Centre Manager
- Civil Resilience
- Risk and Insurance
- Parks
- Arts and Heritage

Other Partners

- Greater Manchester Police
- Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service
- Unity Traffic Management

In addition other stakeholders are invited to attend given their particular interest in a discussion item or event being discussed.

- 4.5 This group sits separate to the Safety Advisory Group which deals with the safety of sports grounds but has some overlap on membership.

5 Options/Alternatives

- 5.1 The Group's primary purpose is to ensure that requests for the use of Council land are dealt with having considered all relevant factors having consulted with key partners and stakeholders to negate any risks or claims against the Council.

There are a number of options:

- i) Maintain the group as it currently stands; and/ or
- ii) Involve elected members in the group in addition to current participants; and/or
- iii) The Events Safety Group reports to the Licensing Committee on its activities.

6 **Recommendations**

- 6.1 That the remit of the Licensing Committee should be extended to cover the oversight of the Events Safety Group.
- 6.2 The remit of the Events Safety Group be extended to have oversight of the Grounds Safety Group.
- 6.3 Three Elected members be invited to be members of the Events Safety Group on the basis of one representative from each political group.

7 **Background Papers**

- 7.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act :

Name of File : Events Safety Group
Records held in North House, 130 Rochdale Road, Oldham, OL1 2JA
Officer Name : John Garforth
Contact No : 0161 770 5026

COUNCIL

Update on Actions from Council

Report of the Borough Solicitor

Portfolio Responsibility: Various

21 April 2010

Officer contact: Dan Carlsson-Hyslop
Ext. 4728

Purpose of Report

This report provides feedback to the Council on actions taken on the following motions of outstanding business at the meeting on 3 February 2010:

- Royal British Legion;
- Oldham Mountain Rescue;

the following motions of opposition business at the same meeting:

- log book loans;
- National Defence Medal;

and the following notice of motion at the same meeting:

- bank charges.

Executive Summary

Please see above.

Recommendation

The report be noted.

Update on Actions from Council

Report of the Borough Solicitor

Portfolio Responsibility: Various

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report provides feedback to the Council on actions taken on the following motion of outstanding business at the meeting on 3 February 2010:

- Royal British Legion;
- Oldham Mountain Rescue;

the following motions of opposition business at the same meeting:

- Log book loans;
- National Defence Medal;

and the following notice of motion at the same meeting:

- bank charges.

2 Executive Summary

2.1 Please see above.

3 Recommendation

3.1 The report be noted.

4 Background

4.1 The report sets out the actions officers have taken on motions of outstanding business, motions of opposition business and a notice of motion approved at the Council meeting on 3 February 2010.

5 Current Position

5.1 The current position is set out in the tables in appendix one.

6 Options/Alternatives

6.1 N/A

7 Preferred Option

7.1 N/A

8 Consultation

- 8.1 N/A
- 9 **Financial Implications**
- 9.1 N/A
- 10 **Legal Services Comments**
- 10.1 N/A
- 11 **Human Resources Comments**
- 11.1 N/A
- 12 **Risk Assessments**
- 12.1 N/A
- 13 **IT Implications**
- 13.1 N/A
- 14 **Property Implications**
- 14.1 N/A
- 15 **Procurement Implications**
- 15.1 N/A
- 16 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**
- 16.1 N/A
- 17 **Community Cohesion Implications [including Crime & Disorder Implications in accordance with Section 17 of the Act] and Equalities Implications**
- 17.1 N/A
- 18 **Forward Plan Reference**
- 18.1 N/A
- 19 **Key Decision**
- 19.1 No
- 20 **Background Papers**

20.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

- Agenda and minutes of the Council meeting held on 3 February 2010.

21 **Appendices**

21.1 Appendix 1 – actions taken following the Council meeting on 3 February 2010.

Actions to be taken following the Council meeting on February 3 2010

Outstanding business from the last meeting

SUBJECT	DECISION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER(S)	RESPONSE RECEIVED
<p>Royal British Legion</p>	<p>This Council: (a) Notes the excellent work of the Royal British Legion in campaigning on behalf of our Armed Forces. (b) Welcomes and supports the principles of the Legion Manifesto which are set out below :- 1. Service Personnel and their Families 'Keep the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme under continual, independent review and: (i) change the standard of proof so that where evidence is inconclusive, the benefit of the doubt is given to the injured Service person; (ii) remove the link between lump-sum awards and ongoing payments to reflect the fact that they are paid for different reasons; allow claims relating to injuries or illnesses caused by medical treatment; (iii) remove the time limits to lodge a claim; and exempt payments when carrying out means-testing for State benefits. 'Stop breaches of harmony guidelines (deployment rates) in order</p>	<p>Heather Moore/ Lori Hughes</p>	<p>Letters have been sent as instructed.</p>

	<p>to reduce family separation and breakdown.</p> <p>'Bring all single and family accommodation up to the highest standard within the lifetime of the next parliament and ensure that the Ministry of Defence publishes full details of the funding and timescales needed to upgrade Armed Forces housing.</p> <p>'Introduce health screening and monitoring for Service personnel and vulnerable dependants and ensure priority is given to those deployed for extended periods, their partners and those medically downgraded.</p> <p>'Introduce more effective prevention and treatment strategies to tackle mental health problems, binge drinking and drug abuse.</p> <p>'Assess the impact of mobility on Armed Forces families, especially in relation to health, employment and education.'</p> <p>2. Bereaved Armed Forces Families</p> <p>'Fund an independent legal advice service to provide bereaved Armed Forces families with support and guidance through the inquest process.</p> <p>'Introduce an Independent Advisory Committee on Military Deaths to provide advice, review recommendations from coroners and to give families a voice.</p> <p>'Introduce mandatory training in Armed Forces policies and procedures to better equip coroners to investigate operational or training related Armed Forces deaths.</p> <p>'Give the Service Complaints Commissioner additional powers to investigate complaints made by bereaved Armed Forces families.</p> <p>'Create specialist bereavement counselling services for Armed Forces families, including parents and children.'</p> <p>3. Veterans and their Families</p> <p>'Make the NHS priority treatment system work for veterans with injuries caused by Service in the Armed Forces or consider</p>		
--	--	--	--

	<p>privately funded alternatives.</p> <p>'Tackle poverty among veterans and their families by increasing incomes through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) doubling the Personal Expenses Allowance for those receiving residential care; (ii) making the disregarding of all War Pension payments for means-testing for Council Tax Benefit and Housing Benefit a statutory requirement; and (iii) developing an automated payment system for Council Tax Benefit. <p>'Ensure that local authorities meet their obligations to provide Disabled Facilities Grants to veterans who need adaptations to their homes.</p> <p>'Exempt all veterans who require a Disabled Facilities Grant from the current means test if the adaptation is needed because of a Service related injury.</p> <p>'Fund comprehensive research and provide additional compensation for duty of care breaches to veterans suffering from legacy health issues, including Gulf War and nuclear test veterans.</p> <p>'Provide all Service leavers with an effective mental health education programme at the point of resettlement, so those at high risk know where to go for help.'</p> <p>This Council therefore resolves to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Request the Chief Executive to write to the Royal British Legion to express the Council's support for the Legion Manifesto Campaign. (b) Write to the Secretary of State for Defence and local MPs to urge support for the Legion Manifesto. (c) Request that all Council members work within their own 		
--	--	--	--

	political parties to further the aims of The Legion Manifesto.		
Oldham Mountain Rescue	<p>This Council:-</p> <p>(a) Welcomes the valuable and often unsung service provided by the Oldham Mountain Rescue Service.</p> <p>(b) Also notes that the Oldham Mountain Rescue Service, despite being a voluntary organisation and a registered charity, are liable for VAT on equipment purchases.</p> <p>This Council resolves to:-</p> <p>(a) Congratulate the Oldham Mountain Rescue Service on their continuing excellent work.</p> <p>(b) Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and local MPs to urge support for Oldham Mountain Rescue Service and, other Mountain Rescue Teams nationwide, to be granted zero VAT status.</p>	Heather Moore	Letters have been sent as instructed.

202

Motions of opposition business

Log book loans	<p>This council welcomes the government announcement that Log Book loans may be outlawed.</p> <p>The practice of allowing repossession of vehicles and goods without a court order gives no consumer protection and leaves those who can least afford it without the basic protection in law that consumers enjoy for most other financial services.</p> <p>This council believes that this out of date practice, which has remained unchanged in law since 1882, is in need of urgent action.</p> <p>In Oldham, lenders have set up shops offering log book loans</p>	Heather Moore	Letters have been sent as instructed.
----------------	--	---------------	---------------------------------------

	<p>which charge interest of over 1000% and which target the most vulnerable and financially excluded people in the borough. This council resolves to call upon the government and the borough's MPs to resolve this as a matter of urgency to prevent the continuation of an unethical and immoral practice which has affected hundreds of people across the borough.</p>		
<p>National Defence Medal</p>	<p>This council notes the campaign to award a National Defence Medal to servicemen and women who served in the British Armed Forces.</p> <p>This council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. write to the UK National Defence Medal (NDM) Campaign to express our support 2. write to the borough MPs requesting that they support Early Day Motion 327 3. write the appropriate minister to outline our support <p>In addition this council urges the people in the Borough of Oldham to sign the online Downing Street petition in support of this campaign.</p>	<p>Heather Moore/ Lori Hughes</p>	<p>Letters have been sent as instructed.</p>

Notices of motion

<p>Bank charges</p>	<p>This council notes with disappointment the Supreme Court ruling which sees the end to the Office of Fair Trading challenge on bank charges.</p> <p>This council does not believe that bank charges are fair and proportionate.</p> <p>Fairness cuts through party politics and this council supports the</p>	<p>Heather Moore</p>	<p>Letters have been sent as instructed.</p>
---------------------	---	----------------------	--

	<p>Early Day Motion headed by Rt Hon Vince Cable MP which states 'That this House notes the judgement of the Supreme Court that banks and building societies were legally entitled to charge penalty fees for unauthorised overdrafts; further notes that the Supreme Court conclusion was not a judgement on the fairness of such charges; condemns the disproportionate penalty charges levied on customers by banks and building societies; welcomes the Office of Fair Trading's assessment that such charges are unfair; urges the Office of Fair Trading to continue to pursue this issue using the other powers available to it; calls on the British Bankers' Association to amend the Banking Code to make explicit the industry's principles on service charges; further calls on the Government to review existing pricing structures; and further calls on banks and building societies to voluntarily refund unfair and disproportionate penalty charges.'</p> <p>This council formally recognises the impact of unfair bank charges on some of the most vulnerable and financially excluded residents.</p> <p>This council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. write to the borough MPs requesting that they support Early Day Motion 283 2. write the appropriate minister to outline our support. 		
--	--	--	--